

Context note: IMSA allegedly violated Title IX for thirty-three consecutive school years by requiring pregnant students to sign special waivers that other students with a medical diagnosis did not need to sign. Additionally, IMSA seemed to threaten women and girls with constructive expulsion. This policy was finally rescinded and removed from the handbook for the 2023-2024 school year.

## **Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy®**

### **Section J**

#### **Student Policies**

##### **Pregnant Students**

The Academy has an educational and residential responsibility to all students including those who are pregnant. A known student pregnancy must be reported to the President's designee by any employee of the Academy. The purpose of such a confidential communication is to notify the President's designee of the situation so that he or she may assess the situation and determine the appropriate resources for the well-being of the student.

It will be the obligation of the President's designee to inform the Principal and the parents or legal guardian of the student's pregnancy and to request a physician's statement verifying the pregnancy and health condition of the student. The student will have the opportunity to inform her parents/guardian prior to official action by the President's designee.

Decisions concerning the educational future of a pregnant student at the Academy will be made by the President's designee after consultation with the student, her parents/legal guardian, a licensed physician, Academy school counselor and nurse, and other appropriate personnel.

If it is determined that the student will remain in school, a written statement from a licensed physician verifying the pregnant student's health condition must be submitted along with a student and parental waiver of Academy responsibility for pregnancy-related injuries or diseases.

A pregnant student shall be permitted to continue her education at the Academy so long as she may continue to do so as a residential student. An academic program will be planned for the student by the President's designee in consultation with the student, her parents, her attending physician, and other appropriate Academy personnel. If the student is no longer able to participate as a student in the Academy's academic and residential program, she will be placed on medical leave and returned home in accordance with practices relating to medical leave. The student's return to the Academy shall be as agreed upon with the President's designee in accordance with the Academy's readmission practice. If it is determined that the student will not remain at the Academy, the Academy will assist the student in her transition to another school if such placement is appropriate.

Adopted: April 9, 1990  
Amended: May 14, 2004  
Amended: March 14, 2007  
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