

ANSWERS TO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE I-POLY ASSESSMENT SYSTEM AND TRANSCRIPT

Parents and students often ask how colleges view I-Poly's unique educational program. I-Poly's academic program is college preparatory. Additionally, I-Poly courses have been approved by the University of California and California State University systems. Students who successfully complete four years at I-Poly meet the course entrance requirements for most colleges. Furthermore, I-Poly students have the advantage of taking college classes at Cal Poly-Pomona while still attending high school. Approximately 94% of I-Poly graduates continue onto college, and of these students over 60% enter four-year colleges.

The following questions and answers are designed to help you gain a deeper understanding of our educational program.

Question:

Why does I-Poly assign a 4.0 value to the "AE" as well as the "E" assessment marks?

Answer:

The "E" assessment has the same grade point value (4.0) as the "AE" in order to give parents and instructors an opportunity to focus students' attention on excellence instead of grade point average. The "E" gives instructors an opportunity to recognize students who achieve levels beyond the maximum requirements, even though the "E" and "AE" have the same numeric value. Once our students enter the work force, success often goes to those who go beyond the expectations.

Question:

Why doesn't I-Poly offer AP and Honors Classes?

Answer:

I-Poly does not offer Honors and AP classes. Only courses designated as AP or Honors can receive one extra point for each grade received. In reality, I-Poly projects are honors level education, but in order for a class to be designated honors, a school must also have regular college preparatory classes and an advanced course that is labeled Honors. When I-Poly was developed, a conscious effort was made to create one curriculum that could be accessed by all students. Tracking students in different level classes was never considered.

Question:

Does I-Poly's lack of AP & Honors classes adversely affect students' college application?

Answer:

No, because our students are allowed to take college level courses at Cal Poly. Some college officers have stated that they recommend that students take regular college classes at community colleges or four-year colleges rather than taking AP classes. In addition, when students apply to the UC system, they will automatically be given an extra grade point for any college classes taken.