

Student Affairs

April 2022 Newsletter

Student Attendance (630)907-5029 / attendance@imsa.edu

Student Affairs (630)907-5009 / mratsamy@imsa.edu

ITS Helpdesk (630)907-5995 / helpdesk@imsa.edu

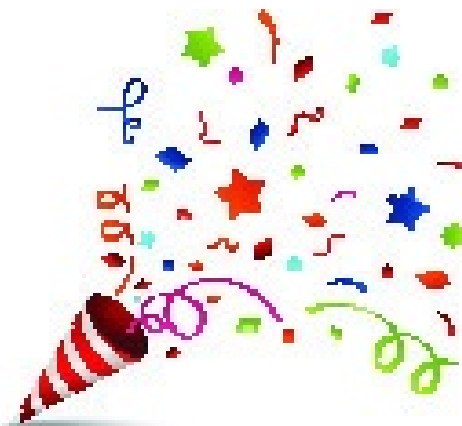
COVID CASE DASHBOARD

UPDATED 2021-2022 ACADEMIC CALENDAR

RESOURCE: ILLINOIS FOOD PANTRIES, SOUP KITCHENS AND HOMELESS SHELTERS

IMPORTANT DATES

- April 14 **Residence Halls close at 5pm** - Classes end at 1:55pm, Downstate buses leave at 2:30pm
- April 18 Residence Halls open at 3pm
- April 20 IMSAloquium
- April 23 College Day / PAC Meeting
- April 27 SLX Hollister Lecture
- **May 1-31 Registration forms open for all returning and new students - DUE MAY 31, 2022**
- May 2-6 & 9-13 AP Exams
- May 21 PAC Meeting
- May 30 Memorial Day - Campus Closed(students not required to go home this weekend)
- May 31-June 2 Final Exams (*All Sophomores & Juniors must leave within 24 hours of their last exam*)
- June 3 Graduation Rehearsal (**MANDATORY ATTENDANCE FOR SENIORS**)
- June 3 Senior Banquet
- June 4 **GRADUATION - CONGRATULATIONS IMSA CLASS OF 2022**



IMSA SCHOOL NURSE
IMPORTANT INFORMATION:
CURRENT JUNIORS (CLASS OF 2023)

Parents of **CLASS OF 2023**,

The Illinois Department of Public Health requirement for Meningococcal Vaccine is as follows: any child entering the 12th grade shall show proof of having received two doses of meningococcal conjugate vaccine prior to entering the 12th grade. The first dose shall have been received on or after the 11th birthday, and the second dose shall have been received on or after the 16th birthday, at least eight weeks after the first dose. If the first dose is administered when the child is 16 years of age or older, only one dose is required. If your child is NOT 16 before the start of school, you will have one month after their birthday to submit this documentation.

Please arrange for the administration of this vaccine with your primary health care provider, or any Walgreens or walk-in vaccine clinic. Once your student has received this vaccine, please submit the documentation to the health office as soon as possible via email nurse@imsa.edu or fax (630/907-5938). You may use the form in link below to submit documentation.

[FORM: Meningitis Vaccine Requirement for Students Entering 12th Grade](#)

IMPORTANT: REGISTRATION FOR THE
2022-2023 ACADEMIC SCHOOL YEAR
OPENS MAY 1 AND ALL DUE BY MAY 31, 2022

We are excited to announce that registration forms for ALL returning and incoming students will be available in PowerSchool. We have been working all year to make this process a little easier for you. Parents will have to log into their PowerSchool account to complete all forms. All registration forms must be complete and submitted by May 31, 2022 to avoid the \$50 late fee. Look out for an email with more information on or around May 1, 2022 from mratsamy@imsa.edu.

IMPORTANT: SENIOR CLASS OF 2022 AND THEIR PARENTS
REFER TO EMAIL SENT ON 4/14/2022

April 13, 2022

Dear IMSA Senior Parents and Guardians:

First, we would like to congratulate you for having a student who is about to graduate from IMSA. Your support over the years has been instrumental in your student reaching this milestone. As we prepare for June 4, graduation day for the class of 2022, we want to share some important information. The Graduation Ceremony will begin promptly at 3:30 pm at Northern Illinois University Convocation Center in DeKalb, Illinois - <http://www.convocenter.niu.edu/convo/info/directions.shtml>.

