



ADMISSIONS TO MONTESSORI COMMUNITY SCHOOL 2020-2021

Two-Year-Olds | Preschool & Kindergarten | Elementary Grades 1-6

Dear Parents,

We are pleased that you are considering a Montessori education for your child at Montessori Community School (MCS). Our goal is to assist children in developing the skills, knowledge, and attitudes to become productive members of their community and respectful of themselves, others, and the environment. To achieve this, we create a special learning environment, employ certified Montessori teachers, and work collaboratively with parents.

The three-year developmental cycle found at each age level, with the exception of the Two-Year-Old Program, is crucial to a child's success. Therefore, our priority is to enroll children whose families understand and are committed to our programs and philosophy, and who are selecting MCS as a long-term school placement for their child.

We encourage all interested parents to schedule a visit to our school. Admissions school tours, which include classroom observation time, are conducted from October through May, and are generally held on Wednesday mornings at 8:45 a.m. (adults only, please). To schedule a date for your visit, please sign up on our website or contact our office at (808)522-0244.

General Admissions Policies

Our priority is to enroll students who will benefit from a Montessori education. Please note that application to a program does not guarantee acceptance and all appropriate admissions procedures must be completed for a child to be considered. Applications for the 2020-2021 school year will be accepted beginning on September 1, 2019. There is no firm application deadline, but parents are encouraged to submit their applications as soon as possible. Applications submitted by February 15, 2020 will be considered in the first round of admissions decisions, which will be determined and announced beginning mid-March 2020. Subsequent applications will be considered as space is available.

The 2020-2021 tuition rates will be available on our website beginning in February 2020.

Age is only one factor for admission to each program level. Developmental readiness is also considered, and all applicants are considered in terms of space availability and classroom dynamics. Admissions decisions are determined by the Admissions Committee, composed of faculty and administration members. If your child is receiving special services, it is expected that you share this information with us to help in assuring that our program will be the appropriate environment for your child.

Preference is given to qualified applicants who are children of faculty or staff, or siblings of enrolled students. Admissions deadlines, however, must be met, and admission is not automatic for applicants in these categories.

Dates of the 2020-2021 school year:

Two-Year-Old and Preschool & Kindergarten Programs:
August 31, 2020 – May 26, 2021

Lower and Upper Elementary Programs:
August 31, 2020 – May 28, 2021

Eligibility

- Two-Year-Old Program: Applicants must be at least 24 months of age at the time they begin school. Children in diapers are eligible.
- Preschool & Kindergarten Program: Applicants must be three years of age by December 31, 2020. For enrollment at any other time, the child must be fully three years of age to qualify. Applicants must be able to use the bathroom with complete independence (diapers, training pants, or Pull-ups are not allowed at any time in the Preschool Program).
- The Kindergarten Year: Applicants must be at least five years of age by December 31, 2020 to be considered.
- Lower Elementary Program: Applicants must be at least six years of age by December 31, 2020 to be considered.
- Upper Elementary Program: Applicants must be at least nine years of age by December 31, 2020 to be considered.



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Additional Kindergarten and Elementary Admissions Documents and Procedures

The following documents, if applicable, must be submitted before an admissions decision can be made:

1. Current and previous year's report cards or progress reports.
2. Confidential Teacher Reference Report, completed by current teacher

For Kindergarten applicants:

A required Kindergarten Activity Session will be held on

Saturday, February 15, 2020, 9:00-10:30 a.m.

For Elementary applicants:

Any or all of the following options may be required as part of the admissions process. Our objective is to gain sufficient information about the applicant to be able to make an admissions decision.

1. Observation of the applicant at their current school;
2. Observation of the applicant at MCS;
3. Enrollment in the MCS summer program.

Financial Assistance

Montessori Community School offers financial assistance to families of applicants based upon demonstrated financial need. Applying for financial assistance is independent of the admissions process, and a family's financial status is not part of the admissions criteria.

The School and Student Service for Financial Aid (SSS) Parent Financial Statement application form may be obtained online at <http://www.solutionsbysss.com/parents> after an MCS application and application fee are received by our school. The completed financial aid form and required fee should be sent directly to SSS by March 1, 2020. SSS will forward the need analysis to MCS.

MCS is only able to offer limited financial assistance and uses the information from the SSS Parent Financial Statement form to prioritize the amount given in grants. MCS also cooperates with other community programs which also offer limited financial assistance, such as Preschool Open Doors, Kamehameha's Pauahi Keiki Scholars and Kipona Scholarship programs, Child Care Aware of America and Keiki O Ka Aina's HELP program.

MCS Applicant Checklist

Choosing a school can be overwhelming, and we are here to help you through the process!

For All Applicants:

_____ Submit the completed Online Application, along with the non-refundable, non-transferable \$50.00 application fee. Additional processing fee may apply.

_____ Submit the financial assistance application (if applicable) to SSS before March 1, 2020.

_____ Contact the school to arrange a school visit.

For Kindergarten Applicants:

_____ Submit copies of your child's previous year's and most recent report card or progress report, if applicable.

_____ Give your child's current teacher the Confidential Teacher Reference Report form. This is to be submitted directly to MCS.

_____ Have your child attend the required Kindergarten Activity Session on **Saturday, February 15, 2020**, 9:00-10:30 a.m. at MCS.

_____ Complete a parent interview with the Admissions Committee (to be scheduled if deemed necessary).

For Elementary Applicants

_____ Submit copies of your child's previous year's and most recent report cards or progress reports, if applicable.

_____ Give your child's current teacher the Confidential Teacher Reference Report form. This is to be submitted directly to MCS.

_____ Complete a parent interview with the Admissions Committee (to be scheduled if deemed necessary).

Disabled applicants (or disabled family members of applicants) requiring any type of accommodation during the application process or otherwise are encouraged to identify themselves and indicate the type of accommodation needed.