

BERGEN COUNTY ACADEMIES

Academy for Business & Finance / International Baccalaureate Programme

CEEB Code 310454

CLASS of 2016 PROFILE

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www.bergen.org/bca



School and Community

A model for innovation and reform in the 21st century, the Academy for Business & Finance / International Baccalaureate Programme (ABFIB) is part of the Bergen County Academies (BCA), located in a multicultural suburban community within 5 miles of New York City. Students are accepted from across the county and commute up to twenty miles to a diverse public magnet school of choice with an enrollment of 1,050 students. BCA features career-focused academies operating as a cohesive unit to provide a dynamic, specialized, student-centered environment. Applicants from seventy towns in Bergen County are selected through a rigorous admissions process that considers middle school grades, standardized test scores, interviews, as well as assessments in writing and math. BCA has an extended school day from 8:00 am until 4:10 pm. Underclassmen, grades 9–11, devote Wednesday mornings to interdisciplinary projects and independent research. The faculty has many years of experience as instructors and industry leaders.

Curriculum

ABFIB's curriculum is a synergy of rigorous academic requirements in mathematics, humanities, and science and a deep exploration of business topics including management, marketing, finance and economics. All business courses emphasize the importance of analysis of information and consequences to make and evaluate decisions. Students in ABFIB focus on teamwork, written and oral communication and presentation skills. They are assessed in a variety of ways including open-ended essay exams, written commentaries and comprehensive project presentations. ABFIB is nationally recognized as a superior Career Technical Education program of study.

ABFIB has incorporated emphasis on a global perspective. All ABFIB students are required to work toward earning an IB diploma and complete the IB extended essay, which requires in depth individual research. Students also complete 150 hours outside of their course requirements in creativity, action, and service. All academic courses are taught at the honors level or above.

A unique and noteworthy feature of the Academy for Business and Finance is our Financial Markets Laboratory. This lab provides our students with the opportunity to gain hands-on experience in the study of financial markets and financial analysis. The lab is equipped with a Bloomberg workstation and market display boards and tickers. Students are required to conduct research to provide financial analysis of companies. The Bloomberg workstation gives students access to the highest quality data available allowing extensive, high level analysis.

ACT / SAT COMBINED TEST RESULTS

Test	State	Nation	ABFIB
ACT	23.2	21.0	32
SAT	1520	1490	2179

SAT Score Summary – Class of 2015 – ABFIB

Critical Reading 3 perfect scores Average: 708	Math 2 perfect scores Average: 749	Writing 4 perfect scores Average: 722
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BCA Highlights

- A highly competitive, diverse public magnet high school which typically accepts 250 of the over 1500 students who apply
- Named a 2015 National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence by the U.S. Department of Education
- Named a Model School in the Arts by the N.J. Department of Education
- Home of a 2015 Gold Medal Winner of the International Math Olympiad.
- Home of the 2013 Winner of the International Biology Olympiad.
- Home of Two 2014 National Intel Science Talent Search Finalists
- Ranked #5 in the Nation on the list of America's Top High Schools by Newsweek
- Ranked #1 in New Jersey, #2 in the Northeast and #15 in the Nation on the list of Top High Schools by The Daily Beast
- Member of the National Consortium of Secondary STEM Schools (NCSSS)

Advanced Placement Courses

AP Art History	AP Chemistry	AP Psychology
AP Biology	AP Computer Science	AP Statistics
AP Calculus AB, BC	AP Music Theory	AP Studio Art

International Baccalaureate Courses

IB Economics	IB History	IB Physics
IB Environmental Systems	IB Literature	IB Spanish
	IB Math	IB French

In May 2015, 269 students took a total of 635 IB exams (5.39 average) and 493 students took a total of 904 AP exams (4.26 average).

Due to the number of core course requirements, even the most ambitious students may only take one Advanced Placement (AP) course or one International Baccalaureate (IB) course beyond the requirements.

Graduation Requirements

The requirements of ABFIB exceed state graduation requirements.

