As a three-year (grades 10-12), residential, college preparatory program for Illinois students, IMSA offers more than 100 advanced courses in mathematics, science, the arts, and humanities with an emphasis on meaningful connections and integration.

Personalized learning increases opportunities for students to deepen and strengthen their three-year academic experience. This also enables students to engage in learning unique to their interests, passions, and future goals.

The innovative Student Inquiry and Research Program enables students to pursue compelling questions of interest and present findings of their original work. Through collaboration with other students, mentors, scholars, researchers, and inventors worldwide, IMSA students are able to conduct research and engage in entrepreneurial applied science and technology activities.

IMSA’s unique schedule allows for special seminars led by world “masters”, academic consultation with expert faculty, and opportunities for academic work in leadership, community, and work service. Our entire faculty holds advanced degrees with over 50% holding a Ph.D.

To promote collaboration, IMSA does not calculate grade point averages or class rankings. Tuition and most room and board expenses are provided by state funds. Student fees are charged based on family income and size.
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Eligibility

Illinois residents who have completed the equivalent of nine years of education, excluding preschool and kindergarten, and are not currently enrolled beyond the ninth grade are invited to apply to the Academy.

Illinois residency must be established by the application deadline. The student must be enrolled in an Illinois school by the first day of second semester or the first day of the second trimester. The student must also be enrolled in an Illinois school at the time of application. Exceptions to these policies may be made by the Director of Student Life (ex. military families, home-schooled students and extenuating circumstances.)

Students who have not yet enrolled in the 9th grade must submit documentation of having completed or are currently working to complete an academic program comparable to high school level work in mathematics, science and English. This must include a minimum of one year of algebra and a course equivalent to one year of high school level science. The granting institution where the course is taken determines equivalency. At least 50% of the coursework must be completed by the application deadline.

Students enrolled in homeschool programs will need to provide documentation explaining their curriculum, evaluation process, and textbooks. Evaluations must be completed by non-family members who know the student’s work well.

Admission Application Review

Students will be selected for admission from among all eligible and completed applications. Characteristics considered during the review and selection process are related to the following criteria:

- History of consistently high academic achievement.
- Demonstrated interest and talent in mathematics and/or science.
- Evidence of readiness for IMSA’s academic and residential environment.
- Potential for significant contributions in mathematics, science and/or technology.

Factors such as demonstration of exceptional talent in mathematics, science and/or technology, course work completed, potential for leadership, demonstration of a pattern of ethical decision making, behaviors consistent with research on gifted mathematics and science students, expectations for success within the IMSA environment, relative academic standing in home school, home language, state and applicant pool demographics are considered when selecting students for admission. Ninth (9th) grade applicants are given priority over eighth (8th) grade applicants.
Admission Decisions
Notification of admission decisions are mailed to the address listed on the student’s application in mid-May.

The number of students invited to attend IMSA each year is determined by institutional capacity. An additional group of students are identified for a waitlist. Invitations are extended to students on the waitlist as spaces become available.

Students not invited to the Academy or who are placed on the waitlist may submit a written request for a review of the decision to the Office of Admissions within two weeks of the date of admission notification. This appeals process is intended only for those that feel their application was not fairly reviewed. Requests will be reviewed by an Appeals Committee.

Placement Testing/Proficiency Testing
All invited and waitlisted students are required to complete a series of proficiency tests in mathematics, science, and world languages. Tests for students entering in the Fall of 2013 are scheduled for May 31st or June 1st, 2013. Test site and time information is provided with the admissions decision notification.

Summer Orientation
All invited and waitlisted students (and their parents) are required to attend one of two on-campus, overnight orientation sessions during the summer. Students will be assigned to attend one summer orientation date, either June 28-29 or June 30-July 1, 2013. Attendance is mandatory; please keep this in mind as you make summer travel plans.

Conditional Admission (Excel)
Some students invited to the Academy are done so on a conditional basis. Each year approximately 50 students are required to attend and successfully complete Excel, a three-week, residential summer preparation program on the IMSA campus. Identification for conditional admission is based on performance results from proficiency testing and supporting documents.

