



Астана  
«Білім-Інновация»  
лицей-интернаты



## **ADMISSION POLICY**

**of**

### **Astana “Bilim - Innovation” lyceum for gifted boys**

*Astana Bilim – Innovation boarding lyceum for boys is a candidate school\* for the DP. This school is pursuing authorization as an IB World School. IB World Schools share a common philosophy- a commitment to high-quality, challenging, international education- that we believe is important for our students.*

*\* Only schools authorized by the IB Organization can offer any of its four academic programmes: the Primary Years Programme (PYP), the Middle Years Programme (MYP), the Diploma Programme (DP), or the Career-related Programme (CP). Candidate status gives no guarantee that authorization will be granted.*

*For further information about the IB and its programmes visit <http://www.ibo.org>.*

## **Content**

- A. Rules for Competitive Selection and Admission to “Bilim-Innovation”  
Lyceums
- B. Admission to the Middle Years Programme
- C. Admission to the Diploma Programme

## **A. Rules for Competitive Selection and Admission to “Bilim-Innovation” Lyceums**

### **1. General Provisions**

1. These rules for admission to “Bilim-Innovation” Lyceums (hereinafter – the Rules) have been developed in accordance with the Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan "On Education" dated July 27, 2007, the "Model Regulations on the Activities of Preschool, Secondary, Technical and Vocational, Post-secondary Education, and Additional Education Organizations", approved by the order of the Minister of Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated August 31, 2022, No. 385, and the "Model Rules for Admission to Education Organizations Implementing General Education Curricula of Primary, Basic Secondary, and General Secondary Education", approved by the order of the Minister of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated October 12, 2018, No. 564.
2. Admission to “Bilim-Innovation” Lyceums (hereinafter – BIL) is carried out on a competitive basis (hereinafter – the competition).
3. Students (hereinafter – applicants) from 6th grades of general education schools in the Republic of Kazakhstan participate in the competition.

### **2. Document Submission Procedure**

4. For the organization and conduct of the competition, by order of the president of the International Public Fund “BILIM-INNOVATION” (hereinafter – the Fund), a competition commission is formed, consisting of 5 (five) representatives of the administration, methodologists, and specialists of the Fund.
5. For document submission and participation in the competition, testing centers are organized in the cities of Astana, Almaty, and Shymkent. Applicants from the regions are tested in designated locations, the list of which is approved by the director of BIL or an authorized person.

6. By order of the director of BIL or an authorized person, a responsible person is appointed for document acceptance.
7. Submission of documents for participation in the competition from parents or other legal representatives of the child applying to BIL is carried out from February 1 to April 12 of the current calendar year.
8. To participate in the competition, the parent or other legal representative of the applicant must register online within the established time frame at the website [www.bilemtihan.kz](http://www.bilemtihan.kz).
9. During registration, electronic versions (formats for upload: jpg, jpeg, pdf) of the following documents are required:
  - Birth certificate of the applicant with IIN;
  - A 3x4 photograph of the applicant;
  - Documents confirming social category (if available).
  - Original documents are not required (except for documents mentioned in paragraph 8.3, which must be brought to the testing center on the day of the competition within 5 working days after registering at [www.bilemtihan.kz](http://www.bilemtihan.kz)).
  - After document submission, the admissions committee verifies the documents for compliance with selection criteria and may request originals for confirmation (if necessary).
  - Upon verification, parents/legal representatives receive a pass via the phone number or email address provided during registration.
  - On the test day, applicants must bring the original birth certificate and a printed pass for identity verification.
10. During registration for regional testing, if several centers are available in the region, the applicant selects the most convenient location. The

selected location is printed on the pass.

11. Grounds for refusal to accept documents include missed deadlines or incomplete document packages.

### **3. Competition Procedure**

11. Competition materials for BIL selection are developed and approved by the Fund's educational-methodological council.

12. All paper and electronic exam materials are copyright-protected and used only for testing.

13. Competition materials are stored in sealed envelopes (in printed form) until the test begins.

14. The competition is held in each region at a location designated in advance by the education organization. The competition and evaluation of results are conducted among applicants for enrollment at each BIL.

