

South East Alaska Friends of Montessori (SEAFOM) Teacher Training Candidate **2023** Application

Our mission is to support schools and individuals throughout Southeast Alaska by promoting, developing, implementing, and maintaining Montessori education, as created by Dr. Maria Montessori.

SEAFOM provides funding to eligible individuals to obtain Montessori teaching certifications through the Association Montessori Internationale (AMI) at all levels: Assistant to Infancy (birth to 3 yrs), Primary (3-6 yrs), Elementary (6-12 yrs), and Adolescence (12-15 yrs). However, the priority training for 2023 funding is Elementary level training. Candidates for training must be admitted into an AMI training center and must possess credentials for teaching in Alaska's public schools, or present an educational plan for achieving such licensing credentials, except that Assistant to Infancy (A to I) candidates are not required to hold teacher licensing credentials).

SEAFOM teacher training awards are considered "sponsorships" and include a multi-year obligation from the funding recipient to diligently pursue employment at a public or private Montessori school in Juneau or other established AMI-based school in SE Alaska. SEAFOM cannot guarantee the employment of teachers, but endeavors to prepare candidates who are committed to Montessori education and to living in SE Alaska.

The amount of funding and conditions of repayment (should the candidate not complete their obligations) varies with available funding and the need for trained Montessori teachers at specific grade levels. SEAFOM's funding priority is for tuition associated with a training program. Funding for travel, training center fees other than tuition, living expenses, and equipment/materials is not guaranteed, but may be granted on a limited basis when financial need is demonstrated and funding is available. The conditions of repayment vary according to the amount of funding provided by SEAFOM, with larger funding allocations being tied to longer repayment contracts. Repayment is only required if the candidate does not successfully complete the training, or does not accept an offered teaching position in an AMI-based school in their SE Alaska community.

SEAFOM retains all rights to allocate funding to candidates of its choice, and under terms of its discretion without regard to previous funding awards or other conditions.

1. Schedule for Candidate Review and Selection (this schedule may vary):

- A. **SEAFOM Teacher Training Applications due by Monday March 13, 2023**
- B. Selection Committee reviews applications and conducts interviews **March 14 – 19, 2023**
- C. Announce Scholarship Awards (subject to SEAFOM funding approval) no later than **March 28, 2023**

2. Criteria for Candidate Selection:

- A. Must be a SEAFOM member at the time of application.
- B. Must apply to an AMI training center at the time of submission of this application (unless a delayed AMI training center application is approved by SEAFOM President prior to 3.10.2023).
- C. Must hold a State of Alaska Teaching License or demonstrate a plan to obtain such (except for "A to I" candidates).
- D. Must show ongoing commitment to working with children and families, and to Montessori education through work experience, volunteer efforts, etc.
- E. Must have outstanding personal integrity/ethics and personal responsibility.
- F. Should be a current resident of Juneau or other SE Alaska community, with intention to live and work in Juneau or SE Alaska location with AMI-based Montessori School.

3. Submit the 2-Part Teacher Training Application (below) and Letter of Interest by MARCH 13, 2023.

- A. Email electronic materials to Catherine Fritz, SEAFOM Teacher Training Coordinator at fritzes@gci.net no later than 11:59pm on March 13, 2023. **OR**
- B. Hand-deliver the application materials to Catherine Fritz, Teacher Training Coordinator at 109 Troy Ave, Juneau by 8pm on March 13, 2023. **OR**
- C. Mail materials to SEAFOM at PO Box 21142, Juneau, AK 99802. The application must be post-marked by March 13, 2023 **AND** send an email to Catherine Fritz at fritzes@gci.net to indicate that the application has been postmarked by the deadline and mailed to the PO Box.

**SEAFOM Teacher Training Application
PART 1: Applicant Information**

Applicant Name: _____ Are you a SEAFOM Member? _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

If you do not live in Juneau, indicate the AMI-based Montessori School in your community:

School name: _____ Telephone: _____

Provide two personal references that know you well and can attest to your interests in Montessori education, your commitment to living and working in Juneau, and your ability to work with children.

Reference 1:

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Reference 2:

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Attach to this application, a **Letter of Interest** that explains why you want to become a Montessori teacher. Include a summary your work experience, college degrees, certifications, and specialized training that you believe will contribute to your effectiveness.

SEAFOM Teacher Training Application
PART 2: Applicant's Training Program and Financial Need

Training Level that you plan to complete: _____

Training Center you are planning to attend: _____

Have you been accepted to Training Center? _____ If no, explain: _____

Dates of Training: _____

Amount of your SEAFOM funding request \$_____. Summarize the total expected cost of your proposed training. Indicate scholarships, educational loans, or funds from other sources that you are also seeking to assist with the cost of your teacher training program.

Have you ever defaulted on a student loan or any other type of loan? _____ If "Yes," explain.

Do you have an Alaska Type A teaching certificate? _____ At what level? _____

Are you "Highly Qualified" in accordance with State of Alaska requirements? _____

If "No," explain your plans to complete requirements to obtain a teaching license.

SUBMIT APPLICATION PART 1 & PART 2, AND LETTER OF INTEREST BY DEADLINE: MARCH 13, 2023

****SAMPLE CONTRACT****

(This sample is provided for informational purposes only. An actual contract will be executed with selected training candidate).

SEAFOM Sponsorship Agreement. This document is a legal contract between two parties.

I, _____ (sponsee) undertake the following legally binding financial and teaching obligation to South East Alaska Friends of Montessori (SEAFOM) on this date _____.

I will enroll in the Association Montessori Internationale (AMI) training course for Montessori teachers at _____ (location). Its required dates of attendance are _____.

I agree to undertake and pass all of the requirements required by the training center to complete and receive a _____ (grade level) diploma. In exchange, SEAFOM guarantees it will pay _____% of tuition costs required by the training center.

Payment will be made directly to the training center in the sponsee's name according to the payment schedule required by the training center. The SEAFOM Board of Directors may authorize alternative payments.

If offered a teaching position in the Montessori program by _____ (school), the sponsee further agrees to teach _____ (number) full academic years in the Montessori _____ (grade level) program. In exchange, SEAFOM will forgive the indebtedness of this agreement in accordance with the following schedule:

- After one full year of teaching, _____ % of the total amount granted above will be forgiven,
- After two full years of teaching, _____ % more of the total amount granted will be forgiven,
- ETC....
- At the end of _____ full years of teaching, the final amount of _____ will be forgiven.

If at any time, the sponsee does not complete the training or teaching requirements as outlined herein, s/he must immediately pay SEAFOM for the entire remaining debt.

For multi-year trainings or for sponsees who complete training but are not immediately employed by the Juneau School District (or other approved AMI-based Montessori school in SE Alaska), the sponsee will make an annual report to the SEAFOM Board concerning his/her progress toward the Montessori diploma and his/her status toward becoming a Montessori teacher, including applications made for employment as a Montessori teacher. Such annual reports are due: _____ (dates).

Sponsee: _____ Date: _____

SEAFOM President: _____ Date: _____