

Marion Charter School

(An independent public school)

39 Cedar Road
Ocala, FL 34472
(352) 687-2100 phone
(352) 687-2700- fax
<https://www.marioncharter.org>

April 1, 2024

Dear Parent(s):

Thank you for your interest in Marion Charter School for your child(ren) for the 2024-25 school year!

Marion Charter School is an independent public school open to any Kindergarten through 5th grade student in the county. We are proud that this will be our 24th year in operation! Our staff is focused on helping each child find success with a curriculum designed to be both flexible and challenging to meet individual student needs. Marion Charter School school-wide expectations are Be Respectful, Be Responsible, and Be a Problem Solver. Students are encouraged to apply these expectations everywhere they go, so they can be awesome S.H.A.R.K.S.: Smart, High-Achieving, Responsible, Kind Students!

Marion Charter School provides you with a choice in public school education. As a public school, there is no cost for your child to attend. Due to updated State Security guidelines, we can only offer a virtual tour at this time. However, we would be delighted to speak with you to help you decide if Marion Charter is a choice that would be helpful for your child. Additionally, we invite you to visit our website and “like” us on Facebook for further information.

We will contact you once your student’s application packet has been processed to let you know whether your child(ren) will be accepted or placed on a waiting list.

Sincerely,

Michelle Axson

Director

Marion Charter School

Lottery Procedures- School Year 2024-25

If any grade level has more student applications than available places, students will be selected based on a random choice lottery for that grade level. The following procedures and policies will apply:

1. Siblings of currently enrolled students and children of employees have first option for available places.
2. Current families have until the last day of the current student enrollment period to send in their intent letter informing the school of their intention to enroll their child (ren) in the school for the coming year. If they do not return the intent letter on time, their child (ren) and siblings wishing to enter school for the first time lose their priority placement and will have to re-register and go through the lottery drawing with new families.
3. Open enrollment is from April 1, 2024 - April 18, 2024. Any interested family may pick up an application packet for their child(ren) in Kindergarten- 5th grade for the 2024-25 school year. Application packets are also available on our website at <https://www.Marioncharter.org> under Admissions.

To be eligible for the lottery drawing, the application packet(s) must be completed and turned in by 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 18, 2024 to the school's front office. Applications received after that date and time will be placed on the next available space on our waiting list, after the lottery drawing is completed.

4. The lottery drawing, **if needed**, will be held at the next Marion Charter School Board Meeting. **Families do not need to be present to be selected.** An individual not employed by the school or wishing to enroll children in the school will draw names. As names are called, they will be noted in our record books.

5. During the lottery drawing, family names, rather than individual student names, will be drawn. It is our intention to allow all children in a family to attend school together. If a family has submitted applications for more than one child and their names are picked, all the children applying will be assigned class space from that one draw IF class space is available at the needed grade level(s). If there is space for one child in a family at a particular grade level, but not for another sibling, the students' names will be added to waiting lists and given first priority at their respective grade levels until all students from the same family can be placed. Families will have the option of accepting the priority waiting list option, or withdrawing their request for all of their children to attend MCS.

6. All names will be drawn and noted in the order they are called. Once places for a particular grade level are filled, the remaining names will be placed on a waiting list for that grade level. The waiting list will be used to assign any places that become vacant during the year.

7. All families that have turned in an application packet will be mailed written confirmation of their child's placement on the waiting list. This notice will be mailed to the address noted on the application they turned in. We cannot be responsible for lost mail or incorrect addresses.

8. Parents of children who are selected for available places will be asked to confirm their intent to register their child (ren) for the 2024-25 school year. Families who change their mind or do not respond to the request for confirmation will lose their standing in the lottery and the next family on the waiting list will be contacted to fill the space. You may also hand deliver your intent form to the office or put it in our after-hours black box by the front doors of our entrance or email to Sandra.wagner@marion.k12.fl.us. Again, we cannot be responsible for lost mail or incorrect addresses. To assure we have your form, please check with the school once you have sent it in.