



630.907.5000 . 1500 SULLIVAN ROAD, AURORA, IL 60506-1000 . IMSA.EDU

## **Addendum to the Scientific Inquiry and Research (SIR) Student Handbook**

### **ADDENDUM 1**

#### **Guidelines for Returning to Work and Learning - Academic Year 2021-2022**

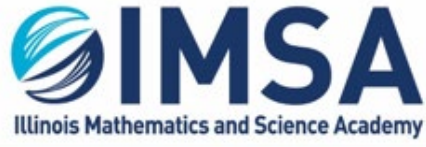
1. There will be four “on-campus” SIR courses at IMSA.
  - a. Drug Discovery course run by Dr. John Thurmond
  - b. Particle Physics course run by Dr. Peter Dong
  - c. Econometric Analysis in Social Science course run by Dr. Patrick Kearney
  - d. Molecular Modeling run by Dr. Joe Golab
2. Faculty and staff can mentor students on independent (self-arranged) projects, the topic of which may or may not be related to both previously run on and off-campus SIR courses.
3. Faculty and staff will not get any release time for mentoring student SIRs.
4. It is advised that each individual mentor not take on more than 5 students, due to the amount of work involved, but this is just a guideline and it is up to each individual mentor as to how many students they wish to mentor.
5. Off- campus SIRs need to be cleared through the SIR office before students begin work.
6. Off- campus SIRs need to adhere to safety guidelines set forth by the hosting campus and mentors will need to confirm placements prior. If the hosting site or IMSA no longer allows students to work off-campus due to the health and safety risks from a COVID outbreak, remote-based work will need to be implemented.

*Please understand that in the interests of safety and equity, if there is a need for IMSA to be shut down due to a COVID outbreak, the following will go into effect.*

- *SIR visits off-site will be suspended until such time as deemed by the state and academy to be safe to return to normal.*
  - *No SIR credit will be issued to students who go off campus by any means (bus, train, personal vehicle etc.) during this time.*
7. Whether on-campus or off-campus, SIR projects need to be meaningful, and include the components of a written scientific paper, and presentation of the final project at IMSAloqium.
  8. “Meaningful” with respect to SIR projects is defined as a project that includes, but is not limited to reviewing literature, working on applying the knowledge gained to creating a new and innovative product, theory, proposal or hypothesis and furthering the scientific method through focused work culminating in a presentation at IMSAloqium. Reading a few scientific papers for an off-campus advisor will not constitute an SIR project. Upholding and executing the scientific method is what distinguishes an SIR project from an independent study. If lab work and collecting data is not possible, meaningful work could constitute analyzing data that has been collected by others in the lab.
  9. All efforts will be made to place students in SIRs, either on or off campus, in an equitable manner – any student wishing to do an SIR will be able to do so. All students will have equal representation in choosing an SIR project. Every student will have a fair chance of the SIR project of their choice.

The SIR Team  
*Dr. Sowmya Anjur,*  
*Dr. Dave DeVol,*  
*Ms. Cathleen Cunz,*  
*Dr. Brian Trainor*

Principal and Chief Academic Officer  
*Dr. Comfort Akwaji-Anderson*



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## ADDENDUM 2

### Dates for SIR on I days AY 2021-2022

SIR FY22 (AY2021-22) Inquiry day schedule

<u>Week</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>Week</u>	<u>2022</u>
1	9/15/2021		
2	9/22/2021		
3	9/29/2021	14	1/26/22
4	10/6/2021	15	2/2/2022
5	10/13/2021	16	2/9/2022
6	10/20/2021	17	2/16/2022
7	10/27/2021		
8	11/3/2021	18	3/2/2022
9	11/10/2021	19	3/9/2022
10	11/17/2021	20	3/16/2022
11	12/1/2021	21	3/30/22
12	12/8/2021	22	4/6/2022
13	12/15/2021	Practice	4/13/21
		IMSAloquium	4/20/21

## **ADDENDUM 3 SIR Deadlines**

### **Deadlines for AY2021-2022 SIR**

#### **Start Date for SIR**

The official start date this year is Wednesday, Sept. 15. If mentors wish to start earlier, that is fine, please notify the SIR office.

#### **Deadline to officially enroll in SIR for AY 2020-2021**

The SIR office can accommodate students interested in signing up for SIR projects until Oct. 13, 2021.

#### **Schedule of Assignments to be submitted**

##### *SIR Agreement form*

This form should be signed by student and parent no later than Sept. 16, 2021 and submitted on the SIR AY2021-22 Canvas classroom.

##### *SIR Proposal*

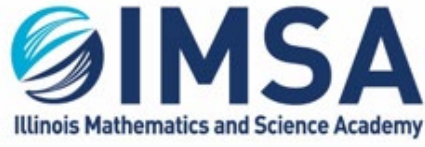
SIR proposals will be accepted on a rolling basis until December 1, 2021. An SIR Proposal (no more than 2 paragraphs) should be submitted only for new projects. If you already have an SIR project recognized by this office, you do not need to submit a proposal again.

##### *Annotated bibliography*

Students enrolled in an SIR project need to submit an annotated bibliography by Dec. 1, 2021. If you are working on the same project as last year, you should add 3-4 references to your existing bibliography and submit your revised document. If you are working on a new SIR project this year, please submit an annotated bibliography with a minimum of 5-6 references.

##### *Progress report*

A progress report of about one paragraph is due to this office by Dec. 15, 2021. The progress report will include an update on your project and the direction of your future work.



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### *Abstract*

An abstract of your work should be submitted by March 15, 2021. The abstract should not exceed 200 words.

### *Presentations*

The SIR office would like student presentations to be completed and submitted by April 13, 2021.

### **IMSAloqium Practice Day**

Practice Day for IMSAloqium is on April 13, 2021.

### **IMSAloqium**

This year, IMSAloqium will be held on April 20, 2021.

### *Final paper*

A copy of your final paper should be submitted no later than May 15, 2021.

## Calendar Reference List

<u>Item</u>	<u>Due Date</u>
Start Date	September 15
Agreement Form	September 15 / ASAP
Lab-Safety Form	September 15
Deadline to official enroll	October 13
Intro/Proposal	December 1
Annotated Bibliography	December 1
Progress Report	December 15
Abstract	March 15
Mentor approved Poster	April 6
Presentation, practice day	April 13
IMSAloquium	April 20
Final Paper	May 15