CAP AND GOWN

Caps/gowns & announcements (if ordered) were distributed the week before Spring Break, but if you need additional items, please contact Herff Jones directly at 815-756-4743 or via e-mail, custserv@herffjonesil.com. We still have several caps/gowns in our office, so please ensure that your student picks up their items as soon as possible. Keep in mind that the students may keep their cap, gown, and tassel.

TICKETS

Tickets for the ceremony will be mailed out by May 13 to each graduate's home address listed in PowerSchool. Each family will receive 10 General Admission tickets – graduates will be riding the buses and do not need a ticket.

OBLIGATIONS

If your student has any obligations, i.e. books, charges for lost keys, etc., they must resolve these matters, prior to graduation. You can check to see if your student(s) has any obligations by logging into your parent PowerSchool account and clicking on MYSCHOOLBUCKS. All balances should show \$0 if not, pay off any balance(s). If you have any questions or concerns regarding any obligation, please contact Ann Donohue via email at adonohue@imsa.edu or call (630)907-5031. Please use chrome as your browser and clear your cache to avoid any possible problems signing into your parent PowerSchool account.

RESIDENTIAL HALL CHECK OUT INFORMATION

Seniors may begin moving out of the halls on May 30, and must be completely moved out no later than noon on Saturday, June 4, 2022. All RC's will be available for Senior Move Out at 8:00 am on June 4. We will be providing brunch to graduates and families in the Cafeteria from 10:30 am – 12:00 pm that day.

TIMELINE – FRIDAY – June 3, 2022

9:00 am – 11:30 am

Rehearsal – Graduates line up in the West Gym then process to the Main Gym
A composite class picture will be taken directly following rehearsal

6:30 pm – 11:00 pm –

Senior Banquet at the Embassy Suites in Naperville

TIMELINE – SATURDAY – JUNE 4, 2022

Noon

Deadline for checking out of Residence Halls

10:30 am – 12:00 pm –

Brunch in the Cafeteria

12:45 pm – 1:15 pm –

Graduates line up in the West Gym

- 1:15 pm – 1:45 pm –
Graduates board buses to NIU
- 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm –
Doors open at NIU for general seating – NIU event staff will be checking all bags –CLEAR BAG POLICY
(NIU Attachments are included in this communication)
- 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm –
Graduates arrive at NIU, line up for Graduation Ceremony
- 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm –
Graduation Ceremony begins

Due to current restrictions, students will process directly outside after the ceremony; there will be no opportunity to take pictures inside the venue. Students depart NIU with parent/guardians, as there will be no transportation available back to IMSA.

GRADUATION CEREMONY RECORDING

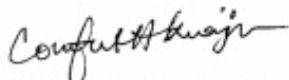
IMSA will offer a free digital download of the ceremony – link information to be posted at a later date.

INDIVIDUAL PICTURES

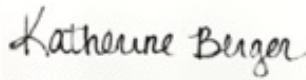
Visibility is great in the venue. Please note that families will not be allowed to stand and take pictures from the track or walking area; pictures should be taken from your seats. We have however arranged with GradImages® to have professional photographers take a picture of every graduate the moment he/she receives his/her diploma. The proofs of these photos will be in color, and these proofs will be mailed free of charge to every student's home within a week after graduation. The proofs will also be e-mailed 2 to 3 days after the ceremony to every graduate for whom we have an e-mail address, and can be viewed at <https://www.gradimages.com/>

We look forward to seeing you all at a wonderful celebration of the Class of 2022!

Sincerely,



Dr. Comfort Akwaji-Anderson
Principal and Chief Academic Officer



Katherine Berger
Chief Student Affairs Officer

Attachments

2022 High School Graduation NIU Convocation Center General Information and Rules

General Information:

- Doors open at 2:30 pm and all tickets are General Admission.
- All guests 2 years and up must have a ticket.
- Guests, Graduates, Faculty & Staff may bring in (1) unopened 20 oz. or smaller bottle of water into the Convocation Center.
 - NO outside beverages (including Starbucks, Dunkin', and other coffee brands) will be allowed in the venue.

