

CLASSICAL BACCALAUREATE

Restoring Rigor, Coherence, and Formation to Secondary Education

A comprehensive alternative to the International Baccalaureate and AP programs, empowering schools with classical curriculum, training, and assessments for holistic student formation.

BRIEF OVERVIEW

Classical Baccalaureate (CB) is an innovative educational ecosystem developed by Classic Learning Test (CLT). Launching pilots in fall 2027, it integrates CB Courses for college credit, and an IB-style diploma evaluation—featuring elements like a junior thesis, classical seminar, and civics project—to provide universal recognition while preserving the depth of Western heritage, liberal arts, and virtue ethics.

THE PROBLEM IT SOLVES

Educational Monopolies Are Causing Educational Decline

U.S. student scores are at 20-year lows in math & reading, with AP & IB monopolies enforcing shallow, test-driven curricula that divorce skills from content, push materialist frameworks, and cause "mission drift" in non-progressive ed schools.

The Best Graduates in the US Are Now Significantly Undervalued by Universities

Schools of choice, especially classical schools, do not align with the College Board or international ed groups like IB. Colleges admit that students without AP or IB on their transcripts are often overlooked, regardless of the rigor of their high school's curriculum.

Demand for High Quality, Classical Education Is Outstripping Current Resources

A market study from Arcadia Education in 2024 suggests that the annual expansion rate for brick-and-mortar classical schools is 5%. However, there is no product on the market designed to bring classical ed into start-ups or public schools broadly. This surge in parental demand—fueled by dissatisfaction with mainstream curricula and a desire for rigorous, virtue-based learning—far outpaces supply, as evidenced by long waitlists (e.g., over 13,000 for Great Hearts Academies) and a critical teacher shortage constraining new openings.

THE SOLUTION

Unified, Humane, & Lasting Framework for Education

Classical Baccalaureate is a unified educational framework that "forms souls, not just transcripts," integrating CB Courses as AP alternatives, grade-level tests, and an IB-modeled diploma program in high schools aligned with classical principles of truth, goodness, beauty, and free thought. It conserves the literary canon, liberal arts, and a longstanding conception of universal virtue-ethics, fostering citizens resistant to partisan rhetoric through deep exploration of our Western heritage.

CB seamlessly wraps around a school's existing mission, leveraging honors-level coursework for college credit and recognition, without forcing educators to pivot from timeless explorations of great works like the Iliad or the Federalist Papers to contentious, non-classical content such as the 1619 Project. By integrating Classical Baccalaureate Courses as AP equivalents and an IB-style diploma evaluation, CB empowers schools to maintain coherence, rigor, and holistic formation, ensuring students cultivate free thought, virtue, and intellectual depth for lifelong success.

KEY FEATURES AND BENEFITS

- **Classical Baccalaureate Courses (AP Equivalents):** Seamless integration for college credit. Benefits: Maintains classical depth without mission compromises, earning dual credit through familiar content.
- **IB-Style Diploma Evaluation:** Scores based on junior thesis (extended essay), classical seminar (theory of knowledge), civics project (creativity/activity/service), and exams. Benefits: Universal recognition for scholarships/admissions, translating classical elements into Ivy League-valued credentials.
- **Curriculum and Training Support:** Consistent models for new/existing schools, plus teacher/leader development. Benefits: Reduces adoption barriers, ensures scalable implementation across classical, public, or charter sectors.
- **Assessments and Accreditation:** Builds on CLT's proven tests (accepted by 300+ colleges). Benefits: Delivers quantifiable metrics for academic rigor, virtue-based character development, and skills in writing, reading, critical thought, and discussion, enabling colleges to recognize achievements outside the narrow bounds of AP & IB.
- **Holistic Formation Focus:** CB emphasizes intellectual & moral growth, close reading of Great Books, conceptual exploration of math and sciences, and deep consideration of essential questions. Benefits: Cultivates free thinkers and citizens ready to build on our country's foundations, exchanging indoctrination for both excellence in college and heroic service to society.
- **Flexibility and Scalability:** Pilot in Fall 2027, expandable nationwide. Benefits: Empowers diverse schools, from existing private classical to public, amid parental demand for alternatives.

MARKET OPPORTUNITY AND TRACTION

The classical education movement is exploding alongside the school choice revolution, creating a once-in-a-generation opening to disrupt AP/IB's 80% grip on advanced high school coursework. Parents and schools nationwide are actively reviving traditional models that emphasize Western heritage, moral formation, and genuine critical thinking—exactly the environment where Classical Baccalaureate delivers seamless college recognition.