Excel takes place during the month of July and all applicants should reserve this time in the event that they are required to attend; notification of conditional admission is mailed after placement testing. Self-selection to Excel is not permitted.
Completing the Application

We encourage students be a part of our IMSA “Go Green” initiative by submitting applications on-line.

Completing the Application

1. Complete the application for admission by paper or online and submit along with a non-refundable application-processing fee of $75.00. Only select one application option (paper or online).

2. A Mathematics, a Science, and an English teacher must each submit the teacher evaluation form included in this packet. These teachers should have taught the student in either the current school year or the previous year. One additional student-selected evaluation form may also be submitted on the student’s behalf. This optional evaluator must be able to address the student’s background in mathematics/science/technology.

We recommend that students choose individuals who know their academic work in mathematics, science and technology most completely to submit the teacher evaluations. Student identification information and appropriate releases should be completed before students distribute the forms to their teachers and principal/counselors.

3. A principal school or counselor from the student’s current academic year must submit the school principal/counselor evaluation form included in this application.

4. Take the SAT Reasoning Test. Only scores for exams taken September 1, 2012 through March 9, 2013 will be considered in the application review and selection process. When registering, use IMSA’s school code #3027 for prompt release of score reports by the Educational Testing Service to IMSA.

CollegeBoard on Score Choice™ clearly states: Students are responsible for following an institution’s practice, and (IMSA) will only receive the scores that students send them.

5. Request and submit transcripts from 2010-2011, 2011-2012 and the 1st semester of 2012-2013. Use the transcript request form included in this packet to submit to school administrators.
Submitting the Application

Students have several options to submit their application materials:

- Through our online application system,
- By mailing the paper forms provided in this packet,
- Or a combination of the two (submitting the application online and submitting evaluation forms and transcripts by mail)

While we encourage the submission of application and evaluation forms online, students and evaluators may elect to use the paper version of these items found in this packet or on the admissions website.

All application materials must be submitted electronically or postmarked by MARCH 1st. If students do not submit all of the application materials by the deadline, their application will not receive a full review.

Mailed application materials should be placed in one package before submitting to the Office of Admissions:

Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy
1500 Sullivan Road
Aurora, IL 60506-1000

The Office of Admissions does not provide proof of delivery of any application materials. These requests should be directed to the mail service of choice (ex. United States Postal Service, FedEx, etc.).

Note: We are concerned that all students, regardless of their financial resources, have the opportunity to attend the Academy. If you, the student applicant, qualify for reduced or free lunch, please request a school staff member to submit a written request for a fee waiver on official school letterhead and enclose it with your registration form or application. Students submitting their applications online will be able to select the fee waiver option when submitting the completed application; the above documentation is still required.

We will conduct a file audit and notify you by mail in mid-March to reflect all processed documentation to date.
Application Checklist

All completed application files must include the following items:

- Application for admission, including essay responses
  - Only select one application option (online or paper)

- Application fee
  - Applications will be charged a non-refundable application-processing fee of $75.00 (If paying by check, make payable to IMSA; include the student’s name and birthday on the memo line)

- One Mathematics teacher evaluation form (with appropriate signatures)

- One Science teacher evaluation form (with appropriate signatures)

- One English teacher evaluation form (with appropriate signatures)

- One optional student selected evaluation form that addresses the student’s background in mathematics/science/technology (with appropriate signatures)

- Current Principal or School Counselor evaluation form (with appropriate signatures)

- 2010-2011 official grade report sent from school

- 2011-2012 official grade report sent from school

- 2012-2013 official grade report (at completion of 1st semester) sent from school

- SAT scores for exams taken during the current academic year (September 1, 2012 through March 9, 2013)
How to Improve Your IMSA Application

Students who complete the application process to IMSA represent a very select group of students from throughout the state of Illinois. These students have typically experienced academic success on a consistent basis and have demonstrated their interest, task commitment, and creativity in a variety of settings in mathematics, science and/or technology.

Because of our limited capacity, many highly qualified and motivated students are turned away each year. We expect to have three to four strong applicants for each space available in the class scheduled to arrive in August of 2013. Regardless of the outcome of your application, we hope the process of applying to IMSA will be a positive experience for you. Use this time to think carefully about your own educational goals and to examine and celebrate your talents.

