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

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

Requirements for schools at this level

- Is an IMC Full School Member in good standing
- 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