SANTA MONICA MONTESSORI INSTITUTE
1909 Colorado Avenue
Santa Monica, CA 90404
(310) 829-3551
smmiusa@gmail.com

Office Use Only
Date Received, Initials:

Please attach recent photo

Please enclose $100 Application Fee

Montessori Teacher Training International Application

Infant/Toddler Level
Early Childhood Level
Elementary Level

Personal Information (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

Name:_____
Last First Middle

Home Country Address:

_____
Street Unit # City State Postal Code

Home Country Phone Number: _____

Cell Phone Number: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Phone Number in the United States: _____

Address in the United States:

_____
Street Unit # City State Zip Code

Passport Number:_____Date of Birth: _____

Country of Birth: _____ City of Birth: _____

Marital Status:_____Citizenship: _____

Spouse: (Y/N) Name: _____ Phone number: _____

Children: (Y/N) (Number): _____

Education (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

	Name of School	City/State/Country	Years attended	Degree/Diploma
Elementary:				
High School:				
University:				
Graduate School:				
Vocational School:				

Work Experience (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

	Employer	Dates Employed	Position	Reason for Leaving
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				

Note: Please attach a resume with complete employment history.

References

The applicant is to submit **three letters of reference** from professional sources. **Transcripts and certificates** of all high school, college and vocational training should be sent directly to Santa Monica Montessori Institute.

Notice of Non-Discrimination Policy

The Santa Monica Montessori Institute admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admission policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic or other school-administered programs.

Note

No diploma will be issued or College Credit/Transcripts granted until course work and internship hours have been successfully completed and full payment has been received.

To the Applicant

Briefly explain your reasons for applying to take the Montessori teacher training program.

Note: Please continue on back, if needed.

Signature: _____ Date_____

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COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Class attendance.

2. Reading of the following books:

   Maria Montessori Her Life and Works - E. M. Standing
   The Secret of Childhood - Dr. Maria Montessori
   The Discovery of the Child - Dr. Maria Montessori
   The Absorbent Mind - Dr. Maria Montessori

   Additional readings:
   - **The Montessori Method** - Dr. Maria Montessori
   - **Dr. Montessori's Own Handbook** - Dr. Maria Montessori

3. Compilation of Manuals: Notes will be handed out in class.

4. Lecture notes, taken by you, will be compiled into a notebook along with written assignments.

5. Observations of Montessori indoor and outdoor environments as assigned during the course. Written reports will be required in conjunction with these.

6. Several assignments will be announced during the training. These include, but are not limited to: Preparation of an Original Practical Life Exercise, Preparation of Reading Materials, and Preparation of Math Problem Cards for use with the Montessori Mathematic Materials.

7. Tests and/or quizzes on Practical Life, Sensorial, Mathematics, Language, Montessori Philosophy and Terminology.

8. Independent practice, with the Montessori materials, will be recorded. Additional opportunity to work with the equipment will be arranged.

9. Final Examination:

   - Oral Examination: A demonstration of your ability to use the Montessori materials.
   - Written Examination: A written understanding of the philosophy of the Montessori Education and the theory of the materials.

10. Internship: Student teaching in an approved Montessori School

    The amount of time spent on independent study varies according to each individual. Our policy is to assist each student in meeting the course requirements and in becoming a successful Montessori teacher.
    Upon successful completion of the course work, internship, practicum, oral and written examination, and meeting payment obligations, you will receive a Montessori Teaching Certificate from Santa Monica Montessori Institute.