Some of the questions we will ask during our review of each applicant include:

- To what extent did this student take advantage of local resources?
- To what extent did this student clearly demonstrate talent, interest, and motivation in mathematics and/or science beyond the bounds of the classroom when available?
- Is this student enrolled in the most challenging curriculum available to them in mathematics and/or science within their home school setting?
- Will this student complete all mathematics and science courses at the local school prior to senior year?

We encourage you to consider the following suggestions as you complete your application:

1. **Your application file represents you to the IMSA review committee members.** The care and thought with which you complete your application is revealed by things such as correct spelling and punctuation, legible handwriting, and attention to the intent of the question. Lack of care and thought causes reviewers to question your commitment to the task, and in turn, your probable commitment to the IMSA academic program. If possible, we recommend that you type your responses. Please do not use font size smaller than 10 or larger than 12.

2. **Reviewers will look in several areas for evidence and potential of your desire and eagerness to accept and seek out challenges, demonstrate motivation and task commitment, and engage in and resolve problems creatively.** These include:
   a. Mathematical reasoning and curiosity demonstrated by specific achievement or activities.
   b. Scientific reasoning and curiosity demonstrated by specific achievement or activities.
   c. Communication skills demonstrated by your written responses to questions.
   d. Interpersonal skills demonstrated by evidence of understanding viewpoints other than your own, acceptance of both leader and follower roles, self sufficiency and independence in daily living and learning skills, and promotion of cooperative behaviors among peers.
   e. Skill application demonstrated by activities such as computer programming, musical performance, construction of models, etc.
   f. Leadership based on reports from teachers of observed behavior and/or specific accomplishments.

3. **Your application cannot be reviewed if it is not complete.** Check back with your references to make sure the forms have been sent to IMSA on time. Remember that these people are very busy. Please allow them sufficient time to complete the forms carefully.

4. **Let your passion and personality emerge from your file.** Let the reviewers “see” your sensitivity, sense of humor, love of learning, and insight. Remember, this is an important way they can learn about you.
The SAT Reasoning Test is a required part of the application. All applicants for Fall 2013 must take the exam during the 2012-2013 academic year (from September 1, 2012 through March 9, 2013) and submit scores to IMSA to be used during the application review and selection process. **An admission decision on your application will not be made unless a current SAT score is submitted.**

**We accept SAT scores for students planning to take the March 9, 2013 exam as long as the student’s application is submitted electronically or postmarked by the application deadline, March 1, 2013.**

**National SAT Reasoning Administration**

College Board administers the SAT Reasoning Test to prospective college students on multiple dates at many sites throughout the year. To register for the National program, obtain the “College Board Registration Bulletin” from a high school counselor, complete and mail in the registration form with payment or register online at www.collegeboard.org. SAT registration fee is $50.00; late registration fee is $77.00.

**Students choosing the National testing option will need to take the test no later than March 9, 2013 to guarantee that IMSA will receive test scores in time for processing this spring. You will receive a copy of your test scores directly from College Board.**

Please refer to College Board’s website at **www.collegeboard.org** to check dates, locations, and to register for the SAT reasoning test. Listed below are the available dates and registration deadlines to meet eligibility for 2012-2013 IMSA applications.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Registration Deadline</th>
<th>Testing Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 7, 2012</td>
<td>October 6, 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 4, 2012</td>
<td>November 3, 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 1, 2012</td>
<td>December 1, 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 8, 2013</td>
<td>March 9, 2013</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Important:** To ensure that IMSA receives an **Official Score Report**, please use the **IMSA school code #3027** when registering for the National program (*this is requested at the second prompt*). SAT Reasoning scores for admission to IMSA should not impact future test scores for college application.

* For 8th graders: If you are a participant in the **Midwest Academic Talent Search** program, an Official SAT Reasoning Test Score Report from the current academic year program is acceptable for submission. We will not receive these scores automatically. It is the responsibility of the applicant to send the original score report sheet directly to IMSA.

