



International Montessori Council

Membership Levels

The International Montessori Council welcomes all schools as members. We offer three levels of membership depending on your schools stage of development as a Montessori program.

TIER	DESCRIPTION
IMC Associate School Membership	This level is most appropriate for new schools or existing schools that are developing their Montessori program.
IMC Full School Membership	This level is most appropriate for well-established schools that strive to follow Montessori best practices
IMC Accredited School Membership	This level recognizes schools which have successfully completed the IMC Accreditation process and have been awarded full accreditation.

IMC Associate School Membership

Requirements for schools at this level

- Must complete the IMC school membership profile
- Must agree in writing to follow the IMC Code of Ethics
- Must pay annual membership fees when due and be a school member in good standing

Comments

- This level is most appropriate for new developing schools and schools not ready yet to seek Full Membership.
- Associate Members may only use the IMC Associate School Membership logo in printed or online advertising. This logo will specify that this member school is a new or developing Montessori program.
- Associate Members are not yet eligible to apply for IMC school accreditation

IMC Full School Membership

Requirements for schools at this level

- Must complete the IMC school membership profile.
- Must agree in writing to follow the IMC Code of Ethics
- Must pay annual membership fees when due and be a school member in good standing
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- All school classrooms are guided by Montessori teachers who have training for the age level they are serving. The school has a plan to insure that each classroom will be lead by teachers who have Montessori certification from an accredited teacher education institution.
- The school must have a plan in place for continuing professional development.
- The school must be compliant with all appropriate state and local level regulations. Where appropriate, the school must have necessary licenses.
- Assessment and development for each stakeholder group is ongoing and an integral part of the school community.
- All classrooms must strive to follow these essential characteristics of Montessori educational programs:
 - ✓ Classrooms are well prepared Montessori environments with appropriate materials for the ages they serve.
 - ✓ The program follows the standard Montessori curriculum.
 - ✓ Classes represent multi-age groups based on Montessori's planes of development
 - ✓ There is a prolonged and uninterrupted work cycle.
 - ✓ Children have freedom of movement within the classroom.
 - ✓ Children work independently or in small groups at their own pace.
 - ✓ Teachers observe and guide children in order to best meet their needs and interests.

Comments:

- This level is most suitable for schools with well developed Montessori program that are not yet ready to apply for IMC Accreditation
 - IMC Full Member Schools are eligible to apply for IMC School accreditation
 - IMC Full Member Schools may use the IMC logo and advertise they are an IMC Full Member School
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IMC Accredited School Membership

Requirements for schools at this level

- Is an IMC Full School Member in good standing
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- Must have 3 or more years of operating as a Montessori School
- Successfully completes the accreditation self-study and onsite validation visit
Once awarded IMC School Accreditation, submits annual reports and membership fees.
- Reports any major changes, if they occur, to the IMC School Accreditation Commission

Comments:

- This level of recognition is for schools meeting the highest standards of practice, both in terms of Montessori education and in regard to their practices as school communities.
- The school may use the IMC logo and advertise that they are an IMC Accredited School