Revised 1/25/2023

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F-1 Student Visa Requirements

The requirements for an F-1 visa are:

- Apply and be accepted into a course of study at a SEVP-approved school in the United States
- You must be enrolled as a full-time student at the institution
- You must be proficient in English or be enrolled in courses leading to English proficiency
- Have proof of sufficient financial funds to support study in the United States, for at least the 1st year – SMMI estimates $49,500.00/Year (2026)
- Have ties to your home country that show an intent to return after you finish studying in the United States, since the F-1 visa program is a temporary visa
- Live outside the United States when you apply. (Or request for a "Change of Status" if applying from within the United States)
- Pay the SEVIS and I-20 Processing fee

F-1 Visa Interview Requirements:

- Unexpired Passport valid for six months beyond the intended date of entry into the United States
- The Form DS-160 confirmation page: https://ceac.state.gov/genniv/
- Application fee payment receipt
- A photo that conforms to U.S. State Department requirements
- Form I-20 that was issued to you by your academic institution

You should also be prepared to bring evidence of:

- Transcripts, diplomas, degrees, or certificates from schools you attended
- Proof of ties to your home country, as well as proof of funds to support you and pay for your studies while you are in the United States – If you have a sponsor in the U.S. they will need to fill out Form I-134: Declaration of Financial Support - https://www.uscis.gov/i-134

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Interview Process:

During your interview, the consular officer will ask you questions, to determine whether or not to approve your F-1 visa. Make sure you are complete and accurate in your answers, as you will be under oath.

The consular officer will also take your fingerprints, although this will vary depending on your location. After your visa interview, the consular officer may determine that your application requires further administrative processing. The consular officer will let you know if this is required.

Once your interview is complete, you will be informed of the outcome and, if successful, be issued a visa to study in the United States.

Important:

Please inform the Santa Monica Montessori Institute via email, as soon as you are issued the F-1 Student Visa.

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Maria Montessori

Maria Montessori was a doctor of medicine and one of the foremost educators of our time. After her graduation from medical school in 1896, Dr. Montessori became interested in the study of children who were deemed unable to be educated. 1907, she opened the famous Casa dei Bambini in Rome, Italy. Dr. Montessori opened this school based on her discovery that children follow a developmental pattern of human potential from the moment of conception.

In the years following, and for the rest of her life, Maria dedicated herself to advancing her child-centered approach to education. She lectured widely, wrote articles and books, and developed a program to prepare teachers in the Montessori Method. Through her efforts and the work of her followers, Montessori education was adopted worldwide.

Dr. Montessori's teachings and work are born of exacting research and study throughout her life. They are founded in medical principles and grounded in spirit. Dr. Montessori devoted herself to life, not just an education system. It is for that reason she did not want herself aligned with the word "method". Dr. Montessori has proven that the child is universal and all children of all countries of the world are born with the "absorbent mind". Montessori education has proven itself in every known culture of the world regardless of race, creed, religion or nationality.

The Santa Monica Montessori Institute

The mission of Santa Monica Montessori Institute is to continue the work of Dr. Montessori, building a foundation of peace through education and a network of teachers and administrators who will model her legacy.

Montessori vs. Traditional Teaching Methods

Montessori Method:	Traditional Method:
1. Emphasis is on cognitive and social development	1. Emphasis is on social development
2. Teacher has unobtrusive role in classroom	2. Teacher is center of classroom as "controller"
3. Environment and method encourage self-discipline	3. Teacher is primary enforcer of discipline
4. Mainly individual instruction	4. Group and individual instruction
5. Mixed age grouping	5. Same age grouping
6. Grouping encourages children to teach and help each other	6. Most teaching is done by the teacher
7. Child chooses own work	7. Curriculum is structured for the child
8. Child discovers own concepts from self teaching materials	8. Child is guided to concepts by the teacher
9. Child works as long as he wishes on chosen project	9. Child is generally allotted specific time for work
10. Child sets own learning pace	10. Instruction pace is usually set by group norm
11. Child spots own errors from feedback of material	11. If work is corrected, errors usually are pointed out by the teacher
12. Child reinforces own learning by repetition of work and internal feelings of success	12. Learning is reinforced externally by repetition and rewards
13. Multi-sensory materials for physical exploration	13. Fewer materials for sensory development
14. Organized program for learning care of self and environment	14. Less Emphasis on self-care instruction
15. Child can work where he chooses, move around and talk at will (yet not disturb the work of others); group work is voluntary	15. Child usually assigned own chair: encouraged to participate, sit still and listen during group sessions
16. Organized program for parents to understand the Montessori philosophy and participate in the learning process	16. Voluntary parent involvement