Clear Bag Policy:

A clear bag policy has been instituted and being enforced at the Convocation Center, the following are permitted:

- Bags that are clear and do not exceed 12" x 12" x 6".
- Small purses which do not exceed 5.5" x 8.5" and no more than 2" thick.
- An exception will be made for medically necessary items after proper inspection at the door.

Prohibited Items:

Purses, diaper bags, laptop bags, camera bags, backpacks, duffels, and fanny packs (see Clear Bag Policy)

Wrapped gifts and gift bags

Helium Balloons

Laser pointers of any kind

Coolers, bottles, cans, containers, or projectiles

Weapons, flammables, or other potentially dangerous items

Aerosol containers or any pressurized container

Horns, noisemakers, or whistles

Any illegal substances

Posters, banners, or signs on sticks

Golf Umbrellas

Tripods, monopods, & selfie sticks

Outside food & beverages (including Starbucks, Dunkin', and other coffee brands)

Strollers are not permitted in the arena.

Remaining in the venue to take pictures is not allowed. Graduates and guests are asked to exit the Convocation Center immediately after the conclusion of the ceremony and ask that you respectfully follow our staff's instructions.

CLEAR BAG POLICY

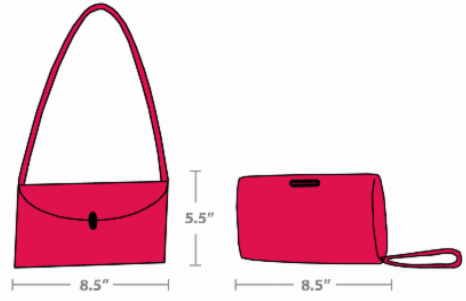


CLEAR TOTE
MUST NOT EXCEED 12"x12"x6"

APPROVED WITH INSPECTION

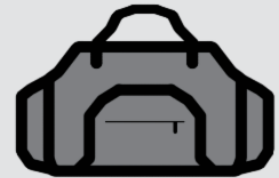


PLASTIC BAG
GALLON, CLEAR



CLUTCH PURSE
MUST NOT EXCEED 5.5" x 8.5"

PROHIBITED



BACKPACKS, CLEAR BACKPACKS, COMPUTER BAGS, COOLERS, DUFFEL BAGS, FANNY PACKS, CLEAR FANNY PACKS, PURSES LARGER THAN CLUTCH OR ANY BAG LARGER THAN THE PERMISSIBLE SIZE. ALL BAGS ARE SUBJECT TO INSPECTION.

SERVICE LEARNING

Make sure that you are continuing to stay on top of tracking your Service Learning hours and entering them into Helper Helper. Completing 200 Service Learning hours is a graduation requirement and for our seniors, graduation is quickly approaching! Hours are not considered complete until they have been both verified and validated in Helper Helper so don't procrastinate inputting your hours into Helper Helper. If you are in search of hours, be sure to check Helper Helper and the Service Learning website for ideas.

You can find our website here: <https://www.imsa.edu/student-life/student-engagement/service-learning/>

LEADERSHIP EDUCATION

The 9th annual Student Leadership Exchange (SLX) will be held on Wednesday, April 27th. SLX is the culmination of LEAD and provides our sophomore students with the opportunity to present the projects they have been working on during LEAD to IMSA staff and visiting evaluators.

You can learn more about SLX 2022 and previous SLX events on our Digital Commons page: <https://digitalcommons.imsa.edu/slx/>

Thanks,

[Carley VanOverberghe](#)

Coordinator of Student Leadership and Service

STUDENT ACTIVITIES



SENIORS! Be sure to get your PROM and Six Flags Grad Night forms in by 4/29 @ 5pm. Early Bird Pricing ends THIS THURSDAY at 5pm. Please see the email from Brittney Walker for payment options and other details.



