

IMSA Excellence 2000+

After-School Mathematics and Science Enrichment Program

The Center at the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy (The Center @ IMSA) invites applications from elementary and middle schools or from clusters of schools to participate in the IMSA Excellence 2000+ (IMSA E2K+) program for the coming school year. Applications may be submitted at any time, but must be received by March 1 to be considered for the following school year. Interviews will be scheduled with applicants following the closure of the application period.

The IMSA E2K+ program is an after-school academic enrichment program for upper elementary (grades 4-5) and middle school (grades 6-8) students who are interested, talented and motivated in mathematics and science. IMSA E2K+ program materials consist of a multi-year sequence of integrative units that enable participating schools to provide a varied and highly motivating program to students. IMSA E2K+ provides the professional development necessary for teachers to deliver the units, and provides program implementation support throughout the year.

The model for the IMSA E2K+ program is:

- Consistent student participation (up to 30 students per section) in two IMSA E2K+ instructional units during after-school and possible occasional weekend/holiday sessions for a minimum of 64 student contact hours.
- At the middle school: the team consists of a mathematics teacher and a science teacher,
- In upper elementary: the team is two teachers with high math and science competency and
- At each site a coordinator to handle program logistics and reporting requirements for all sections.

Students tell us,

- *“To be good in math and science is one thing, but to like it is even better.”*
- *“I was losing interest in math and science, but now I am gaining knowledge and interest.”*

Parents say,

- *“It’s a program that holds my son’s attention. We’ve been very pleased.”*
- *“I am impressed with the program’s strength to grab my child’s attention and keep her committed to something and willing to come every day!”*
- *“This year he attends another school. He was still interested in being part of the IMSA E2K+ program. I told him I didn’t think it was possible...He kept expressing his concern, so I talked to the coordinator...”*

Teachers comment,

- *“The workshops have helped me with planning for the remainder of the year. I am really excited about doing these activities with my students.”*
- *“Learning new techniques, new ways to teach has been a real benefit for me, and I’ve been teaching for 15 years! It even carries over into my regular classroom – IMSA E2K+ has changed the way I question the students. The questions I ask the kids are different, ... deeper, more thought-provoking.”*

The application consists of three parts. The first is contact and demographic information concerning your school(s). The second consists of four questions to enable us to get to know your school. The third and final part is a *Memorandum of Understanding* indicating your school’s and district’s commitment to participate in the program, which is renewed each year that the school continues in the program.

Your completed application, bearing original signatures, should be sent to:

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