**Note:** We are concerned that all students, regardless of their financial resources, have the opportunity to attend the Academy. If you, the student applicant, qualify for reduced or free lunch and would like to be reimbursed for the SAT registration fee, please provide documentation of qualification and request in writing to the Office of Admissions by March 1st.
Transcript / Grade Report Request Form

**STUDENT:** Complete and take this form to a school counselor or principal to request that an official copy of your grade reports be sent to the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy.

**DO NOT RETURN THIS FORM TO IMSA.**

**COUNSELOR AND/OR PRINCIPAL:**
Please send an official copy of my grade reports to the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy for the listed academic years:

- 2010-2011
- 2011-2012
- 1st semester of 2012-2013

Official grade reports should be mailed to the following address:

Office of Admissions  
Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy  
1500 Sullivan Road  
Aurora, IL 60506-1000

---

Student Name

____________________________________

Date of birth______/______/_____________

Home Address_________________________  
_________________________  
City, State, Zip _________________________

Student’s Signature

____________________________________

Parent/Guardian Signature

____________________________________
# 2013 IMSA Application

(Please type or print legibly in black ink)

**WE STRONGLY ENCOURAGE YOU TO SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION ONLINE — DO NOT ALSO SUBMIT HARD COPY**

---

## SECTION I. Paper applications should be completed by the student and sent in a single mailing with all supporting documents to the Academy, postmarked by March 1st.

### NAME AND ADDRESS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Legal Last Name</th>
<th>Legal First</th>
<th>MI</th>
<th>Nickname (if different than first name)</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Home Street Address</th>
<th>Apt #</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Home City</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Zip</th>
<th><strong>County in Illinois</strong> in which you reside</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Email</th>
<th>Home Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx)</th>
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</tbody>
</table>

### APPLICATION ELIGIBILITY AND REQUIREMENT DETAILS

**Your current year in school:** (ex. 9th)  

- Are you a permanent resident of Illinois?  
  - Yes  
  - No  
  
  *(Note: Residency is required by the application deadline)*

- Are you attending an Illinois school?  
  - Yes  
  - No  

If you are **not** a permanent resident of the state of Illinois or are **not** attending an Illinois school: explain the circumstances that establish your eligibility:  

| Have you registered for the SAT Reasoning Test? | Yes | No  
<table>
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*(You can register for the SAT at www.collegeboard.org)*

**Date(s) SAT taken:**  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(MM/ YYYY)</th>
<th>(MM/ YYYY)</th>
<th>(MM/ YYYY)</th>
<th>(MM/ YYYY)</th>
<th>(MM/ YYYY)</th>
<th>(MM/ YYYY)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

*(The SAT must be taken during the 2012-2013 academic year (taken September 1, 2012 through March 9, 2013)*

**If you are an 8th grade student, are you currently enrolled in an Algebra I or higher course?**  

- Yes  
- No  

**If you are an 8th grade student, are you currently enrolled in a high school level science course?**  

- Yes  
- No  

*(Please note all students must meet application eligibility requirements to be considered for review. This includes a minimum of one year of algebra and a course equivalent to one year of high school level science. Students must complete and provided documentation to show at least 50% of these courses are completed by the application deadline March 1st.)*

---
BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Gender:  □ Male  □ Female

Date of Birth:  
Month (MM)    Day (DD)    Year (YYYY)

Your city, state and country of birth: ____________________________

Is English your first language?  □ Yes  □ No

If not, what other language(s) is spoken in your home?  
Primary    Secondary    Other

If English is not your only language, how long have you spoken English?  
Years    Months

OPTIONAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION

□ Yes  □ No  Hispanic, Latino/a - Are you a person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race?

Select one or more races from the following five racial groups:

□ American Indian or Alaskan Native - A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America), and who maintains a tribal affiliation or community attachment.

□ Asian - A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent including for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam.

□ Black or African American - A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa.

□ Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander - A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.

□ White - A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, Middle East, or North Africa.

(Ethnic information is requested so that IMSA may demonstrate compliance with federal requirements.)

