

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COURSE FOR EDUCATORS  
10 day Residential Course followed by 3 months Distance Learning**

**Mathematical Thinking, Problem Solving and Technology  
in Teaching and Learning Mathematics**

Mathematics teachers and advisory teachers working in historically disadvantaged schools are invited to apply for a bursary to take this Certificate of Further Professional Studies Course run by the African Institute for Mathematical Sciences Schools Enrichment Centre (AIMSSEC) held in the school holidays and open to educators from all across South Africa. This is an intensive 10 day residential course followed by distance learning over the following three months. There are three specialist groups for teachers of grades 4-6, grades 7-9 and grades 10-12.

The Certificate of Further Professional Studies is awarded, after the end of the three month distance learning phase, on satisfactory completion of a 2000 word assignment reflecting on the implementation in your own classroom of the teaching strategies and resources developed on the course. Some of the educators who do well in this preliminary course will be selected for places on the two year part time University of Stellenbosch/AIMSSEC ACE course for Training Subject Leaders in Mathematics which is an NQF level 6 qualification. The ACE course involves both residential and distance learning components, using the Internet, Interactive TV and Cellphone technologies. A school cluster network has been set up to empower teachers to support each other and to learn together. Subject leaders are trained to run workshops for other teachers to cascade and multiply the benefits to more teachers and learners. For suitably qualified candidates who engage in Action Research and write a further dissertation the course could contribute to a masters level qualification.

The course is taught by groups of visiting lecturers from Africa and around the world (UK, USA, Australia, New Zealand, Denmark and India) who will be in residence with the teachers. Further individual sessions are taught by other South African lecturers.

Applicants are advised to apply to their provincial education offices for bursaries and advice on how to apply is obtainable from Dr Barrie Barnard <[aimssec@aims.ac.za](mailto:aimssec@aims.ac.za)> . A bursary of R4000 covers tuition fees, accommodation, food and an extensive pack of classroom lesson materials designed for the South African school curriculum. Generally course participants receive a contribution to travel expenses amounting to the cost of one return fare between their home and Cape Town by long distance bus. Places are limited and there is a very long waiting list so it is advisable to apply early and applicants may have to wait two years for a place on the course.

Acceptance on the course will depend on the full support of the Principal of the school and the Head of Mathematics and a commitment to follow up the course by using some of the course materials in the classroom. So that teachers can work together and support each other, pairs of applicants from the same school or groups from neighbouring schools are welcomed.

***Please do not telephone to ask for application forms.***

Application forms can be printed from the AIMSSEC website <http://aimssec.aims.ac.za> or sent to you by email if you request forms from <[aimssec@aims.ac.za](mailto:aimssec@aims.ac.za)> . If you have no access to the internet then application forms will be mailed to you if you send your address by fax to: 021 787 9321 or by post to the address below or by SMS text message to: 071 309 1238. Completed application forms should be posted to:

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