

## Application for Hope Operator Designation

A nonprofit organization with tax-exempt status under s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code that operates three or more charter schools that serve students in grades K-12 in Florida or other states with a record of serving students from low-income families may apply to the Florida State Board of Education for designation as a Hope Operator.

### Section A: Organizational Information

Name of Non-Profit Organization	RCMA		
IRS Federal Employer Identification Number	59-1221966		
Street Address	402 West Main Street		
City	Immokalee		
State	Florida	Zip Code	34142
Website	www.rcma.org	Phone Number	(239) 282-6540

- Attach a copy of 501(c)(3) determination letter **ATTACHED**

### Leadership

Executive Director/CEO	Isabel Garcia		
Email	isabel@rcma.org	Phone	(239) 282-6540
Primary Contact (if different)	NA		
Email	NA	Phone	

### Board Members of Non-Profit Organization

Name	Position (President, VP, etc)	Email Address
Medora Krome	President	medorakrome@rcma.org
Barbara Mainster	Vice President	barbaramainster@yahoo.com
Linda Miles-Adams	Vice President	lindamilesadams@rcma.org
Jaime Weisinger	Vice President	Jaime.weisinger@rcma.org
Joaquin Perez	Vice President	joaquinperez@rcma.org
Michael T. Bayer	Vice President	mtbayer@curranbayer.com
Sandra Hightower, PhD	Vice President	shightowerpsc@yahoo.com
Richard Pringle, PA	Secretary	richard@strayhornandstrayhornlaw.com
Larry Salustro	Treasurer	larrysalustro@gmail.com
Aidan Dowling	At Large	dowlinga@aol.com
Al J. Hinson	At Large	Josheph45@centurylink.net

Name	Position	Email Address
Ansberto Vallejo	At Large	Ansberto.vallejo@hdsc.k12.org
Dani Higgins	At Large	dani.higgins@polk-fl.net
Donna Gaffney	At Large	gaffneyd10@yahoo.com
Gloria Kendrick	At Large	Gkendrick47@yahoo.com
Mirta A. Negrini	At Large	mnegrini1111@gmail.com
Sonia Tighe	At Large	Sonia.tighe@ffva.com
Steven Kirk	At Large	stevekirk@ruralneighborhoods.org
Susanne A. Bizerra	At Large	sbizerra@yahoo.com
Wilma Roble-Melendez, PhD	At Large	martrobw@nova.edu

## Section B: Criteria

Please indicate which of the following Hope Operator criteria your organization meets:

1. The operator was awarded a United States Department of Education Charter School Program grant for Replication and Expansion of High-Quality Charter Schools within the preceding three years.

- Provide a copy of the award letter from the US Department of Education

**2. The operator receives funding through the National Fund of the Charter School Growth Fund to accelerate the growth of the nation's best charter schools. MEETS**

**- Provide evidence that the operator is currently receiving funding through the National Fund of the Charter School Growth Fund. This may include a signed letter from the CEO of the Charter School Growth Fund, or a current and active grant award agreement. ATTACHED**

3. The operator is selected by a district school board in accordance with s. 1008.33, Florida Statutes, to turn around the performance of a persistently low-performing public school.

- Provide a signed letter from the District Superintendent, or other evidence, indicating the District selected the school pursuant to Section 1008.33, Florida Statutes, to turn around the performance of a low-performing public school.

## Section C: Additional Information

In order to demonstrate that the applicant meets the definition of Hope Operator, pursuant to Section 1002.333(2), Florida Statutes, provide the following information, for the most recent completed school year, for each public charter school that is currently operated by the applicant.

School Name Immokalee Community Academy

National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) Identification Number 9021

Address, City, State, Zip Code 123 N. 4th Street, Immokalee, FL. 34142

Grades Served K-7

Total Enrollment 281

Percentage of Students Eligible for Free or Reduced Lunch 100%

Authorizer Name The School District of Collier County

School Name Wimauma Community Academy\*

National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) Identification Number 6615

Address, City, State, Zip Code 18236 S. US Hwy 301, Wimauma, FL 33598

Grades Served K-8

Total Enrollment 344

Percentage of Students Eligible for Free or Reduced Lunch 100%

Authorizer Name Hillsborough County Public Schools

\* From 2012 to 2019 this school was successfully operated as two separate schools, RCMA Wimauma Academy (NCES # 6615) and RCMA Wimauma Leadership Academy (NCES # 6669). In 2019 the two were combined for administrative ease only, with the number of students served remaining constant.