The French Baccalauréat: a diploma recognized worldwide

The French Baccalauréat is an excellent diploma, widely accepted for entrance into higher education institutions. Its graduates gain admittance to some of the best universities in North America and worldwide.

- Students electing one of the French Baccalauréat programs do brilliantly well in high school, most of them obtaining honors in their rigorous courses.

- Obtaining a French degree is actually an asset: the specific skills acquired by students through the French Baccalauréat curriculum are recognized as an added value: actual bilingualism and bi-culturalism acquired over time, as well as open-mindedness and critical thinking, humanities education, civic training and strong adherence to values.

- Most students graduating from French high schools in the United States or Canada choose to pursue higher education in North America and the different forms of the French Baccalauréat allow them access to the best and most demanding universities, including Ivy League schools, attesting to the academic recognition of this degree.

- In most of American or Canadian universities, these students benefit from advantages beyond the unique skills they have acquired and which are the basis of their success: they may receive partial of full credit in certain subjects, or even credit for a semester to a full year of study.

Who takes the French Baccalauréat in North America?

Each year, approximately 800 students from French high schools in the United States and Canada take the French Baccalauréat exams. 70% of them are French or binational.

The French Baccalauréat in the U.S. in numbers

In June of 2019, 420 students from the United States obtained the French Baccalauréat. Among them:

- 47% took the classic exams
- 42% took the “option Internationale du Baccalauréat” (OIB)
- 10% took the “French American Baccalauréat” (FAB)
- and 91% of students graduated cum laude (43% with A+ “mention très-bien”)

Baccalauréat graduates and undergraduate studies – 2018 & 2019 numbers

In the years 2018 and 2019, 68% of the Baccalauréat holders chose to pursue higher education in North America, 31% in the United States and 37% in Canada. The other 32% enrolled in institutions located elsewhere in the world, including France. These percentages have remained similar over the years.
Students are admitted to the best universities in the United States

The students who chose to pursue higher education in the United States (416) enrolled in 139 institutions in the United States, with 64% of them in 36 preferred universities. 33% of Baccalauréat holders were admitted to the top 30 American universities or the top 30 world universities (based on the Shanghai ranking).

and, 12.5% of the Baccalauréat holders actually joined an Ivy League school.

Students graduating high school with the French Baccalauréat are also admitted to the best universities in Canada

In the past two years, 37% of North American Baccalauréat holders went on to pursue higher education in Canada, joining the best Canadian institutions including Université de Montréal (28%), McGill University (20%) and Concordia University (10%).