

USA Recognition



Introduction

University of Cambridge International Examinations (CIE), is the world's largest provider of international qualifications for secondary and pre-university education. CIE qualifications are recognised by institutions throughout the world and this fact sheet focuses on their recognition in the United States of America (USA).

The Recognitions Team, based in Cambridge UK, and in the USA, are responsible for liaison with higher education institutions in the USA to ensure a smooth transition for students from school to higher education. The CIE Higher Education Advisory Council (USA) meets twice per year and the members advise on all matters pertaining to recognition. We are currently working with the group members on a number of joint proposals for major admissions conferences in the USA. Current membership of the group include the universities of Duke, Florida State, Maryland, Michigan, Notre Dame, Penn State, Stanford, Texas, USC, Virginia, Washington and Yale.

1. International AS and A Level Recognition

The following list shows the top 20 institutions hosting international students in the USA. (For institutions not mentioned here please use the CIE recognitions search page to search our database <http://recognition.cie.org.uk>. CIE has recognition agreements with all of these institutions for International AS/A Levels.

- University of Southern California
- Columbia University
- Purdue University, Main Campus
- New York University
- University of Texas at Austin
- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
- Boston University
- The Ohio State University, Main Campus
- SUNY - University at Buffalo
- University of California, Los Angeles
- University of Florida
- Cornell University
- University of Pennsylvania
- Harvard University
- Texas A&M University
- Indiana University at Bloomington
- University of Maryland College Park
- University of Houston
- University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

Some Sample Recognition Statements for International AS and A Level

- Boston University
Cambridge International A Levels are recognised for matriculation purposes.

A Levels of A to C are eligible for two courses of credit, grade D earns one semester of credit.

- Brown University
Cambridge International A Levels are recognised for matriculation purposes.

Students with an A Level grade of C or better are awarded two Brown Courses, grade D is awarded one Brown Course.

- California State University, Los Angeles
Cambridge International A Levels are recognised for matriculation purposes.

Advanced placement for A Levels is considered for grades of D or better. 9 semester units (2 full time courses) are considered for science and maths exams. 8 semester units (2 full time courses) are considered for all other academic courses. Half the credit of the A Level examinations can be granted for the AS-levels. (The credit would be 5 semester units, or 1 full time course for science and maths AS exams, and 4 semester units, or 1 full time course, for all other academic AS exams).

- Colombia University
Credit granted toward the bachelor's degree for A Level exam grades of A or B. Tested disciplines

must be offered at Columbia at the undergraduate level for the policy to apply.

For Columbia College, the undergraduate liberal arts school 6 points of course credit for an A or B at A Level (maximum of 16 points) is awarded credit - a degree course has 124 credits/points. For the Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science a degree course has 128 credits.

- Cornell University
Cambridge International A Levels and AICE are recognised for matriculation purposes.

A Level examination passes of A, B or C are awarded advanced credit. Please contact the University for further details. http://admissions.cornell.edu/downloads/adv_placement_intl_credentials.pdf

- Duke University
Cambridge International A Levels are recognised for matriculation purposes.

A Levels of a superior grade (grades A or B) may be eligible for course credit or higher placement upon enrollment at Duke. Advanced standing is not granted, however, until the student has been admitted and until the official report of exam results is received and evaluated by our Registrar's Office. As this process is handled outside the admissions office, a credit evaluation cannot be made until the student arrives on campus.

- New York University
Cambridge International A Levels are recognised for matriculation purposes.

Up to one year's credit (3-8 credits) is awarded for A Level. AS Levels are awarded 3-4 credits depending on the subject and grade.

- Ohio State University
Cambridge International A Levels are recognised for matriculation purposes.

A Levels are awarded 15 quarter hours given for grades A through E in each subject (except the General Paper). AS Levels are awarded 8 quarter

hours given for grades A through E in each subject (except the General Paper).

- Pennsylvania State University
Cambridge International A Levels are recognised for matriculation purposes. A and AS Levels at grade A, B, C, or D will be evaluated for transfer credit. Humanities and Social Science subjects at A Level will receive 6 credits, AS Level 3 credits. Mathematics and Natural Science subjects at A Level will receive 8 credits and AS Level 4 credits.
- Princeton University
Cambridge International A Levels are recognised for matriculation purposes.

A grade of A or B on the A Level qualifies students for Advanced Placement Credit in most subjects. Please go to the following table for more specific information: www.princeton.edu/pr/admissions/u/ap/table.htm

- Stanford University
Cambridge International A Levels are recognised for matriculation purposes.