Business	4 years	Physics	2 years
Mathematics	4 years	Biology	1 year
English	4 years	Senior Internship	1 year
Social Studies	4 years	Theory of Knowledge	1 year
World Languages	4 years	Creative Arts	1 trimester
P.E. / Health	4 years	Creativity, Action, Service (CAS)	150 hours
Technology	2 years		
Chemistry	1 year		

ABFIB Accolades

Federal Reserve Challenge: 1st place winners

Eurochallenge: Semifinalists

New Jersey Economic Challenge: State Champions

DECA: 35 National Qualifiers; 4 3 Second Place Nationals, 5 top 10 Nationals, and 4 National Finalists

FDU Business Idea Competition: 1 Finalist, 5 Semifinalists

Grading System

Students are NOT RANKED because of the selectivity of the admissions process. Grade point averages are calculated yearly based on the final grade attained in each course. Cumulative GPA is an unweighted calculation which includes academic courses only. 4.0 is the highest possible GPA. Each trimester students who achieve an A in each of their courses are distinguished by being named to the Academy High Honor Roll which is the school's highest academic honor.

Grade Key

A = 4.00 B+ = 3.33 C+ = 2.33 D+ = 1.33 P = Pass
A- = 3.80 B = 3.00 C = 2.00 D = 1.00 I = Incomplete
B- = 2.80 C- = 1.80 F = 0.00 W = Withdrew

Full Year - All Day Senior Internships

All of our seniors devote Wednesdays to a yearlong individualized internship experience. Students receive (9) academic credits for this supervised graduation requirement. Over two hundred employers offer experiential learning opportunities in research centers, hospitals, universities, non-profit organizations, government agencies, major corporations and large and small businesses in the NY/NJ metropolitan area.

ABFIB Grade Frequency Distribution

GPA Ranges	Frequency
4.000 - 3.900	16%
3.899 - 3.800	27%
3.799 - 3.700	9%
3.699 - 3.600	9%
3.599 - below	39%

ABFIB • College Acceptances and Enrollment • Class of 2015

Accepted (A) Matriculated (M)

	A	M		A	M		A	M
Albany College of Pharmacy	1		Georgetown University	1		The University of Scranton	1	
American University	1		Gettysburg College	1		The University of Texas	2	1
Amherst College	1		Indiana University	2		Tufts University	1	1
Babson College	4		Lafayette College	1		University of California, Berkeley	3	1
Bates College	1		Lehigh University	3	2	University of California, Los Angeles	1	
Bentley University	1		McGill University	1		University of California, San Diego	2	
Binghamton University	3		Middlebury College	1	1	University of Chicago	2	1
Boston College	6	1	Muhlenberg College	1		University of Colorado	1	
Boston University	3		New York University	6	1	University of Delaware	2	
Bowdoin College	1	1	Northeastern University	11	3	University of Miami	1	1
Brandeis University	1		Pratt Institute	1		University of Michigan	8	1
Carnegie Mellon University	4	1	Princeton University	4	4	University of New Hampshire	1	
Case Western Reserve University	1		Ramapo College of New Jersey	1		University of Notre Dame	2	
Colby College	2		Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	1		University of Pennsylvania	5	3
College of William and Mary	1		Rutgers, The State University of NJ	14	1	University of Richmond	3	
Colorado College	1		Sciences Po - Columbia Dual BA Prog.	1	1	University of Rochester	1	
Columbia University	1		Seton Hall University	1	1	University of South Carolina	1	
Cornell University	2	2	Stonehill College	1		University of Vermont	1	
Dartmouth College	1	1	Syracuse University	1		University of Virginia	4	1
Dickinson College	2	1	Temple University	1		Ursinus College	1	
Drexel University	2	1	The College of New Jersey	6		Villanova University	7	
Duke University	2	1	The George Washington University	2	1	Washington and Lee University	1	
Elon University	1		The Ohio State University	1		Washington College	1	
Emory University	4	1	The Pennsylvania State University	2		Washington University in St. Louis	3	1
Fordham University	11		The University of Alabama	4		Wellesley College	2	1
Franklin and Marshall College	1							

185 Acceptances for 37 Students