

MicroSociety Academy Charter School Student Eligibility and Admissions Policy*

MACS's founders are committed to creating a diverse community of learners and believe ALL children have the potential to learn and benefit from a MicroSociety public charter school education. The application process is geared toward allowing the school to understand student needs and abilities in order to ensure their experience at MACS is a positive one, should the student enroll. Equally important the application process is also designed to enable families to make an informed choice about a student's potential for success with a differentiated, active engagement approach to learning within a MicroSociety school setting.

MACS strives to provide a positive learning environment and does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, color, national origin, religion, disability, familial status, parental status, or sexual orientation in its' employment policies, enrollment policies and educational programs. MACS offers a unique opportunity for students to become involved in their own education. There is an expectation for students to make a commitment to excellence and strive to be genuinely involved with all the opportunities the school provides. Parent, as well as student involvement, begins at the time of application because ultimately the success of the school with a very lean operating budget will depend enormously on the commitment of parents and guardians to volunteer and support the school's operation.

Eligibility Provisions:

- MACS will be open to all elementary and all middle school aged students in the state of New Hampshire on a tuition free basis.
- A student may enter kindergarten if the student will be at least five years old before September 30 of that year. A student may enter Grade 1 if the student will be at least six years old before September 30 of that year. Should a prospective Kindergarten or grade 1 student have an October-December birthday of that year, and there is no waitlist of students who meet the cutoff dates for those grades, the MACS school director may make exceptions on an individual basis, after considering the student's academic, social

and emotional readiness. Documentation and / or assessments may be required in order to make such a determination.

- As part of the employee's benefits package, and pending availability prior to the lottery, children of staff will also be given preference, assuming they meet all the admission requirements.
- As a family-oriented school, we encourage siblings to attend school together. Siblings of enrolled students will be given preference in admission and not be subject to a lottery should there be one. If there is no available spot for siblings, a lottery of only siblings will occur to determine position on top of the waitlist for that grade.
- Students enrolled at MACS are automatically re-enrolled for the following school year, provided they are in good standing at the school. A letter of intent will be required from families prior to the end of each school year, with a deadline to return the form. This letter will classify the number of possible vacant seats for the following school year.
- In the event that more eligible students apply than the number of spaces available in any grade or program, the administration will conduct a blind lottery according to policy established by the state of New Hampshire.
- Eligible students who are not chosen in the lottery will be placed on a wait list in the order their names are drawn, according to grade or program. Should a selected student not attend or an opening otherwise occur, placement will be offered based on waiting list order. If a student offered admission from the waitlist declines admission, the administration will continue to contact students/parents in the order listed.
- The school may accept and enroll out-of-state students on a space-available basis (tuition will apply). Out-of-states students may attend MicroSociety Academy if space is available and there are not NH children on the then current waiting list for a requested grade. Out of state parents must pay tuition based upon \$12,000 per child to attend. Tuition will be prorated based on time of enrollment.

Tuition rates are subject to change with board approval. A 15% deposit will be required prior to the first day of school. A payment plan will be worked out at the discretion of the Director with each individual family.

- In order to best serve our students, MACS may also charge some fees (ie; before and after school programs, field trips, athletics, lab fees and any other program otherwise specified).
- The Kindergarten program will be offered for a half day in the AM (morning) with an enrichment program offered in the afternoon on a tuition basis. Tuition for the enrichment program will be \$2200 for the school year or \$220/month for 10 months. There is a tuition break offered for families who qualify based on the discretion of the Director. For families with siblings in the school, families will receive a 10% discount on the Kindergarten enrichment program.
- Kindergarten at MACS consists of two classrooms. However, the subsequent grades do not. In the event that there are more children that submit their letter of intent to return for first grade then there are spots, a lottery for first grade will consist of only students who were must be enrolled on day one of their Kindergarten year and will be in the drawn in the following order: staff children, board/founders children, siblings, enrichment program participants, and other applicants.

*MicroSociety is a trademarked term. "MACS Facts" are subject to change based upon NH Dept. of Ed. or MACS Board of Trustees decisions with MACS community feedback.

Adopted January, 2017