CURRENT SCHOOL INFORMATION

Official Name of School (No Abbreviations)  School Code

Street Address    City    State    Zip

School Phone Number (xxx-xxx-xxxx)  School Web Site (if applicable)

PREVIOUS SCHOOL INFORMATION

Official Name of School (No Abbreviations)
FAMILY INFORMATION

Write the full name of parent/legal guardian with whom you live:

Parent/Legal Guardian 1

☐ Dr. ☐ Miss ☐ Mr. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Ms. ☐ Rev.

Last Name  First  MI

Gender: ☐ Male ☐ Female  Relationship to Applicant:

☐ Home ☐ Cell ☐ Work

Parent/Legal Guardian Contact Phone Number  Parent/Legal Guardian Email

Parent/Legal Guardian 2

☐ Dr. ☐ Miss ☐ Mr. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Ms. ☐ Rev.

Last Name  First  MI

Gender: ☐ Male ☐ Female  Relationship to Applicant:

☐ Home ☐ Cell ☐ Work

Parent/Legal Guardian Contact Phone Number  Parent/Legal Guardian Email

APPLICATION SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Name the individuals completing your evaluation forms and the full name of their affiliations:

Mathematics Teacher

☐ Dr. ☐ Miss ☐ Mr. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Ms. ☐ Rev.

Last Name  First  School/Organization

Science Teacher

☐ Dr. ☐ Miss ☐ Mr. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Ms. ☐ Rev.

Last Name  First  School/Organization

English Teacher

☐ Dr. ☐ Miss ☐ Mr. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Ms. ☐ Rev.

Last Name  First  School/Organization

Principal/School Counselor

☐ Dr. ☐ Miss ☐ Mr. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Ms. ☐ Rev.

Last Name  First  School/Organization

Optional Evaluator (one optional evaluation form may be submitted)

☐ Dr. ☐ Miss ☐ Mr. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Ms. ☐ Rev.

Last Name  First  School/Organization
SECTION II. To be completed by the STUDENT.

ACTIVITIES, INVOLVEMENT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

1. Please attach a list (in bulleted form) of any IMSA sponsored activities/programs (Informational Meeting, On-Campus Visitation Event, PROMISE SEAMS, EIP, LS2S or Project School Visit, Summer Sleuths, Fusion, Kids Institute Program, IMSA CyberQuiz, etc.) in which you have participated. List full name of activity, date(s), and location, if known.

2. Please attach a list and describe (in bulleted form) your most meaningful extracurricular activities, organized or individual, during the past three years. Also indicate any leadership positions, as well as time involved per week, in these activities. IMSA reserves the right to verify participation in activities listed. (Do not use acronyms - please use full name for all activities.)

   a. Mathematics, Science and Technology related activities:
   (ex. Activity Your Age at time of Involvement Office/Position Hours per week)

   b. Prioritize and describe your top three other areas of involvement: (ex. sports, clubs or organizations)
   (ex. Activity Your Age at time of Involvement Office/Position Hours per week)

3. Please attach a list and describe (in bulleted form) the most meaningful awards you have received in or out of school during the past three years. Include full name of award(s), year the award was received, and whether won at the local, state, national or international level. IMSA reserves the right to verify awards received (Do not use acronyms - please use full name for all awards). PLEASE DO NOT SEND ORIGINALS OR COPIES OF AWARDS/CERTIFICATES.

   a. Mathematics, Science and Technology related activities:
   (ex. Activity Your Age at time of Involvement Office/Position Hours per week)

   b. Prioritize and describe your top three other areas of involvement: (ex. sports, clubs or organizations)
   (ex. Activity Your Age at time of Involvement Office/Position Hours per week)

OPTIONAL STATEMENT

We attempt to identify those applicants whose previous school grades or admission test scores may under predict academic success. Among the factors we consider in making admission decisions are whether the applicant (1) is from an economically disadvantaged environment; (2) had a health problem which significantly affected, for a period of time, an otherwise exceptionally good academic record; (3) has a permanent physical disability, learning or attentional difference; (4) has completed an exceptionally rigorous academic program; (5) does not speak English at home; or (6) has other exceptional circumstances. This information is considered with your academic credentials. It is particularly relevant if your qualifications place you slightly below the competitive applicants. Describe any factors like those listed above that you believe the selection committee should consider as they review your credentials.
STUDENT ESSAY QUESTIONS

