



Marion Magnet Schools Frequently Asked Questions

What are magnet schools?

Magnet schools are schools of choice, which offer expanded educational opportunities for students in the Marion School District. The schools are built around specialized themes and offer in depth experiences and studies in specific areas. Themes are integrated into classes, academic subjects, and activities. Magnet schools enhance the educational environment by attracting students according to their interests.

Do the magnet schools follow the district curriculum?

Yes, the basic curriculum for all Marion School District schools will be designed around the Arkansas Academic Standards. The basic expectations will be the same for all magnet schools.

How do I select a theme for my child?

To help with this selection, information regarding magnet school themes, principals and locations have been shared on Marion School District's web page, Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube. Search "Meet Our Administrators" at www.msdsd.org/magnet and click on the social media icons.

Marion School District will host MSD Magnet School Kick-off nights the first week of April to allow principals and their teams to introduce themselves and present information about their particular theme. They will be available for questions and answers.

The Magnet School Kick-off nights begin at 6:30 p.m. on the following dates at the Marion Performing Arts Center @ 1 Patriot Drive.

Monday, April 2nd - for K-3rd; for parents and students

Tuesday, April 3rd- for 4th-6th; for parents and students

Thursday, April 5th - for community and anyone who missed the previous Kick-off nights.

Registration will be held:

Saturday, April 14th: Magnet School Selection/Registration
Marion Junior High School Arena
801 Carter Drive
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

If I have more than one child, can they all attend the same school?

Whenever possible, students will be placed on a first come, first serve basis, as space allows in each Marion School District magnet school. NOTE: Marion School District retains the right to make inter-school transfers based solely at the district's discretion.

If my child is not happy with their choice, can we change schools?

Students will be given the opportunity in the spring of each year to either commit to staying at their present school or making application to another magnet school. Transfers are granted based on the availability and on a first come, first serve basis. Once a student has begun the year, he/she will need to complete that school year before moving to another school. NOTE: Marion School District retains the right to make inter-school transfers based solely at the district's discretion.

Who can attend a magnet school?

Any student residing in the Marion School District is eligible to attend any magnet school. Students outside the Marion School District may apply to attend a magnet school by completing a [School Choice application](#) found on our website at www.msdd3.org. All school choice applications must be completed and turned in to central office by May 1, 2018.

- If a student is already attending MSD on an approved school choice application, the student does not have to reapply.
- If a student attended MSD on a previously approved school choice application, but left the district to attend another district, the student will need to reapply.

How does my child return to Marion School District if he/she has been attending school in another district?

Parents/legal guardians residing in the Marion School District with students in grades K-6 who are attending schools in other districts should bring proof of address to the MSD Administration Building prior to their registration being

approved. A magnet school application will need to be submitted on Saturday, April 14th or at a later date for placement into a magnet school.

We have not filled out a school choice application. Can my child still submit a Magnet School Application on Saturday, April 14th?

There will be school choice applications available on site on April 14th. The school choice application, along with a magnet school application, will need to be filled out that day. Click [here](#) for the School Choice application. The school choice application will be processed first. If approved, the magnet school application will be process on a first come, first serve basis. Once the school choice application is approved, your child be allowed to register and attend one of the magnet schools or any school in MSD. NOTE: Marion School District retains the right to make inter-school transfers based solely at the district's discretion.

Where do I get a magnet school application?

Applications will be available at the MSD Magnet School Kick-off nights and will also be sent home via student paper packets on Tuesday, April 10, 2018. After the 10th, applications can be found on the Marion School District's website at www.msdsd.org, in the front office of each elementary campus, and at the Central Office.

When do I apply for a magnet school?

Magnet School application will begin Saturday, April 14th beginning at 7:30 a.m. at the Marion Junior High School Arena @ 801 Carter Drive.

How will I be notified about magnet school placement?

Notification letters of placement will be mailed to the address on file with Marion School District. Please make sure your address is current at all times.

What if my child was not placed in their first choice magnet school?

The student will automatically be placed on a waiting list for their first choice school. The waiting list is compiled on a first come; first serve basis. The waiting list will remain active for the first nine weeks of school.

How will I be notified if a seat becomes available?

The parent/guardian will be called on the phone number provided on the waiting list if/when a seat becomes available. The waiting list will be discontinued after the

first nine weeks of school. After this date, the student will be unable to transfer, he/she will need to complete the school year in the assigned school.

I am new to Marion. How do I register my student in an elementary magnet school?

Parents/legal guardians residing in the Marion School District with students in grades K-6 should bring proof of address to the MSD Administration Building/Central Office and complete a magnet school application.

What documents are accepted for proof of address/residency?

*Current electric, gas or water bill (both sections). Bill must be dated for the month in which student is registering

*Lease/Rental agreement

*Mortgage Statement

Document must be in the name of parent/legal guardian enrolling the student.

Photo ID required.

Parents: If you do not have all required residency documentation for registration but believe your child is eligible to attend one of the Marion Schools, please contact the Ms. Julie Coveny at the district Administration Office/Central Office at 870-739-5100 for assistance.

What additional documents are needed to complete registration at the assigned magnet school?

*Proof of Residence in MSD - approved by Marion School District central office

*Proof of Age: Birth Certificate or a Passport or a Hospital Record

*Social Security Card

*Immunization Records (up-to-date)

*Name and address of last school attended

Important Dates

Important papers, phone calls, and events to attend listed below:

- Thursday, March 15th: MSD Magnet School Kick-off night flyers available at parent/teacher conferences
- Tuesday, March 27th: MSD Magnet School Kick-off flyers sent home in student's paper packets
- Thursday, March 29th: "Kick-off" Reminder Call
- Sunday, April 1st: "Kick-off" Reminder Call
- April 2nd, 3rd, & 5th: Magnet School Applications available at Kick-off Nights
- Monday, April 2nd: Magnet School Kick-off for K-3rd; for parents and students @ Marion Performing Arts Center @ 6:30 p.m. (Magnet School Applications Available)
- Tuesday, April 3rd: Magnet School Kick-off for 4th-6th; for parents and students @ Marion Performing Arts Center @ 6:30 p.m. (Magnet School Applications Available)
- Thursday, April 5th: Magnet School Kick-off for community and anyone who missed the previous Kick-off nights @ Marion Performing Arts Center @ 6:30 p.m. (Magnet School Applications Available)
- Tuesday, April 10th: Magnet School Application sent home in student paper packets
- Saturday, April 14th: Magnet School Registration Day @ Marion Junior High School Arena, 801 Carter Drive
Between 7:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, May 1st: School Choice Application Deadline