Help Senior Cluss Club celebrate the **100th Birthday** of IMSA founder, *Leon Lederman*. The Class of 2022 is honored to share a special store dedicated to his birthday that takes place just a month after graduation. Proceeds from the sale benefit SCC as they make the final plans towards the Senior Prom. [Lederman 100th Sale](#)

IMSA Shoe Drop Fundraiser

You can now purchase your items online in 3 easy steps:

1. Scan the QR code or go online to <https://imsaslides.itemorder.com/>
2. Choose your items and add them to your cart
3. Securely checkout with your credit card

Online Store Deadline: Friday April 15th, 2022 (11:59pm EDT)

IMSA Slides



\$32.00



Athletes and Parents,

If you or your child is playing a spring sport at IMSA, below is important information regarding cancellation of a spring sporting event.

1. All spring sports schedules are located at <https://il.8to18.com/imsa/home> The spring season is continually changing due to the weather, **please check 8 to 18 daily for updates, announcements and changes**
2. Weather is always a challenge for outdoor activities during the spring season, here are the steps of communication for a cancellation.
 - If the weather forecast becomes an issue for any spring sports and the event is cancelled **the decision on cancelling the event will occur between 1 -2 pm on that day.**
 - If the contest is cancelled we will post this and communicate first on the 8 to 18 website.
 - We will then contact the coaching staff and players on the cancellation.
 - We will then send an email out to the parents on the cancellation.
 - Please do not call the office until after 2:00pm if you have questions regarding the cancellation. You may also feel free to email the coach if you have any questions or concerns.

Below are the coaches' emails if you need to communicate to them.

Coaches Emails:

- Track - Angela Smith dezel564@gmail.com
- Baseball - Tom Polka vmax48@aol.com

- Softball - Jessica Ordiway jlordiway@gmail.com
- Soccer - Josiah Payne josiah.director@gmail.com
- Boys Tennis - Jim Bernardini jimbernardini1956@gmail.com
- Boys Volleyball - Alex Smothers smothersvb@gmail.com

If you have any questions please email the athletic director at tpalmer@imsa.edu



Parent Association Council

PAC WEBSITE: Now there's an even easier way to get to the PAC website! Just type in www.imsapac.org on your browser and you'll have lots of information available, including a comprehensive calendar of events, emails sent out by IMSA and updates from the PAC. *Note: www.imsapac.org is run and updated by parent/guardian volunteers in the PAC. Make sure to visit www.imsa.edu for official announcements and information from IMSA.*

***** Use the event links on the calendars on the [PAC website](http://www.imsapac.org) to add any of the following events to your personal calendar. *****

PARENT SOCIAL: Come meet, chat and get to know your fellow IMSA parents/guardians before the April PAC session. We will have food and refreshments at IMSA in IN2 on **Saturday, April 23 from 12:00 PM** until the end of the PAC session. Let us know [on this link](#) if you are attending.

APRIL PAC SESSION: You are invited to attend the next PAC session on **Saturday, April 23 from 1:00 PM to 1:30 PM either in-person at IMSA or via Zoom.** Let us know [on this link](#) if you are attending in person so we can make sure to have enough refreshments. The Zoom link is <https://imsa.zoom.us/j/99726589923>.

APRIL SPEAKER SESSION: There will be a residential life panel as guest speakers on **Saturday, April 23 from 1:30 PM to 2:30 PM.** Get more information about life on campus for students and get your questions answered straight from the staff who are part of the residence life team. You are invited to attend the session either **in-person at IMSA or via Zoom.** The Zoom link is <https://imsa.zoom.us/j/99726589923>.

WELCOME SENIOR PARENT REPRESENTATIVE: Please join us in welcoming Riaz Baxamusa as the Senior Parent Representative for the remainder of the 2021-2022 academic year. He is part of the PAC Executive Board with voting rights in this position. He will be organizing meetings for parents of seniors in the coming weeks. Contact him at Senior@IMSAPAC.org.

