



ISLAND COAST HIGH SCHOOL

School District of Lee County
CAMBRIDGE FAQs

1. What is AICE?

The Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) is an international diploma that students can earn via an advanced academic curriculum and assessment program written and administered by a non-profit department (CIE) of the University of Cambridge in England. AICE program courses and examinations may be offered during grades 9, 10, 11, and 12 in worldwide schools registered as CIE Centers. (Please note that AICE Diploma candidates must complete their exams within a three-year period.)

2. What are the benefits of AICE?

AICE advanced level courses are equivalent to those of Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB). Furthermore, graduating with the AICE Diploma makes students more competitive in the college application process. Passing a number of AICE exams can lead to advanced standing at the college level. (Florida's public colleges and universities provide up to forty-five (45) college credit hours for successfully passed AICE, AP and IB exams.)

3. What is meant by AICE Graduation Option?

The Florida Legislature has determined that the AICE Curriculum is a graduation option for students beginning with the graduating class of 2011. Students must remain AICE students in good standing and complete all of the AICE Curriculum requirements to utilize this option. Students failing to meet the curriculum requirements are subject to all standard graduation requirements. For example, AICE Diploma students may currently waive HOPE and the online course requirements set by the DOE if they qualify for the diploma by the completion of their junior year.

4. Does earning the AICE Diploma qualify students for the Florida Bright Futures tuition scholarship?

Yes, currently, students who earn the AICE Diploma and complete 100 service hours during their high school careers automatically earn the current Florida Academic Scholars tuition scholarship.

5. What do I have to do to earn an AICE Diploma?

Students must pass seven credits worth of examinations. At least one examination must come from each of the four subject groups: Mathematics & Sciences, Languages, Arts & Humanities and Interdisciplinary and Skills--—Based subjects (Global Perspective - Required). Advanced Subsidiary (AS) Level exams count for one credit and Advanced (A) Level exams count for two credits. If, after taking the exams, a student fails to earn seven credits but has completed the seven classes, he/she may still qualify for the Florida Medallion Scholarship as long as he/she has the appropriate GPA, the required SAT/ACT test scores and the required community service hours.

6. What is the difference between AS and A Level exams?

Advanced (A) Level Syllabuses and exams cover approximately two years of college-level curriculum in a subject. The Advanced Subsidiary (AS) Level syllabus and exam covers the first year of the two-year A Level curriculum. An **AS** Level exam counts for one credit towards the AICE Diploma. The **A** Level exam counts for two credits.

7. Do students have to earn the full AICE Diploma in order to earn college credits?

No. Students receive General Certificate of Education (GCE) subject certificates for AS and A Level examinations passed. Colleges' award credit on a subject-by-subject basis according to grades earned on individual examinations passed.

8. Do many universities give college credits for AS/A Level exams passed?

Yes. University of Cambridge International Examinations publishes a list on its website of US universities that have provided written statements of their AICE (which includes AS and A Levels) recognition policy. If a university admissions counselor is unfamiliar with AICE, CIE suggests that you ask to speak to the international admissions counselor. All public universities and community colleges in Florida award up to 45 hours of college credit for AICE and AP exams passed.

9. Is AICE Comparable with IB and AP?

Yes, all three programs are well established in the education community and in universities around the country. Both AICE (AS and A Level) and IB are accepted at universities around the world. The main difference between AICE and IB is the flexibility of the AICE Diploma. Students have the freedom to create their own educational experience within the three AICE curriculum areas.

Admission requirements for current Lee County Students:

- Unweighted cumulative middle school GPA \geq 3.0
- Level 3 or higher on the Grade 7 FSA ELA and Math Assessments
- Copy of Student Assignment zone application receipt
- Copy of most recent report card
- *Recommended:* Currently enrolled in or completed Algebra 1

Additional Admission requirements for students NEW to Lee County Public Schools:

- End of the year report cards for the past two years and current report card, if applicable
- A copy of the most recent state or national norm referenced test results demonstrating a 77% or above in reading and math
- A copy of the student assignment zone application on receipt