1. If you are invited to attend the Academy you will be expected to adapt to new learning, living and social environments. You will be asked to live, study, and work with many people from different backgrounds from throughout Illinois. Please describe yourself to your classmates, teachers and others at the Academy. What interesting information would you want others to remember about you? Secondly, what are some changes you perceive you would need to make to thrive academically and residentially at IMSA? (Word Guideline - In 500 words or less)

2. Success is achieved in many ways and by using numerous variable factors. It is your task to do all below:
   - Develop a working equation/formula portraying the variables of being successful for advanced study in mathematics, science and technology.
   - Discuss your personal understanding of how this equation/formula creates a path for success.
   - Describe a time when you experienced success and its impact on you. (Word Guideline - In 500 words or less)

3. The mission of IMSA, the world’s leading teaching and learning laboratory for imagination and inquiry, is to ignite and nurture creative, ethical scientific minds that advance the human condition, through a system distinguished by profound questions, collaborative relationships, personalized experiential learning, global networking, generative use of technology and pioneering outreach. Using your own words, describe how you will embrace, engage and advance the mission of IMSA if you are chosen to be a member of the class of 2016. (Word Guideline - In 500 words or less)

4. You have been awarded the resources required to initiate, design, and implement an innovative endeavor that will have an impact on the world through mathematics, science, engineering and/or technology. Describe your innovative endeavor, how you would go about starting it? What is its potential effect today and for future generations? (Word Guideline - In 250 words or less)

PARENT STATEMENT

Please describe your child’s passion/interests/motivation in mathematics, science and technology. Also, please provide any additional information that the Student Selection Committee should consider when evaluating your child’s application to IMSA. (Word Guideline - In 200 words or less)
SECTION V. To be completed by the STUDENT and the PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN.

REQUIRED SIGNATURES

The attached responses are samples of the applicant's work and have not been edited by others.

We understand that withholding pertinent information requested on this application or giving false information will make me ineligible for admission to the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy (IMSA) or subject to cancellation of registration if admission has occurred. The information given herein is true and accurate. Furthermore, we understand information contained within the applicant file will be shared with the Admissions Review and Selection Committees and by submitting application to IMSA, we consent to disclose this information to these committees, waiving our rights to review notes, reports, and recommendations of the Committees.

If the applicant is accepted for admission to IMSA, we agree to adhere to rules and regulation now in existence and those that may be established in the future by IMSA. We agree to permit information in this application, and other records resulting from applying to and attending the school to be made available on a confidential basis to the applicant’s home school, other educational institutions, and for IMSA-approved research purposes. All application documents are retained by the Academy. I understand that if admitted, this student may be assigned to specific courses or sections as part of the research and development work of the laboratory. Students must comply with the entire IMSA curriculum, which includes the study of evolution.

Further, we understand that admission decisions are based on multiple criteria including subjective judgments regarding academic and leadership potential and motivation and demographic representation along with grades and test scores. Students identified for Excel must successfully complete the 3-week program to be eligible for attendance in the Fall.

Student Applicant Signature (required)     Date

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature (required)    Date

Reminder: the application must be submitted electronically or postmarked by March 1, 2013. Please retain a photocopy of completed application for your records.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY INFORMATION: State Government policy prohibits discrimination based on race, gender, color, creed, religion, national origin, age and ancestry, sexual orientation, political affiliation or disability. The sole purpose of gathering this information is to ascertain the effectiveness of recruitment efforts in reaching all segments of the population. IMSA’s programs, services and activities are accessible to disabled individuals.
Dear __________________;

I am applying for admission to the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy (IMSA), and I would like your evaluation of my preparedness for entrance into the Academy.