Advanced placement credit awarded for certain A Levels with grades of A - E. The examination must match the content of the College Entrance Examination Board Advanced placement subject test that receives advanced placement credit.

- The University of Texas at Austin
Cambridge International A Levels are recognised for matriculation purposes. 6 to 10 credits are awarded for A Levels of a grade D or above. 10 semester hour credits are assigned for A Level language courses, generally 8 credits for Maths and Science courses and 6 for other liberal arts courses such as History. Half the credit is awarded for AS Levels of a grade D or above. An AS Level in a language receives 5 credits, 4 semester hour credits for an AS Level Maths or Science course and 3 for all other courses.

- University of Florida
Students may earn up to 45 hours of credit by examination for GCE AS and A Level examinations passed at grade E and higher per Florida State



Board of Education policy. Specific information is available on College Credit Programs & Exams link in Counsellors & Educators section of www.facts.org Florida Department of Education website.

- University of Georgia
Cambridge International A Levels are recognised for matriculation purposes providing O Levels or Cambridge IGCSE are also offered. A Levels with the grade E or above receive 8 semester credit hours. AS Levels with the grade E or above receive 4 semester credit hours. Credit is not granted for A/AS Level Divinity.
- University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign
Cambridge International A Levels are recognised for matriculation purposes. Grades C and above eligible for advanced credit. At least 3 A Level passes with A/B grades. Please contact the university for further details.
- University of Maryland, College Park
The University of Maryland awards between 4 and 8 semester credits for most A Level exams completed with a grade of C or better. Up to 4 semester credits may be awarded for certain AS Level exams

completed with acceptable grades. For further information, contact the Office of Undergraduate Admissions via email at um-admit@uga.umd.edu, or telephone (301) 314-8385.

- University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
Both Cambridge International A and AS Levels and O Levels are recognised for matriculation purposes.

Students who are pursuing or who have completed A Level studies will generally be awarded advanced standing ranging between 6 and 10 credit hours for certain advanced or principal level examinations completed with a grade D or better. 3 to 5 credits may be awarded for certain AS Levels with an acceptable grade. Please contact the University for further details.

- University of Southern California
A combination of 7 or 8 O and A Levels is required for matriculation.

A Levels with a grade C or above will be granted 8 semester units/credits.

- Yale University
Cambridge International A Levels are recognised for matriculation purposes. Credit awarded for Grades A or B. Students enrolled in A Level programs may use completed A Level results as a substitute for the SAT II Subject Tests on a one for one basis.

Yale only gives credit for A Levels once they are approved by the student's academic advisor.

2. Cambridge IGCSE and O Level Sample Recognition Statements

- **Arizona State University**
Arizona State University accepts Cambridge IGCSE or O Levels as meeting the entry criteria for admission.
- **Boston University**
Boston University accepts Cambridge IGCSE and O Level results as part of their admissions criteria.
- **California State University, East Bay**
California State University, East Bay accepts Cambridge IGCSE and O Levels as meeting the entry criteria for admission with 5 O Level passes.
- **Colorado State University**
Colorado State University accepts Cambridge IGCSE and O-level scores. Students should show 5 passes with grades A - C. Academic subjects should include English, Mathematics, two Sciences, and one social science.
- **Massachusetts Institute of Technology (M.I.T)**
A-Levels are required for admission; however, IGCSE and O Level results are reviewed as an appropriate view of the student's accomplishment.
- **Ohio State University**
Ohio State University accepts Cambridge IGCSE and O Levels as meeting the entry criteria for admission.
- **Purdue University**
6 (I)GCSE or O Level passes (grades A - C) in academic subjects such as English or another language, Mathematics, a Laboratory Science, and History or a Social Science required.
- **San Diego State University**
San Diego State University accepts Cambridge IGCSE and O Levels as meeting the entry criteria for admission. A minimum of 5 subjects passed including English and Maths and without duplication with grades of A, B or C is required.
- **University of Michigan, Ann Arbor**
Both Cambridge International A and AS Levels and O Levels are recognised for matriculation purposes.
- **University of Minnesota, Twin Cities**
The University of Minnesota, Twin Cities accepts Cambridge IGCSE and O Levels as meeting the entry criteria for admission. A minimum of 6 passes at grade C or above are required.
- **University of Rochester**
5 academic (I)GCSE subjects required, however, 3 A Levels are preferred
- **Yale University**
Yale University accepts Cambridge IGCSE and O Levels as meeting the entry criteria for admission.

