



Frequently Asked Questions

International Baccalaureate Resits



Having to resit part of the IB can be a challenging and confusing, whatever your reasons. At Elite IB, we're the leading provider of support to resit candidates, and over the years many students have come to us for advice and support. We've compiled here **the questions that students ask us most often** when they join us at our **Resit Revision Courses** in October. Of course, it doesn't stop here. If you need advice or support as you prepare for your resit examinations, don't hesitate to get in touch with the Elite IB team!

How many subjects can I retake, and how many times can I resit one subject?

You can retake all six of your academic subjects, as well as the core components, or any combination of these, if your subject(s) are offered by your IB World School and they are happy for you to sit each subject or component through them. Candidates can sit a subject up to three times, in three different exam sessions. If you took your exams in May originally, this gives you November of the same year, and May of the following year, for instance, to sit the exams, although not all subjects are available in both May and November sessions.

Should I retake in November or May?

This depends on what your plans are for university and how quickly you think you can reach the level you want. For example, if you are going to university in Australia, South Africa or most countries in the Southern hemisphere, it would be best to do your retakes in November as the university academic year starts in February. This way you will not have to take a year and a half out before university, but rather just 6 months or so.

Also, please remember that the UK universities UCAS application deadline is January 15th, and the November session results are released on January 6th. Therefore, you will be able to apply to university with your concrete resit results, further boosting your chances! (Although, you will need to weigh this against preparing your application correctly – we can help with that also through our Consulting team.) If the academic year for your universities of choice begins in September, then it all depends on considering your current academic level, aims for your resit subject(s), and commitment to working hard over the coming months and deciding if you feel that you will be able to make enough progress before November to achieve the required grade(s). If you are not confident that the time between May and November will be enough, you should consider resitting in May of the following year.

Where can I take my resit exams?

You can find a list of all IB World Schools and the exam session(s) in which they participate on the IB website. However, it's important that you remember not all schools offer retake sessions, and that schools are not obliged to take on resit candidates. You should consult with your current IB Coordinator, or get in touch with us for information about where you could take your examinations.

When do I register for resits?

For November retakes, candidates must be registered by 29th July if they want to pay the lower registration fees or are resitting six months after their last exam session. All candidates that register after 29th July will have to pay higher registration fee, including a late subject fee for each subject or core element registered. The IB will not accept any candidate registrations after the final deadline of the 15th October and you should consider your school's final internal deadline for registration will vary, and may be much earlier. Remember, also, that schools, and therefore IB Coordinators, are often not accessible throughout the summer, and therefore aiming to finalise your plans with the school before the summer holidays begin is strongly recommended. As always, then, it is best not to leave it to the last minute!

Do I retake just my exams, or do I have options to retake my IAs too?

You do not have to retake all the assessed aspects of your retake subject; you may just sit the exams and not change your Internal Assessments. Alternatively, your school may offer you the option of revising or redoing your IAs. In this case, your teacher will be responsible for marking the new IA(s), and must be able to confirm that it is all your own work and that it is significantly different to any previously submitted work.

In order to be able to guarantee this to the IBO, students re-submitting an IA or any other non-examination-based work must attend classes at the school they will sit the retake through, making some schools wary of taking on new students who wish to resubmit their IAs in addition to sitting the final exam papers.

Read the complete FAQ

You can read the whole of our **IB Resits FAQ** on the Elite IB website. Use the web address below to go there, or search 'IB resits' on Google. If you have questions which aren't answered in our FAQ you can get in touch to ask us.

✉ www.eliteib.co.uk/resitsfaq
📄 courses@eliteib.co.uk



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How do I register for resits?

Candidates must be registered through an IB World School - this is vital! The school you have previously sat your exams with is the most obvious choice, but if you have moved or found yourself otherwise unable to retake through your school, it is your responsibility to find a school who will let you resit through them. Elite IB can provide all the tuition for your resit, but we cannot submit your exams, register you as a candidate, or supervise your IA or other non-examined work. You should make speaking with your school's IB Coordinator a matter of top priority if you decide to resit.

IB Resits Revision Course

With years of experience, we are able to provide exceptional IB-specific support at our Resits Revision Course

- ✓ Highly focused, student-centred exam revision, at the perfect time before exams begin
- ✓ Workshops delivered by the finest Elite IB tutors, themselves IB graduates, and up-to-date on all syllabus changes and amendments
- ✓ Organised by the UK's only IB-specialist agency and a leading authority on the International Baccalaureate



Did you know?
The global average IB score
in 2016 was 30.07
What's your target?



We're always happy to
answer any questions you
might have, so don't
hesitate to give
us a call!

Can I get my resit exams re-marked?

Your examiners will not know that you are a resit candidate, and so the re-marking process is the same for you as for any other student taking their exams that session. Do be aware that the deadline for re-marking exam papers is very soon after the release of results though! Also remember that your IB Coordinator must request the re-mark for you, and as you will have left your school, they may ask for you to pay the fee up-front.

How much help will I get for my retakes?

Your school can offer you a wide range of support, from merely helping with administration and marking, to offering a full scheme of study- the IB state that any World School must not "simply adopt the role of a "retake centre"", and so must support each candidate, whether they are sitting for the first, second, or third session in a subject. Whatever your circumstance, Elite IB Tutors are here to help. We have a wonderful team of experienced tutors who can provide guidance and support every step of the way.

How do retakes affect my UCAS applications?

Most universities do not officially state that they do not accept resit candidates. However, in the cases of many top UK universities, the resit marks must be significantly above the points required for an offer. We would also recommend having firm plans for the remainder of your time before your university studies would commence, linked to your course or industry. This shows that not only have you exceeded their entrance requirements, but that you are aware of how best to use your time, whilst showing an ongoing interest in your chosen subject through internships or further study.

“ Elite IB is a real gem for families currently inhabiting the world of the IB. ”

- The Good Schools Guide