As a three-year (grades 10-12), residential, college preparatory program for Illinois students, IMSA offers more than 100 advanced courses in mathematics, science, the arts, and humanities with an emphasis on meaningful connections and integration. Personalized learning plans increase opportunities for students to deepen and strengthen their three-year academic experience. These plans also enable students to engage in learning unique to their interests, passions, and future goals. The innovative Student Inquiry and Research Program enables students to pursue compelling questions of interest and present findings of their original work. Through collaboration with other students, mentors, scholars, researchers, and inventors worldwide, IMSA students are able to conduct research and engage in entrepreneurial applied science and technology activities. IMSA's unique schedule allows for special seminars led by world "masters", academic consultation with expert faculty, and opportunities for academic work in leadership, community, and work service. Our entire faculty holds advanced degrees with over 50% holding a Ph.D. To promote collaboration, IMSA does not calculate grade point averages or class rankings. Tuition and most room and board expenses are provided by state funds. Some fees are charged based on family income and size.

It is highly selective, with admission determined by grades, SAT scores and qualitative factors, such as communication skills, demonstrated passion for math and/or science, and evaluations from teachers, counselors and others familiar with the applicant. Your assessment is critical to my application, and I thank you in advance for the time and thoughtful attention given to this evaluation.

Please retain a photocopy of the evaluation form for your records and submit electronically or return original (stapled) paper form(s) directly to me prior to postmark deadline of March 1st, 2013. Thank you again.

Sincerely,

Student Applicant Signature (required)  Date

To ensure students and evaluators receive e-mail prompts related to application, we encourage one or more of the following actions:

- Adding admissions.edu and imsa.edu domain to the list of “safe” email addresses
- Contacting email/internet provider’s Customer Support to research configuration options
- Disabling Spam email filtering software
- Searching “Junk Mail” and “Bulk Mail” folders for admissions.edu and imsa.edu email
Mission Statement

ILLINOIS MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE ACADEMY®

The mission of IMSA, the world’s leading teaching and learning laboratory for imagination and inquiry, is to ignite and nurture creative, ethical, scientific minds that advance the human condition, through a system distinguished by profound questions, collaborative relationships, personalized experiential learning, global networking, generative use of technology and pioneering outreach.
I, the undersigned, hereby request that all data in support of my application to the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy to be available to IMSA officials.

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Student Applicant Signature Date Parent/Legal Guardian Signature Date

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FOR 8TH GRADE APPLICANTS: Considering (1) Level of texts, (2) Complexity of labs (if applicable), (3) District curriculum, (4) ISBE State Standards, is this student’s mathematics and/or science course taught at a high school level?  
Yes  No

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR: Please include behaviors that indicate potential for the areas listed below. (Attach additional page if more space needed)

Please describe an example in which this candidate demonstrated exceptional intellectual talent, curiosity, creativity and/or leadership.

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Please describe this candidate’s oral and written communication skills.

Please describe this candidate’s preparation and study skills development.

Please describe this candidate’s mathematical, science and/or technology reasoning ability and ability to communicate articulately about the subject matter.
IN YOUR OPINION:

Does this student have a **serious interest** in studying mathematics, science and/or technology?  □ Yes  □ No

Does this student have an **aptitude** for studying mathematics, science and/or technology?  □ Yes  □ No

Do you think that this student’s grades are a valid reflection of his/her academic abilities?  □ Yes  □ No

If no, please explain:

COMMENTS:

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EVALUATOR INFORMATION:

Among the students I have encountered in my teaching career, this student ranks in the (check one):

□ upper 1-2%  □ top 5%  □ top 10%  □ top 25%  □ top 50%  □ bottom 50%

Number of years teaching __________________________ How long have you known this candidate? __________________________

Which year(s) did you teach this candidate? __________________________

Course(s) of instruction with this candidate __________________________

Evaluator Last Name __________________________ Evaluator First Name __________________________ Evaluator Title __________________________

School/Institution Name *(No Abbreviations)* __________________________ Office Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx) __________________________ Email __________________________

School/Institution Address __________________________ Date Completed Evaluation __________________________ Evaluator Signature __________________________
TEACHER EVALUATION OF APPLICANT - (Please check one)

☐ MATHEMATICS  ☐ SCIENCE  ☐ ENGLISH  ☐ OPTIONAL

Student Legal Last Name  Legal First  MI  Nickname (if different than first name)