The number of O Level passes is used to determine whether or not the student has completed a college preparatory curriculum. This is one of several factors used to determine a student's admission to Ohio State. If the student has five O Level passes with a grade of "C" or higher, they have fulfilled the minimum college preparatory curriculum requirements. However, this does not guarantee them admission to Ohio State.

- **Pittsburgh State University**
Pittsburgh State University accepts Cambridge IGCSE and O Levels as meeting the entry criteria for admission.

3. Cambridge IGCSE English Sample Recognition Statements

- **Pittsburgh State University**
Pittsburgh State University will waive TOEFL if applicants have taken IGCSE or O-LEVEL exams because they are in English. They will not waive the English requirement if they have taken the English subject only. A minimum of 5 subjects in either Cambridge IGCSE or O Levels are required.
- **Purdue University**
Purdue University accepts IGCSE and O Level English as meeting the English Language proficiency requirements for undergraduate study in lieu of a TOEFL score or IELTS band.
- **SUNY at Plattsburgh**
SUNY Plattsburgh accepts IGCSE or O Level English in lieu of a TOEFL score or IELTS band.
- **University of Denver**
The University of Denver accepts Cambridge IGCSE and O Level English in lieu of a TOEFL score or IELTS band. 5 passes with grades of A, B, or C, waive the requirement for a TOEFL or IELTS score.
- **University of Richmond**
University of Richmond accepts Cambridge IGCSE and O Level English in lieu of a TOEFL score or IELTS band. Grade B or higher is needed to satisfy the English proficiency requirements
- **University of San Francisco**
The University of San Francisco accept Cambridge IGCSE and O Level English in lieu of a TOEFL score or IELTS band. An O-Level or IGCSE score of A or B is required in order to waive the TOEFL or IELTS.
- **Yale University**
Yale University accepts Cambridge IGCSE and O Level English in lieu of a TOEFL score or IELTS band as proof of English Language proficiency for undergraduate study.

4. Cambridge IGCSE Maths Sample Recognition Statements

- **Boston University**
Boston University accepts Cambridge IGCSE and O Level Mathematics as meeting the requirements for Algebra and Geometry.
- **Massachusetts Institute of Technology (M.I.T)**
Massachusetts Institute of Technology accepts Cambridge IGCSE and O Level Mathematics as meeting the requirements for Algebra and Geometry.
- **San Diego State University**
San Diego State University accepts Cambridge IGCSE and O Level Mathematics as meeting the requirements for Algebra and Geometry. SDSU will accept three years of high school Maths which includes Algebra I, Geometry & Algebra II with a grade of A, B or C.
- **University of Arizona**
The University of Arizona accepts Cambridge O Level and IGCSE Mathematics as meeting the mathematics prerequisites.
- **University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)**
Cambridge IGCSE O Level Mathematics meets the requirements for Algebra and Geometry for undergraduate study at the University of California Los Angeles
- **University of Colorado at Boulder**
The University of Colorado would consider the Cambridge IGCSE, GCSE, or O Level pass in mathematics as comparable to the completion of 3 units of high school mathematics in the USA covering algebra I & II and geometry.
- **University of Illinois, Urbana - Champaign**
The University of Illinois, Urbana - Champaign accepts O levels as meeting the math requirements, but generally require further study for entry into certain curricula e.g. Business, Engineering, Physical Sciences, etc.

- University of Wisconsin, Madison
University of Wisconsin, Madison accepts Cambridge IGCSE or O Level Mathematics as meeting the requirements for Algebra and Geometry.
- Yale University
Yale University accepts Cambridge IGCSE and O Level Mathematics as meeting the requirements for Algebra and Geometry.

This fact sheet gives some examples of the recognition CIE has with US universities. To search for recognition from other US universities please use the recognitions search page located at <http://recognition.cie.org.uk>.

First indicate what you want to search for. For example, a student in Oman has just taken his International A-Levels; he has relatives in California and wants to go to the US for higher education. Simply select 'United States' and 'California' from the drop-down menus, select 'Higher or further education' and 'A/AS Level/ AICE' by ticking the boxes. Then click on 'Search' at the bottom of the page.

For further information on the Recognition Database please contact recognitions@cie.org.uk .

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