ELECT THE 2022-2023 PAC EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS: Please help shape next year's Parent Association Council. It's time to vote for the PAC President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary for the next academic year. More information about each of the candidates is on the ballot. The four nominees with the most votes will form the Executive Board and will decide among themselves which of them will fill each position. [Place your vote here](#) by **April 29.** The incoming board members will appoint the Sophomore, Junior, and Senior Parent Representatives for the 2022-2023 academic year. You may list suggestions for those positions on the ballot. Contact Election@IMSAPAC.org if you have any questions.

PROUD IMSA PARENT MERCH (PROVISIONS): Announcing [Proud Parent Provisions!](#) You are now able to place orders for IMSA-themed swag on the PAC's website [here](#). Parent T-shirts will be ready in time for the Luau on May 25. You may also purchase the stickers and window clings at the April PAC session (cash will be accepted there).

PARENTS/GUARDIANS MEETINGS: Parents/guardians are invited to attend meetings specific to the grade-level of your child(-ren). Meet other parents/guardians and share questions/concerns you have about topics related to those grade levels.

- **PARENTS/GUARDIANS OF SENIORS – April 25 at 7:00 pm** – Zoom link is <https://imsa.zoom.us/j/99995019137>. Contact Senior@IMSAPAC.org if you have any questions.
- **PARENTS/GUARDIANS OF SOPHOMORES – April 27 at 7:30 pm** – Zoom link is <https://imsa.zoom.us/j/97167950351>. Contact Sophomore@IMSAPAC.org if you have any questions.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: The PAC has some wonderful events coming up but need parents/guardians to help make sure they go as planned. Let us know if you are available to help in any of the following capacities:

- **TEACHER/STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK** – Help us show appreciation to the faculty and staff at IMSA during “Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week” from **May 2 to May 6**. Volunteers are needed to help plan and execute the week. Contact info@IMSAPAC.org to volunteer.
- **LUAU** – Friday Fest has been asked to provide the meal for Luau. Luau will take place on **Wednesday, May 25** and we will be feeding 650+ students. In order to make this event memorable and epic for the students, we need all of the IMSA families to come together and help us. An email with sign-ups for food donations, monetary donations, and parent volunteers will be sent out after the students return to campus following the April extended weekend. Thank you in advance for supporting the students & this event! Contact FridayFest@IMSAPAC.org to volunteer.
- **SENIOR BANQUET** – We are almost at full capacity for the Senior Banquet. The Senior Banquet is a celebration for families of IMSA seniors the night before graduation! Parents/guardians of sophomores and juniors are requested to help with planning and setting up before the event. We also need volunteers during the event, which is the evening of **Friday, June 3**. Contact SeniorBanquet@IMSAPAC.org to volunteer.

IMPORTANT - PARENTS OF SENIORS: The Senior Banquet will be held on **Saturday, June 3**. Senior Banquet ticket sales will conclude on **Friday, April 15**. All families on the waitlist were given an opportunity to purchase extra seats. If you missed your opportunity to purchase extra tickets, please contact Treasurer@IMSAPAC.org as soon as possible. Limited tickets are available on first come first serve basis. A list of RSVPs with meal choices will be posted on the [Senior Banquet page](#) on the PAC’s website by next weekend. Families will be able to review their reservations. If families wish to share a table with friends, we will accept requests for seat placements until **Saturday, April 30**. Contact Treasurer@IMSAPAC.org to make your requests. Accommodation is not guaranteed. More information on reserving tickets, submitting photos and booking hotel rooms can be found [here](#).

LOOKING FOR IMSA GRADUATES FOR PANEL: We are looking for prior IMSA graduates to participate in a panel for our PAC Speaker Session on **Saturday, May 21 from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm**. If you have a child who graduated from IMSA or know of other graduates who may be interested in participating, please have them contact info@IMSAPAC.org.

DONATE TO THE PAC: Find out more about how to make donations to the PAC [here](#).

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES WITH THE PAC: We need you! The PAC is only as good as its volunteers. Our committee chairs have been working hard to plan some wonderful events and activities for the school year. Contact the committee chairs if you are able to volunteer ([see the contact list here](#)).

Email info@IMSAPAC.org if you have any questions.

imsa.edu

