

Lumin Education

Parent Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Regarding Transition from Charter to Private

4/28/22

Information highlighted in yellow is what has been updated since the April 14 version of the document.

In the 2022-23 School Year, Lumin will remain a Charter School and provide all the services we are providing in 2021-22. If you have additional questions or need clarification, please email Suzan Bruce, HR Manager at suzan.bruce@lumineducation.org.

Question: What is the timeline for publishing tuition and information about the 2023-24 programs?

Answer:

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|----------------|--|
| March 2022 | Staff Listening Groups |
| April 2022 | Parent Listening Groups |
| April 28, 2022 | Tuition published for 2023-2024 |
| May 2022 | Wider Community Listening Groups |
| August 2022 | Charter School - Final year |
| November 2022 | Description of Private School plans/programs |
| August, 2023 | Lumin's Private School begins |

TUITION

Question: What are the Financial Aid levels?

Answer: Financial Aid is based on income and the process for receiving your Financial Aid estimate is to turn in a Financial Aid Application. *We are committed to having economic diversity and have a generous financial aid program.* The Financial Aid Application can be requested from the office, or you can download it from the Lumin website – Resources -Parents. If you need help completing the form, please contact Bea or Adriana.

Question: How much will it cost for my child to go to Lumin?

Answer: Tuition for charter school programs (ABC, PreK PM and non-eligible students in PreK AM) will remain the same next year.

Starting in **August 2023**, *our Primary and Elementary classes* will have tuition levels based on family income, supplemented by donations. As part of our listening and planning process in April 2022, we developed our tuition

structure. The full price tuition for the 2023-24 school day (8:00 am to 3:00/3:30 pm) will be \$15,500. The full price tuition for the Before and After School Program will be \$2,500. We strongly encourage families to apply for Financial Aid. The Financial Aid Application can be requested from the office, or you can download it from the Lumin website – Resources -Parents. If you need help completing the form, please contact Bea or Adriana.

Question: *How do I complete a Financial Aid Application?*

Answer: *The Financial Aid Application can be requested from the office, or you can download it from the Lumin website – Resources -Parents. If you need help completing the form, please contact Bea or Adriana.*

Question: *Do I complete one Financial Aid Application if I have multiple children?*

Answer: *You only need to complete one Financial Aid Application; list all your enrolled students on the first line of the application.*

Question: *Will there be a discount if I have multiple children?*

Answer: *There will be a discount for siblings. When you complete your Financial Aid Application, we will provide you with your tuition rates.*

Question: *What is the tuition payment schedule? By semester, monthly or annually?*

Answer: *We are working on a schedule that will meet the needs of the organization and our families. It will be published in the fall of 2022.*

Question: *Is tuition just for younger students or will all students pay tuition?*

Answer: *In August of 2023 all families will pay tuition based on their income. To find out your financial package, complete the Financial Aid Application.*

Question: *Will the bottom tuition level be zero?*

Answer: *No, all families will pay some tuition based on their income.*

Question: *Will staff members need to pay tuition for their children?*

Answer: *Lumin will provide financial aid for children of staff enrolled in primary and elementary classrooms. Staff members will need to turn in their Financial Aid Application to determine the tuition.*

Question: *Will there be a lottery for enrollment?*

Answer: *Since we will be a private school, we are not bound by lottery drawings. However, we will have a selection criterion which include factors such as diversity, age of student, siblings, and more.*

PROGRAMS

Question: *Are we going to serve dyslexia students beginning in August 2023?*

Answer: *We hope to provide this service on a limited basis.*

Question: *Will the teaching/programs/learning remain the same?*

Answer: *We will have Montessori classrooms for the primary and elementary students as well as play therapy and reading/math interventions. We will also have the ABC program.*

Question: *Are staff and directors going to stay the same?*

Answer: *Our hope is to always have longevity in our staffing. If there is a change we will notify parents and staff as soon as possible.*

Question: *Will there be ABC services when we become a private school in August 2023?*

Answer: We will be offering ABC services and they will be very similar to our current ABC program.

Question: *How will this transition from public to private affect new students entering in August 2022?*

Answer: In August 2022, new students will be enrolled as usual. We will share with new families (as well as returning students) what they can expect for the 2023-24 school year as soon as possible.

Question: *Will closing 2 classrooms next year mean more students in the classroom?*

Answer: No. We will maintain our classroom baseline of 27 children in the Primary Classroom and 25 children in the Elementary Classroom. We are able to keep all our current students and our classroom size based on the lower enrollment we've intentionally maintained the last few years due to COVID.

Question: *What does this mean for my child when they apply to another school?*

Answer: We will continue to provide whatever your child needs to apply to other schools.

Question: What does this mean to my child who is in Special Education?

Answer: After the 2022-23 school year, we will no longer be able to provide Special Education services. In some instances, you may be able to keep your child at Lumin and take them to your local public school for services such as Speech Therapy. There was meeting for parents of Special Education students in February which provided additional information. There will be an additional meeting scheduled.

Question: How will becoming a private school impact the diversity of the students?

Answer: Lumin is committed to serving families and children from different cultures, races, religions, and economic backgrounds. Our plan is that at least 51% of our student population will be receiving financial aid.

Question: Is it possible to add 4th to 6th grades?

Answer: In the past we have not been open to this request. As a result of the listening groups, we will keep this on the consideration list as we move forward in creating our plans for future years as a private school.

Question: Why did Lumin become a charter school in the first place?

Answer: Lumin opened Lumin LPCS as a charter school in 1999 and we became the first Montessori charter school in Texas. Our goal was to offer the Montessori education to more students. Over 10 years ago, Lumin EDCS transited to a charter school in order to expand our classrooms. Beginning in August 2023 we will no longer be a public charter school which will give us greater flexibility in implementing our Montessori curriculum, while preparing students for transitioning to their next school in 4th grade.

During 2022, we will be listening, learning, and planning. The following three questions will be answered as we go through this process. If there is a date by which you need an answer to make a decision about your future, please email Suzan Bruce at suzan.bruce@lumineducation.org.

- *Will there a geographic preference?*
- *Will there be a waiting list?*
- *Will waiting list families have priority?*

