



Motivating students in mathematics and science at schools across Illinois

IMSA Excellence 2000+ is publicly funded by the State of Illinois with private sector support by corporate, foundation and individual donors to the IMSA Fund for Advancement of Education. It is modeled after the highly successful Mitchell Excellence 2000 enrichment program for junior high students in Israel.

What is IMSA?

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 college preparatory program. It also serves thousands of educators and students in Illinois and beyond through innovative instructional programs that foster imagination and inquiry.



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Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy®

EXTRAORDINARY EXPERIENCES FOR KIDS



IMSA Excellence 2000+ (E2K+) presents challenging and fun after-school activities in math, science and technology for talented, motivated late elementary and middle school kids. Some examples of units and activities are:

CSI: E2K+ Style

Earthquakes and Tectonics

Chaos Theory

Problem of the Month

Rocketry

Round n Round

Reflections and Symmetry

Kaleidoscopes

Supersize or Miniaturize?

Web of Life

WHAT PARENTS NEED TO KNOW

IMSA Excellence 2000+, a program of the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy®, is designed for academically talented students who are interested and motivated in science and mathematics. Students must apply and be invited to join E2K+. Those accepted attend weekly sessions at their own school. There are other learning experiences too, including online challenges, special programs like Mathematical Inquiry Workshops at IMSA, summer camps, and virtual conferences that connect Illinois students with other Excellence 2000 classes across the nation or across the world. Activities vary from year to year.

By design, IMSA E2K+ curriculum is competency-driven, inquiry-based, problem-centered and integrative. The learning experiences focus on helping students "learn how to learn." Logic, mathematical and experimental scientific thinking, and problem solving skills are the focus of this non-competitive, student-centered program.

HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS

IMSA Excellence 2000+ programs are held at the local school with local teachers providing the classes for a select number of students in late elementary or middle school. Students who have high interest and potential in math and/or science are invited to apply to participate at their school. Schools (or consortia of schools) interested in participating in the E2K+ program must submit an application.



Each school decides the days and times to host the program, usually once or twice a week during the school year. The school selects the E2K+ teachers who receive specialized training in the content and methods of the program from staff members of the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy. The curriculum and activities are designed to intrigue and engage students, and to keep their interest in math and science at a high level.

Beyond the after-school program, there are additional opportunities for participating schools and students throughout the school year and summer.