15. The competition is held on the second Sunday of May of the current year.

16. The competition is conducted in one round. Participants are divided into two groups. Test time and group assignment are indicated on the pass.

17. The competition is held in written format (testing).

18. The test includes 60 questions:

- Mathematics and logic – 50 questions
- Reading literacy – 10 questions

19. The test duration is 110 minutes.

20. Time is provided for distributing test materials, filling out service sections of the answer sheet, and explaining exam rules. It is not included in the

110 minutes of testing.

21. Applicants mark answers in a special answer sheet using pen. All rough work is done in the test booklet. No additional sheets are provided.

22. Answers must be written using a blue or black pen.

23. Final scores are calculated as follows:

- Correct answers are multiplied by 4 (+4 points);
- Incorrect answers are multiplied by -1 (-1 point).
- Final score =  $(4 \times \text{number of correct answers}) + (-1 \times \text{number of incorrect answers})$ .

17. Upon completion, regional BIL committees in Astana, Almaty, and Shymkent send answer sheets to the Fund for score processing.

- Test result verification is conducted by the competition committee in the presence of a responsible person from the Fund.
- Test results and scores are published on the website [www.bilemtihan.kz](http://www.bilemtihan.kz) within 7 (seven) calendar days.

#### **4. Competition Conditions**

18. Responsibility for the safety and health of participants lies with the BIL director or another authorized person.

19. Unauthorized persons are not allowed in the testing venue.

20. Applicants must bring a blue or black pen for the test.

**21.** If the candidate is more than 30 (thirty) minutes late for the test, they are not allowed to enter the exam.

**22. During the test, the following is prohibited:**

- bringing or using cheat sheets, notes, summaries, or any other materials into the examination room;
- using mobile phones, smartwatches, tablets, or any other electronic communication devices with data transmission functions;
- talking with other candidates during the exam;
- using inappropriate language, violating ethical norms, or showing disrespect to other candidates or the examiners;
- committing any actions aimed at cheating or fraud, including using external materials for copying, etc.;
- changing seats without prior permission from the proctor;
- leaving the room without permission from the proctor;
- crumpling, tearing, or removing exam materials (answer sheets, test booklets) from the room, or using correction fluids.

## **5. Procedure for Appealing the Competition Results**

**23.** To ensure compliance with general rules and resolve disputes during testing, an Appeals Committee is created at the school, consisting of a chair and at least two members.

**24.** The Appeals Committee's composition is approved by the principal of BIL.

**25.** Appeals may be submitted by parents or other legal representatives of candidates online the day after the test results are announced from 10:00 to 17:00.

1. Access to the online appeal is granted through a link and application number via the BIL admissions website.

**26.** The Appeals Committee reviews the appeal and announces its decision within five working days after receiving the appeal. Appeals may concern:

1. The content and structure of test tasks;
2. Issues related to the inconsistency of the questions with the test instructions;
3. Technical errors in answer sheets;
4. Incorrect assessment of test tasks without a reasoned justification for each item.

**28.** The Appeals Committee may decide to leave the results unchanged or make changes.

**29.** The Appeals Committee informs the Competition Commission about any point additions or non-additions.

**30.** Parents or legal guardians are informed of the appeal results.

**31.** Re-taking the exam is not allowed.

## **6. Admission Procedure to BIL**

**32.** Quotas for admission to BIL are set in accordance with point 25 of the “Model Admission Rules,” approved by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan on October 12, 2018, No. 564:

1. 10% of total admissions are allocated to students from rural schools who are winners of the national intellectual Olympiad "Myń bala".
2. 15% of total admissions are allocated to socially vulnerable populations.

Socially vulnerable groups include (according to point 18-1 of the same rules):

- children from rural families receiving government social assistance;
- children with a parent who is disabled (group I);

- families raising a disabled child;
- orphans and children left without parental care;
- children from large or single-parent families;
- children from families affected by emergency situations;
- children from families participating in government programs ("Altın samǵa", "Kúmis alqa", or similar);
- children who lost housing due to environmental disasters or emergencies;
- children whose parents are performing public duties, e.g., military service or space flights.

