



Diploma Exam Specification

Diploma exams

The objective of IBD Diploma level exams is to give international recognition of comprehensive knowledge and understanding of Brewing, Distilling or Packaging. They are a measure of the candidates' theoretical knowledge in the scientific principles and technology of these subjects. The Diploma in Brewing and Diploma in Distilling are pre-requisites for candidates wishing to progress to Master Brewer and Master Distiller qualifications.

Each Diploma is comprised of **three** modules. Modularisation of the Diploma allows candidates to set their own pace to complete the qualification, whether that is sitting 1 exam per year or 3 exams in one year. To attain the Diploma Level qualification, candidates must successfully complete all three Modules; the three Modules and their examinations may be attempted in any order.

Module 3 for each Diploma focusses on Process Technology and Resource Management, candidates that have successfully passed this module in one Diploma subject are exempt from Module 3 examinations should they choose to sit a different Diploma subject.

Examination Design

Each Diploma exam is three hours in total and includes 2 sections.

- Section A
 - 30 Short answer questions worth 1 or 2 marks each.
 - All questions must be answered.
 - Total of 40 marks

- Section B
 - 6 Long answer questions worth 20 marks each
 - Candidates must only answer 4 questions of their choice.
 - Total of 80 marks

The total marks available to any candidate are 120.

The pass mark for all modules is 45%. This is pre-set and applies to all the examinations. In addition, there are fixed marks for different levels of pass and fail grades.

Pass	Fail
Grade A = 75% and over	Grade E = 35 – 44%
Grade B = 65 – 74%	Grade F = <35%
Grade C = 55 – 64%	
Grade D = 45 – 54%	

Examination details:

Entry Rules and Period of Validity

Whilst there is neither educational qualification nor work experience specified as an entry requirement for sitting the Diploma examinations, potential candidates must satisfy themselves that they have sufficient scientific knowledge to understand the subject matter.

Study for the IBD Diploma Examinations.

Studying for an IBD qualification represents a significant commitment from a candidate and/or supporting employer. This section details the recommended amount of study and highlights the level of time likely to be taken in preparation for your Diploma Level examination.

Every candidate that registers for a Diploma examination is issued credentials for Moodle, the platform IBD hosts the learning material for each of the Diploma exams on. The learning material follows the Diploma syllabus for each module and should be considered the basis of study for candidates. However, candidates should also make use of other resources such as journals, articles in the BDI, relevant literature and reflect on their own practical experience to ensure comprehensive understanding of each exam's syllabus. In total, the IBD recommends 120 hours total study time for each module.

The IBD also recommends candidates read the Examiners Report from previous years' examinations. This can provide insight into the level of detail that is required from long answer questions and what level of depth examiners are looking for.

Please Note: The IBD does not publish short answer questions used in exams.

Frequency of Examinations

Diploma exams normally take place in June of each year. All three Modules are available in each session, although candidates may choose to enter as many modules as they wish.

Registration fees, registration deadlines and any special conditions will be communicated directly to registered candidates as well as on the IBD website.

Marking and Producing Examination Results

Exam questions are set and marked by the Board of Examiners. Each examination is carefully marked against a pre-agreed mark scheme. Scripts with marks close to the pass mark (either just above or just below) are re-marked by a second Examiner. If there is disagreement between the first marker and second marker, a final decision will be made by the Chair of the Board of Examiners.

Each Module is awarded a pass or a fail. Once all three of the Modules have been successfully passed, then the Diploma is awarded.

All results are sent out via email directly to the candidate. We are not permitted to provide results over the phone. All successful candidates will be provided with a certificate.

It is IBD policy that we do not release individual percentage scores or examination papers.

We are permitted to share candidates' results with their employer if their employer has paid for their examination.

Appeals

The IBD offers an appeal process to any candidate wishing to dispute their examination result.

Awards

A number of awards are offered each year for the Diploma exams including:

- Best overall candidate by Module
- Best overall candidate by Qualification.

All candidates are automatically entered for the awards when they enter for the qualification. More information can be found on the IBD website.

Award winners' information will be published in the Brewer and Distiller International magazine each year. Question papers for candidates near the highest mark will all be checked by a second marker to ensure that the marking is accurate, and the award is made to the right candidate.

Post nominals

Candidates that have successfully completed the Diploma, passing all modules will be awarded the use of the post nominal "Dipl. Brew", Dipl. Dist or Dipl. Pack

Depth of Knowledge Required for the Examination

Unless otherwise stated, candidates are expected to achieve a detailed understanding of a topic, consistent with the objectives of the examination. The adjectives "basic" and "outline" are used when a lesser depth of knowledge is required.

"The basic concept of ..." means the ability to explain all the major principles, functions or purpose relevant to the topic, without the need to describe its intricacies.

"An outline of ..." means a summary description of the scientific principles, plant or process concerned.

Where there are references in the syllabus to chemical compounds, candidates are expected to know the scientific principles and significance of their role in the process. Knowledge of complex formulae and advanced chemistry is not required.

Where there are references in the syllabus or learning materials to mathematical equations and simple calculations, candidates are expected to use straightforward mathematics in the specified applications relevant to brewery operations.

Candidates are expected to know the formulae which govern key scientific principles.

SI Units

SI UNIT NAME	SYMBOL	QUANTITY MEASURED
Ampere	A	Electric current
Degree Celsius	°C	Celsius temperature
Farad	F	Capacitance
Hertz	Hz	Frequency
Joule	J	Energy, work, quantity of heat
Joule per cubic metre	J/m ³	Energy density
Joule per kelvin	J/K	Heat capacity, entropy
Joule per kilogram	J/kg	Specific energy
Joule per kilogram kelvin	J/kgK	Specific heat capacity
Kelvin	K	Absolute temperature, sometimes referred to as thermodynamic temperature
Kilogram	kg	Mass
Kilogram per cubic metre	kg/m ³	Density, mass density
Metre	m	Length
Metre per second	m/s	Speed, velocity
Metre per second squared	m/s ²	Acceleration
Mole	mol	Amount of substance
Newton	N	Force
Ohm	Ω	Electric resistance
Pascal	Pa	Pressure, stress
Second	s	Time or time interval
Volt	V	Electrical potential or potential difference, electromotive force
Watt	W	Power

SI ACCEPTED UNIT NAME	UNIT SYMBOL	QUANTITY MEASURED
Minute	min	Time, 1 min = 60 s
Hour	h	Time, 1 h = 3600 s
Day	d	Time, 1 d = 86400 s
Litre	L	Volume, 1 L = 0.001 m ³
Tonne	t	Mass, 1 t = 1000 kg
Bar	bar	Pressure, "100 kilopascals go into a bar."
Dalton	Da	Atomic Mass
Poise	P	Absolute viscosity
SI DERIVED UNIT NAME	UNIT SYMBOL	QUANTITY MEASURED
Hectolitre	hL	volume, 1 hL = 100 l = 0.1 m ³
Millilitre	mL	Volume, 1 mL = 1 cm ³
Microlitre	μL	Volume, 1 μL = 1 mm ³
Micron, Micrometre	μm	Length, 0.001 mm