

8th-Grade Course Requirements

8th-grade applicants must be enrolled in or have completed the equivalent of Algebra 1 and a high school equivalent science course. Interested 8th-grade applicants not taking the high school-level science course at their school can opt to take it via another educational program, such as an online school. The course should, at a minimum, be 50% completed by the application deadline, and a grade report must be provided by the institution to IMSA at that time. Students must have the entire course completed before the start of classes if accepted into IMSA. If a course has two semesters or a part A and Part B, the first semester or part A must be completed in its entirety by the application deadline. Click [here](#) to view the application deadline and timeline.

Students can sign up for any science class of their choosing. We recommend that students consider Biology, Physics, or Chemistry as the best foundation courses before attending IMSA. Please note that Computer Science is considered a math course, not a science course, and will not meet the high school science course requirement. Applicants are not required to complete a lab with the high school science course. It is also up to the granting institution where you take the course to determine if it is a high school-level course, so this may require clarification from the chosen school. Popular choices among our applicants include:

- [The American School](#)
- [The Keystone School](#)
- [Center for Talent Development](#)
- [James Madison High School](#)
- [Silicon Valley High School](#)
- [Illinois Virtual Schools & Academy](#)

Other accredited institutions found by the family are acceptable with approval from our Admissions Team - information can be sent over for approval before registering for a course. Email admissions at admissions@imsa.edu.