

High School



High School Students' Developmental Needs

High school is the final transition into adulthood and the world of work as students begin separating from parents and exploring and defining their independence. Students are deciding who they are, what they do well, and what they will do when they graduate. During these adolescent years, students are evaluating their strengths, skills and abilities. The biggest influence is their peer group. They are searching for a place to belong and rely on peer acceptance and feedback. They face increased pressures regarding risk behaviors involving sex, alcohol and drugs while exploring the boundaries of more acceptable behavior and mature, meaningful relationships. They need guidance in making concrete and compounded decisions. They must deal with academic pressures as they face high-stakes testing, the challenges of college admissions, the scholarship and financial aid application process and entrance into a competitive job market.

College Admissions Counseling

College Admission is a thrilling yet challenging process for high school students. Students are accompanied in their transition to college through a number of services coordinated by the Counseling Department.

- ❖ Course selection and scheduling
- ❖ College and career selection guidance
- ❖ Information and administration on standardized testing
- ❖ Information on financial aid and scholarship opportunities
- ❖ College application information and supervision
- ❖ Resources and references
- ❖ Transition to college and life skills
- ❖ Coordination of college representative visits and interviews
- ❖ College fairs visits
- ❖ Individual counseling
- ❖ Counselor – parent consultation
- ❖ College Handbook
- ❖ Reference Library
- ❖ Junior and Senior Parent information meetings



Many of these services are provided through a class, exclusively designed for seniors to work on college applications.



Advisory Program

The Advisory program at IAA is designed to support student's growth through advisory lessons and activities. Two grade advisors are assigned to each grade level. Students meet with their grade advisors every Monday to receive lessons that are part of the Guidance Curriculum. Grade Advisors support the organizations of activities such as the outdoor school program, International day, etc. The Advisory Program and Curriculum is coordinated through the Counseling Department.

High School Guidance Program

All grades in secondary receive lessons and presentations addressing abuse prevention, bullying, sex education, and drug and alcohol prevention in addition to the programs described below.

Grade 9:

The program explores choices that teenagers often have to make and gives them strategies to make positive choices for themselves. Skills and habits for academic success are also addressed through reading, discussion, reflection, and role play.

Grade 10:

The program is designed to help students explore key skills that are vital to building a joyful, rewarding, and healthy life. Students learn skills that will help them create and value lifelong health; take healthy risks; understand media influences; manage emotions; improve family communications; develop healthy relationships. Skills and habits for academic success and college readiness are also taught.

Grade 11:

This program is designed to help Juniors prepare for the college application process by developing academic plans, gathering documents, creating portfolios of their work, narrowing educational option, and preparing timelines for meeting important deadlines during the college planning process. The program also includes career explorations.

Grade 12

The curriculum is designed for students facing the new roles and responsibilities that come with the transition from high school into the workforce and further education. Among the topics addressed are goal setting, effective communication, managing stress, decision-making and risk, building relationships and financial literacy.

Standardized Testing

Standardized assessments provide key information in order to make evidence based decisions for classroom strategies, differentiation and curricular improvement.

- MAP test (Measures of Academic Progress) three times a year. (Grades 2-10)
- PSAT (Grades 9, 10 and 11)
- Advanced Placement Test (Grades 11 and 12)

*IAA is an official test center for the SAT and the ACT.



Transition Programs

- New Family/Student Orientation and Follow up
- Transition to Middle School, High School and College

Admissions

- Admissions Process
- Assessment
- Student Placement

Other Services provided by the Counseling Department

- Master Schedule and Course Selection and Student Scheduling
- Online learning Coordination
- Parenting Workshops and Presentations
- Referral Resources
- Teacher-Counselor Consultation
- Parent-Counselor Consultation
- Individual Counseling

Young people have particular ways to react to changes and express distress. In these cases, parents are encouraged to visit the counseling office and confer with me. I would be very happy to meet with you to address any issues regarding your child's well-being and learning process at IA. Please contact me to make an appointment at 3713360 Ext. 206, or mdoylet@interamerican.edu.ec

Sincerely,

Marcela Doylet
Secondary Counselor/Student Services Coordinator

