

# Okemos Public Montessori Enrollment FAQ

## **What grades do you have?**

Our program is for 3 year olds through 4th grade.

## **How do I register?**

Three and four year olds register for our tuition based program through Community Education. For that, you will contact Michelle Thompson at [Michelle.Thompson@okemosk12.net](mailto:Michelle.Thompson@okemosk12.net).

Our kindergarten through fourth grade students are accepted through a lottery drawing. Each year at the beginning of March, the enrollment lottery opens. When the lottery closes, students are randomly chosen for available slots.

## **Do I have to enroll every year?**

No. Once you are enrolled at OPM, you can stay through fourth grade.

## **What about siblings?**

Siblings are given priority in enrolling at Okemos Public Montessori.

## **How many slots are available at each grade level?**

We take a total of 60 students at each grade level, however available slots depend on returning students, so the answer to this question will change.

## **How does the lottery work?**

It is completely random. Each student who applies is assigned a number. Those numbers are placed in a bowl and the numbers are drawn out. There are always at least two adults in the room during the lottery. Students who are not chosen are placed on a waiting list and will be called if slots become available?

## **Do I have to be an Okemos resident?**

Okemos residents are given preference over school of choice students in the lottery. Once Okemos residents are selected for available slots and waiting list spots, then a lottery is conducted for School of Choice students to be added to the waiting list.

## **How old does my child have to be to attend kindergarten?**

Students must be five years old or older on or before September 1 to attend kindergarten. If your child was born between September 2 and December 1, you can complete a waiver for them to attend kindergarten.

## **Is there busing?**

Okemos Public Montessori is considered a school of choice within the Okemos Public School system. Therefore, we do not offer transportation. Students must be dropped off before school each day and picked up after school. Some families choose to carpool.

## **Do you offer before and after care?**

We do offer before and after school care through Community Education. Before care begins at 7:00am and after care runs until 6:00pm.

## **Can I have a tour?**

We will have a digital tour available soon. If your child is accepted, they will be invited to either kindergarten round up or move up day where you will get to see the school.

## **Is there any way to increase my odds in the lottery?**

No. The lottery is completely random. Previous Montessori experience does not increase your chances.