RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees hereby adopts a policy that all undergraduate colleges at the University will award 30 credits to students who have completed an International Baccalaureate (IB) diploma with a score of 30 or higher. Each college may develop specific guidelines articulating IB courses with courses in the major and general education requirements.

Students who have completed an IB diploma with a score of 29 or less and students who did not complete a diploma will be guaranteed credit for higher-level IB exams with scores of “5” or better. The credit awarded will apply toward the overall number of credits required for graduation and in some cases toward major and general education requirements, as determined by each college. This resolution will become effective June 26, 2017.

EXPLANATION: The IB diploma, in existence since in 1968, is a rigorous two-year academic program for students aged 16 to 19 offered at schools around the world. It aims to support schools by providing outstanding research-based education, developing both disciplinary and interdisciplinary knowledge and understanding in a global context. The courses are generally considered to have a higher level of rigor than Advance Placement courses and are linked to a high rate of college success and degree completion.

More than 1.5 million students around the world have participated in the IB since its inception. As of 2015, the United States was the country with the most IB diploma students.

Universities in over 90 countries recognize the IB, including many selective institutions across the US, as well as all SUNY schools. The proposed policy brings CUNY policy in line with a widespread national and international practice, ensuring that high-achieving students with an IB diploma have no disincentive to attend CUNY.