



MdMCS Enrollment Timeline for Fall 2025

Date	Event	Method
March 24	Enrollment Applications Available to Returning & Wait List Families	Email
April 1	Enrollment Opens to the Public	Website
April 15	Deadline: First Enrollment and Reduced Tuition Application Deadline for consideration in first round of Admissions	Online Submission
April 30	First round of Enrollment Notification & Reduced tuition allotment for Returning Families Deadline: Second Enrollment and Reduced Tuition Application Deadline for considered in second round of admissions	Notification by email
May 1	Spaces for returning students who have not submitted an application will no longer be held	
May 15	Second Round of Reduced Tuition Allotment & Enrollment Notification (Returning & New Families)	Notification by email
May 15	Deadline: Final Deadline for All Applications	Online Submission
June 6	Deadline: Deposits & Enrollment Packets Due for All Accepted Students	Online Submission Payment online, by check by mail or arrangement

*All enrollment forms are online submissions.

Enrollment FAQs

What is Montessori del Mar Community School? The Community School is an elementary school serving ages 4 years (turning 5 between Sept 1 and June 1) to 14 years (grades TK-8) and is located just north of Fort Bragg campus. It has three classrooms: The Primary Program (ages 4-7), the Lower Elementary (ages 6-10) and the Upper Elementary (ages 10-14).

How does MdMCS consider applicants?

We take into account a number of factors when considering a student application. Returning families receive priority for both enrollment and reduced tuition allotment. To ensure the financial viability of the school, reduced tuition applicants are considered once our quota of full tuition students is met. In addition, MdMCS is committed to cultural and social diversity. Other factors we consider include:

- 1) Previous Montessori experience.
- 2) Age of the child--space for each age is limited based on classroom make-up and to ensure the multi-age experience.
- 3) How well our school can meet the needs of an individual child.

What MdMCS does NOT do is discriminate in the admission, retention, or dismissal of a child on the basis of gender, national origin, ancestry, primary language, race, religion, class, mobility, marital status, religious beliefs, sexual preference, or political persuasion of parents/guardians/families.

What About Tuition & Other Fees?

Our full tuition for the 2025-2026 school year is a tiered system:

Tier 1 is \$1200 per child per month

Tier 2 is \$1500 per child per month

Tier 3 is \$1750 per child per month.

Choosing the maximum tuition tier supports those families in need of reduced tuition and helps to foster diversity and inclusion at MdMCS.

Reduced tuition is considered on a case-by-case basis and requires the completion of a reduced tuition application and documentation of need. Families requesting reduced tuition are asked to meet the mandatory minimum tuition of \$600 per child per month or \$6000 annually. Please request a reduced tuition application for more information.

MdMCS is a nonprofit 501.3c and welcomes donations at any time.

When can families see the school and meet the teachers?

We invite you to choose from the following dates of campus visits and parent question & answer sessions.

2025 Campus Visit Dates

Tuesday, March 18, 9:00-9:30am

Wednesday, April 16, 2:00-2:30pm

Tuesday, April 22, 9:00-9:30am

Tuesday, May 6, 9:00-9:30am

Wednesday, May 14, 2:00-2:30pm

Contact us through our website or email chloedirector@montessoridelmar.org to sign up for a campus visit. **Pre-registration for campus visits are required.**

At the time of the campus tour, if an application has been submitted, parents may participate in an Enrollment Conference with the Director, Chloe Reed. This is a time to learn more about the program and ask questions.

Once new families have submitted an application and been enrolled, they can be put in touch with their child's prospective teacher and have a more child-specific and individualized conversation at that time. In the meantime, descriptions of the core tenets of our programs can be found on our website montessoridelmar.org.

There will be a New Student Day in June during which students and families new to our program can visit campus and meet each other.

Parent Orientation for both New and Returning Families will be on Wednesday, August 20, 2025.

What will my child's classroom be like next year?

In creating our classrooms, we look at the independence, initiative, maturity, and work habits that each child exhibits. Academics are considered as well, but since each classroom allows for a spectrum of academic instruction and opportunities, children can find what they need academically in every classroom. Each classroom expects different levels of independence and initiative and provides different opportunities for developing those qualities.

Each classroom is its own community within our greater school community. We like to think of our classroom make-up as "responsive". This means that our classrooms are thoughtfully designed each year in response to our changing enrollment and the social, emotional, and academic readiness of our students as individuals and a community. Despite children typically spending 3-4 years in a classroom, each year is a different experience as the age of the students progress.

The first year in a classroom, a MdMCS student will be in a younger and less experienced stage. This child will work to acclimate to many unfamiliar materials, routines, and expectations and will be mentored and guided by older students in the class as well as by the teacher. In subsequent years, the child will gain competence, further develop their identity and interests, and take on ownership of learning and the classroom routines. Finally, the child in the last year in each classroom will lead and teach others in addition to managing their own work and learning more independently. At every stage the MdMCS child:

- Is offered challenging and meaningful lessons and materials that match their readiness;
- Is free to explore and develop individual interests;
- Develops productive work habits and relationships that support learning and growth;
- Progresses at their own pace while staying connected to the classroom community through shared experiences, routines, and values.

Each of the stages within a classroom continuum is valuable and offers unique benefits to the overall cognitive, social, and emotional growth of a child.

Our classrooms, as is typical in a Montessori school, tend to include students of a 3 year age range. Restrictions in physical space and state mandates on the age of “school-age” children impact classroom populations. Movement between the MdMCS classrooms is fluid and determined by each child’s readiness and maturity, not by birth dates or grade levels as in traditional schools. Maria Montessori believed that learning occurs along a developmental continuum. Decisions to move students from the primary to the lower elementary and the lower elementary to the upper elementary reflect careful observation of the natural learning characteristics of the child at each stage of development. In Maria Montessori’s metaphorical language, “the successive levels of education must conform to the successive personalities of the child.”