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CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR: Please include behaviors that indicate potential for the areas listed below. (Attach additional page if more space needed)

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IN YOUR OPINION:

| Does this student have **a serious interest** in studying mathematics, science and/or technology? | ☐ Yes | ☐ No |
| Does this student have **an aptitude** for studying mathematics, science and/or technology? | ☐ Yes | ☐ No |
| Do you think that this student's grades are a valid reflection of his/her academic abilities? | ☐ Yes | ☐ No |

**If no, please explain:**

COMMENTS:

Please use this space to provide any additional information that the Student Review Committee should consider when evaluating this student’s application to IMSA, including your involvement with him/her outside the traditional classroom, his/her ability to meet personal responsibilities such as taking care of self, meeting deadlines, personal initiative, etc. Please also include any obstacles this student has had to overcome in pursuing his/her educational goals, if appropriate. *(Attach additional page if more space is needed)*

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School/Institution Name (No Abbreviations) ________________  Office Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx) ________________  Email ________________

School/Institution Address ________________  Date Completed Evaluation ________________  Evaluator Signature ________________

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**PRINCIPAL/SCHOOL COUNSELOR EVALUATION OF APPLICANT**

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<th>Student Legal Last Name</th>
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**TO BE COMPLETED BY THE PRINCIPAL/SCHOOL COUNSELOR**

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<th>Legal Last Name of Student Applicant</th>
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<tr>
<th>Current School Address</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Zip</th>
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**School Type:**
- [ ] Public
- [ ] Parochial
- [ ] Charter
- [ ] Independent
- [ ] Home

Superintendent’s Name

District Type and number

Total number of students enrolled in your school:

Please indicate which grades are taught at your school: __________________________

This student ranks _________ in a class of _________. [ ] No Rank Available

Please list Mathematics, Science and English course titles in spaces below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If 8th Grader</th>
<th>If 9th Grader</th>
<th>Mathematics Course(s) (Do NOT list grades here)</th>
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Student Last Name  First  MI

Does your school offer honors or accelerated courses or programs?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No

If limited availability honors/accelerated courses or program, please explain: __________________________________________

If yes, how are students identified for participation in these courses or programs? (Please indicate if self-selection is permitted)

________________________________________________________________________

Is this student enrolled in honors courses and/or AP courses?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No

Will this student run out of mathematics courses prior to the senior year at your area high?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No  ☐ N/A

Will this student run out of science courses prior to the senior year at your area high?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No  ☐ N/A

Does your school follow a block-scheduling format?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No

How many times have you met with this student? __________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Has this student been subjected to any disciplinary action from school?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No  ☐ Unable to Disclose

If yes, please explain? __________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Has this student had any excessive absences from school in the last two years?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No  ☐ Unable to Disclose

If yes, please explain? __________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Students eligible for Federal & State Subsidized Free (Tier I) & Reduced (Tier 2) Meal Programs qualify for IMSA Application Fee Waivers. We ask for Principal/Counselor assistance in identifying those students eligible for Office of Admissions Fee Waivers. Does this student currently qualify?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No  ☐ Unknown

☐ Please check here if the student has completed registration process for the SAT, which must be taken by March 9, 2013. Please confirm with your student that he/she has completed the registration process for SAT. Refer to College Board’s website at www.collegeboard.org to check dates, locations, and to register for the SAT reasoning test.

Please confirm that the following information is included with this completed form. We ask that you notify 9th grade students that they need to contact their jr. high/middle school Principal/Counselor for 7th & 8th grade reports, if not available at current high school.

☐ 2010-2011 Official Grade Report
☐ 2011-2012 Official Grade Report
☐ 2012-2013 Official Grade Report (1st Semester)
☐ School Profile
☐ Explanation of school’s grading system

Please DO NOT SEND general standardized test scores (ex. Terra Nova, Explore, ISAT), as they are not a necessary part of our selection process. Please staple grades/transcripts and SAT test score information separately from this evaluation form.

Principal/School Counselor Last Name  First Name  Title

School/Institution Name (No Abbreviations)  Office Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx)  Email

School/Institution Address  Date Completed Evaluation  Signature