**33. Admission to BIL is based on competition results:**

1. Admission, including those in item 2 of point 32, is based on the highest scores and available seats in each BIL.
2. Admission for candidates into Kazakh- and Russian-language streams is conducted separately for each group.
3. Class composition is determined annually with the regional education authority, based on the capacity and resources of each BIL.

**34. If candidates score equally, preference is given to:**

1. Highest score in math and logic;
2. Fewest errors during the test;
3. Students from rural schools.

**35. Competition results are recorded in a protocol and published on [www.bilemtihan.kz](http://www.bilemtihan.kz).**

**36. Selection results are posted on the same website using encoded personal data.**

37. Results are available in candidates' personal accounts on the website after registration.

38. Candidates admitted to BIL must submit documents by June 12 of the current year to the school's admissions office in regional centers.

39. The reserve list includes students who passed the competition but didn't get a place due to limited availability.

40. If admitted candidates fail to submit documents on time, their spot goes to the next candidate on the reserve list.

41. If a student refuses admission or is withdrawn, the next student from the reserve list is admitted.

42. Candidates from the reserve list can only be accepted if there is an available place.

43. Transfers between BIL schools in grade 7 are not allowed.

44. If places become available in grades 8–11, it is possible to transfer students between the *Bilim-Innovation Lyceum* and the "*Regional Multiprofile Polylingual Lyceum for Gifted Children*" of the Department of Education of Pavlodar Region.

## **7. Final Provisions**

45. Issues not regulated by these Rules shall be resolved in accordance with the current legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan, internal legal acts, and the Charter of the Bilim-Innovation Lyceum.

## **B. Admission to the Middle Year Programme**

### **1. Entry Requirements (Mid-Year Admissions)**

For students seeking enrollment after the academic year has commenced, the following criteria apply to ensure they can meet the rigors of the MYP curriculum:

- **Academic Standing:** Applicants must demonstrate a minimum achievement level of 5 (out of 7) in all subject groups from their previous school records (for those coming from IB MYP schools).
- An overall academic GPA in a 5-point National Scale should be not less than 3.5
- To be a top scorer in the school's mathematics entry or placement test, depending on the number of places available in school.
- **Language Proficiency:** As English is the primary language of instruction, students must demonstrate an English proficiency level of Grade 5 or 6 (based on standardized phase testing or internal assessment).

### **2. The "Newcomer Program"**

To support a smooth transition, every new student will be enrolled in a mandatory Newcomer Induction Program. This program is designed to bridge the gap between their previous schooling and the MYP framework.

Key Components of the Program:

- **Academic Policy Workshop:** A deep dive into the school's Academic Honesty, Assessment, and Language policies.
- **MYP Framework Orientation:** Introduction to Global Contexts, Key Concepts, and the Importance of Service as Action.
- **The "Whole School" Guide:** A guided introduction to school life, including campus navigation, extracurricular opportunities, and student leadership structures.
- **Peer Mentorship:** Assignment of a "Student Ambassador" to help the newcomer navigate social and daily routines.

### **3. Continuous Support**

Following the induction, the MYP Coordinator and subject teachers will monitor the student's progress for the first six weeks to ensure the transition meets the high standards of the IB program.

### **C. Admission to the Diploma Programme**

*External applicants are required to meet the following criteria:*

- Demonstrated English language proficiency at upper-intermediate level or above, confirmed through an approved assessment;
- To be a top scorer in the school's mathematics entry or placement test, depending on the number of places available in school;
- An overall academic GPA in a 5-point National Scale should be not less than 3.5, and 4.0 in Diploma Programme–relevant subjects from the previous school Academic Achievement Report.

*Internal applicants (MYP students) must meet the following criteria:*

- Successful completion of the Middle Years Programme with a minimum score of 3 out of 7 in all subjects intended for Diploma Programme study;
- English language proficiency at upper-intermediate level or higher.

### **Policy Review**

All school policies undergo regular review to ensure continued alignment with IB requirements, national regulations, and the changing needs of the school community. At the end of each academic year, school leadership, coordinators, and teachers collaboratively evaluate the policies, seeking stakeholder input when appropriate. Any revisions are communicated to the school community and formally approved by the school leadership prior to implementation.