

## Admission to Lake Michigan Academy

Our mission is to help students with learning differences to achieve their full potential. These are often students who have fallen through the cracks of the public school system; students with ADHD, ADD, and dyslexia who often need specific methods to learn and overcome challenges.

The programs we teach at LMA are proven methods for students with learning disabilities and/or ADHD.

### How a Learning Difference is Identified

Lake Michigan Academy follows the Patterns of Strengths and Weaknesses (PSW) models for determination of the existence of learning differences in the areas of reading decoding, reading fluency, reading comprehension, written expression, math computation, math problem solving, listening comprehension, and oral expression.

Documentation of a pattern of strengths and weaknesses in performance and achievement can be found through:

- School Administration- Evaluation and determination of eligibility for special education as a student with a learning disability from a school based professional using either data from Response to Intervention or a PSW model.
- Physician- Diagnosis of Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD/ADHD) from a medical practitioner or other qualified professional with evidence of the pattern of strengths and weaknesses within academic areas and cognitive areas such as memory, verbal comprehension, and processing speed.
- Psychologist- Diagnosis of Specific Learning Disability (SLD) from private practitioner or other qualified professional.

Admission Staff will determine the appropriate documents, referrals and/or additional assessments that maybe necessary for your child based on age, documentation available, and his or her learning profile.

Attached is an Application for Admission and some additional information that has been designed to assist you through the administration process.

For the required documentation, please **do not** send original documents; photocopies must be clear and legible.

## Admissions Process

### 1. Intake Interview

This interview is designed to provide parents with an introduction to the Lake Michigan Academy (LMA) program and provide the Admissions Staff with an opportunity to review the needs of the student and their family.

Please bring any recent documentation such as a psychological evaluation and /or IEP to the meeting so we can best outline how the LMA program can help address the student's specific challenges.

### 2. Student Interview and Program Visit

Lake Michigan Academy is a student-centered program. As part of the admission process, the student will be scheduled to visit for between 1-3 days. At the conclusion of the classroom visit, the student will meet with a school representative to review their visit. Students are encouraged during these meetings to ask their own questions and offer feedback on their visit, learning challenges, and their own educational goals.

### 3. Application for Enrollment

A completed enrollment application with a \$25.00 application fee and all required documentation (checklist included in packet) is submitted to the Admissions Advisor. Documents can be submitted to the LMA office, mailed, faxed to (616) 285-1935, or emailed to [admissions@mylma.org](mailto:admissions@mylma.org)

The application, diagnostic evaluations, and academic records are reviewed to outline the student's pattern of strengths and weaknesses. Final enrollment is approved through Admissions Committee.

Parents of students who are accepted for enrollments will receive written notice of acceptance as well as a Tuition Payment Agreement outlining registration fees, tuition payments and a starting date (if different than the fall start date). Upon final enrollment, parents will receive a New Student Packet including the Parent/Student Handbook, emergency forms, school calendar, and other information needed for communication and success at LMA. Enrollment is not considered final until the Payment Agreement and Registration Fee are received by Lake Michigan Academy.

## Application Checklist for Parents

1. Admission Application
2. \$25.00 application fee (checks can be written out to Lake Michigan Academy)
3. Diagnostic Evaluations and Information
  - Most recent cognitive evaluation from a psychologist, psychiatrist, or qualified educational consultant including scores and DSM Axis/diagnosis.
  - Most recent achievement evaluation from a psychologist, psychiatrist, or qualified educational consultant including scores and DSM Axis/diagnosis.
  - For students receiving (or have received) Special Education Services:
    - Most recent MET (evaluation and/or data review completed every three years to determine or re-determine eligibility for special education services)
  - For students with a primary diagnosis of ADD/ADHD:
    - Copy of the original evaluation with diagnosis.
4. Academic Records
5. Two years of Report Cards or Transcript
6. Accommodations Currently Receiving
  - 504 or Accommodation Plan
  - Special Education Students: Most recent IEP (completed each year of receiving services through special education; documents, goals and services for school each year.



A program of  
Learning Differences Resource Group

## Student Information

Date:

Present Grade:

Child's Full Name:

Date of Birth:

Street Address:

Home Phone:

City:

State:

Postal Code:

Child's Primary language if other than English:

Check if applicant is under guardianship:

Check if applicant is adopted:

## Mother's Information

Mother's Name:

Check if Deceased:

Address:

Business Phone:

Mobile Phone:

Email Address:

Education:

Occupation:

Business and Address:

## Father's Information

Father's Name:

Check if Deceased:

Address:

Business Phone:

Mobile Phone:

Email Address:

Education:

Occupation:

Business and Address:

### Legal Guardian Information

Name of Applicant's Legal Guardian:

Please provide name and address of stepparent, if any:

Please send financial correspondence to:

Names and ages of other family members:

Which, if any, of the family members other than the applicant have had difficulty with reading, spelling, writing, or arithmetic?

### Educational Information

Current School:

School Address:

Public school district or system:

Has this child received any special education tutoring? Yes      No

If yes please describe:

School(s) of Attendance:

Grade	Dates	School
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At what point did you suspect that your child might have learning problems? Why?

Please list the clinics or private practitioners who have evaluated your child and the dates of the evaluations:

What Diagnoses have you been given for your child's learning difficulties?

How did you learn of Lake Michigan Academy?

Have you heard of Lake Michigan Academy before this referral?  
How?

### **Medical History**

Does this child have a history of speech problems or other developmental delays?

Yes      No

If yes, please describe:

Has your child received speech therapy? Yes      No

If yes, please explain where, when and what purpose:

Please list any medical conditions such as allergies, seizures, high fevers, hyperactivity, accidents, serious illnesses, or hospitalizations, which have been significant to your child's health:

Is your child currently receiving any medication? Yes      No

If yes, what medication? For what purpose?

### **Behavioral History**

Is there any history of behavioral difficulty, either in relationship to family, peers, or in academic settings? Yes      No

If so, has any evaluation or treatment been conducted in relationship to these problems?

Has your child been convicted of any juvenile criminal behavior? Yes      No

If yes, what was the outcome?

### **Parents Perceptions**

How does your child's difficulties affect his or her functioning in the home?

What are your child's hobbies or interests?

What are your child's major strengths?

What are your child's areas of greatest need?

What goals do you have for your child at Lake Michigan Academy?

## Lake Michigan Academy Student Questionnaire

To the Applicant: To learn more about you as an individual, we would like you to take some time and thought to answer the following questions. You may dictate your answers to your parent/guardian if you wish.

Name:

Date:

What do you hope to accomplish while you are attending Lake Michigan Academy?

Other than school, what new things would you like to learn how to do?

Have you thought about what you want to do after high school?

If yes, what?

What do you enjoy doing in your free time?

List any camp, work or travel experiences you have had:

Thank you for your time, we look forward to learning more about you!