

Internal Revenue Service

Department of the Treasury

P. O. Box 2508
Cincinnati, OH 45201

Date: September 12, 2002

Person to Contact:

Brenda Fox 31-07209
Customer Service Representative

Toll Free Telephone Number:
877-829-5500

8:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. EST

Fax Number:
513-263-3756

Federal Identification Number:
95-2774847

Montessori Center School at Santa
Barbara & Students, Inc.
401 N. Fairview Ave. #1
Goleta, CA 93117-0000

Dear Sir or Madam:

This is in response to your request dated September 12, 2002 for affirmation of your organization's exempt status.

In December 1972, we issued a letter that recognized your organization as exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. That letter is still in effect.

Based on information submitted with the application, we classified your organization as one that is not a private foundation within the meaning of section 509(a) of the Code because it is an organization described in sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(ii). That classification was based on the assumption that your organization's operations would continue as stated in the application. If your organization's purposes, character, method of operations, or sources of support have changed, please let us know so we can consider the effect of the change on the organization's exempt status and foundation status.

Revenue Procedure 75-50, published in Cumulative Bulletin 1975-2 on page 587, sets forth guidelines and record keeping requirements for determining whether private schools have racially nondiscriminatory policies as to students. Your organization must comply with this revenue procedure to maintain its tax-exempt status.

Your organization is required to file Form 990, Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax, only if its gross receipts each year are normally more than \$25,000. If a return is required, it must be filed by the 15th day of the fifth month after the end of the organization's annual accounting period. The law imposes a penalty of \$20 a day, up to a maximum of \$10,000, when a return is filed late, unless there is reasonable cause for the delay.

All exempt organizations (unless specifically excluded) are liable for taxes under the Federal Insurance Contributions Act (social security taxes) on remuneration of \$100 or more paid each employee during a calendar year. Your organization is not liable for the tax imposed under the Federal Unemployment Tax Act (FUTA).

Organizations that are not private foundations are not subject to the excise taxes under Chapter 42 of the Code. However, they are not automatically exempt from other federal excise taxes.

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Donors may deduct contributions to your organization as provided in section 170 of the Code. Bequests, legacies, devises, transfers, or gifts to your organization or for its use are deductible for federal estate and gift tax purposes if they meet the applicable provisions of sections 2055, 2106, and 2522 of the Code.

Your organization is not required to file federal income tax returns unless it is subject to the tax on unrelated business income under section 511 of the Code. If your organization is subject to this tax, it must file an income tax return on the Form 990-T, Exempt Organization Business Income Tax Return. In this letter, we are not determining whether any of your organization's present or proposed activities are unrelated trade or business as defined in section 513 of the Code.

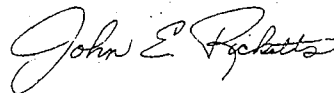
The law requires you to make your organization's annual return available for public inspection without charge for three years after the due date of the return. If your organization had a copy of its application for recognition of exemption on July 15, 1987, it is also required to make available for public inspection a copy of the exemption application, any supporting documents and the exemption letter to any individual who requests such documents in person or in writing. You can charge only a reasonable fee for reproduction and actual postage costs for the copied materials. The law does not require you to provide copies of public inspection documents that are widely available, such as by posting them on the Internet (World Wide Web). You may be liable for a penalty of \$20 a day for each day you do not make these documents available for public inspection (up to a maximum of \$10,000 in the case of an annual return).

Because this letter could help resolve any questions about your organization's exempt status and foundation status, you should keep it with the organization's permanent records.

If you have any questions, please call us at the telephone number shown in the heading of this letter.

This letter affirms your organization's exempt status.

Sincerely,



John E. Ricketts, Director, TE/GE
Customer Account Services