The internationally recognized Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy® (IMSA) develops creative, ethical leaders in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. As a teaching and learning laboratory created by the State of Illinois, IMSA enrolls academically talented Illinois students (grades 10–12) in its advanced, residential program, and it serves thousands of educators and students in Illinois and beyond through innovative instructional programs that foster imagination and inquiry. IMSA also advances education through research, ground-breaking ventures and strategic partnerships.

Quick Facts

Established by the State of Illinois to develop talent and leadership in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy® (IMSA) has become an internationally recognized, world-class powerhouse for inspiring, challenging and nurturing talented students who use their exceptional abilities to improve people’s lives. IMSA’s advanced residential college preparatory program enrolls academically talented Illinois students in grades 10 through 12 to reach extraordinary levels of achievement.

The Academy is widely recognized by organizations such as the College Board Advanced Placement Program, The Wall Street Journal and Newsweek. Intel named IMSA the nationwide winner of the Star Innovator Award. This award is presented annually to an educational institution that has a “comprehensive program incorporating innovative and effective use of technology, engaging parents and the community in students’ education, fostering professional development and teamwork, and delivering consistent achievement of high academic standards.” IMSA’s innovative student inquiry and research program has enabled students to earn numerous awards from national and global competitions including Intel Science Talent Search, the Siemens Competition in Math, Science and Technology, the International Physics Olympiad, the High School Mathematical Contest in Modeling and the China Girls Mathematical Olympiad.

As a resource for the people of Illinois, the Academy serves thousands of teachers and students throughout Illinois and across the country. IMSA’s award-winning statewide programs include teacher professional development in research-based and practice-proven instruction in mathematics, science and technology. The Academy’s statewide programs ensure that young students, particularly the underserved, have opportunities to excel in mathematics and science.

The Academy also works with educational, business, government and entrepreneurial partners to develop, test and share innovative ways to enhance teaching and learning in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.
History and Governance
ISMAlaunched in 1985 by the Illinois General Assembly as part of the State’s comprehensive educational reform package to address the critical need for citizens highly skilled in STEM fields. The Academy opened in 1986. ISMA is governed by an appointed Board of Trustees and is funded by the Illinois legislature under the Illinois Board of Higher Education’s administration.

Funding
ISMAlaunched an additional program supported from local, state and national government programs. The agency also receives funding from the Illinois Board of Higher Education and the Public Accountability Report for the Illinois Comptroller. In addition, the OIR collects institutional data and prepares performance reports for the Illinois Board of Higher Education and the Public Accountability Report for the Illinois Comptroller.

Residential College Preparatory Program
Named the nation’s top college preparatory program by Newsweek and the Princeton Review, the IMSA Residential College Preparatory Program is a four-year, residential college preparatory program for highly motivated, high-achieving students in grades 9–12. The program is designed to provide students with the opportunity to live and learn in an environment where they can pursue their interests, develop critical thinking skills, and work toward continuous improvement. The OIR team collects and analyzes data-informed decision making and continuous improvement processes to achieve strategic institutional objectives. The OIR team uses data-informed decision making and continuous improvement processes to achieve strategic institutional objectives.

Programs Serving Educators and Students Throughout Illinois and Beyond
In the past decade, IMSA has served more than 11,000 students in 165+ STEM-focused programs and workshops, serving students in kindergarten through 12th grade. Today, IMSA serves more than 68,900 students in its student programs and more than 100,000 teachers and students each year when engage with the world’s highest level of education through STEM enrichment and leadership programs. The agency also serves science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education. The agency also serves science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education.

Institutional Research
The ISMA Office of Institutional Research is dedicated to providing academic leaders of the agency with high-quality, relevant data and reports for planning and decision making. The OIR works with the program’s data, data trends, reporting and planning, and data trends, and provides data analysis and reporting to the Illinois Board of Higher Education’s Office of Institutional Research to support decision making.

Innovation and Entrepreneurship
Co-founded by IMSA, Innovation and Entrepreneurship (ISE) prepares 100% of its graduating students for STEM-focused careers. The agency also serves students and educators in the nation’s top STEM-focused careers. The agency also serves students and educators in the nation’s top STEM-focused careers.

Program Offerings
Alumni
4,540 graduates, Classes of 1986–2012 now serving students throughout Illinois and beyond.

Professional Staff
ISMAlaunched national for many of its exemplary professional staff, which provides professional development for more than 165,000 students in 165+ STEM-focused programs and workshops, serving students in kindergarten through 12th grade. Today, IMSA serves more than 68,900 students in its student programs and more than 100,000 teachers and students each year when engage with the world’s highest level of education through STEM enrichment and leadership programs. The agency also serves science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education. The agency also serves science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education.

Historical Research
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