



NHS and NJHS Accepted Accrediting Organizations

Updated 08/18

The National Constitutions for NHS and NJHS require all nonpublic schools (private, parochial, independent, other) to either be accredited by one of the accepted accrediting agencies listed below or by the state department of education in their state (as noted in the National Constitutions, Article IV, Section 1). The references to approval by a state department of education reflect the understanding that this approval parallels the standard procedures used by accepted accrediting agencies and is not merely an official listing of schools in the state. The list that follows is of those accrediting agencies recognized by NASSP for this purpose. This list is updated as necessary.

When applying to establish a new chapter, after listing the accrediting organization on the official application, applicant schools are asked to provide verification of this accreditation. Verification can be in the form of a copy of the letter received at the school indicating that full accreditation has been granted (and not “candidate” status), a copy of the accrediting certificate, or a copy of a list of schools that have been approved for accreditation (and containing the applicant school's name). Accreditation must be completed at the local level before an NHS or NJHS application can be approved. Please contact the NHS and NJHS national office if you need additional clarification of these instructions (800-253-7746).

National and Regional Accrediting Agencies

[AdvancED](#)

[American Association of Christian Schools \(AACCS\)](#)

[Association of Christian Schools International \(ACSI\)](#)

[Association of Classical Christian Schools \(ACCS\)](#)

[Bureau of Indian Education \(BIE\)](#) (accredited by states in which located)

[Commission on International and Trans-Regional Accreditation \(CITA\)](#) (a part of AdvancED)

[League of Christian Schools](#)

[Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools](#)

Accrediting members of the [National Association of Independent Schools](#) and [NAIS](#)**

Accrediting members of the [National Council for Private School Accreditation](#) and [NCPSA](#)*

National Federation of Nonpublic School State Accrediting Associations ([NFNSSAA](#))***

[National Lutheran School Accreditation](#)

[New England Association of Schools and Colleges](#)

[North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement](#) (formerly the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, now under AdvancED)

[Northwest Accreditation Commission](#) (a part of AdvancED)

[Southern Association of Colleges and Schools](#) (a part of AdvancED)

[State Departments of Education](#) (only those that accredit nonpublic schools, partial list)

[Western Association of Schools and Colleges](#)



State Accrediting Agencies

Alabama Independent School Association
Arkansas Nonpublic School Accrediting Association
Florida Association of Academic Nonpublic Schools (FAANS) approved Accrediting Organizations
Georgia Accrediting Commission, Inc.
Georgia Private School Accreditation Council (GAPSAC)
Illinois State Board of Education
Michigan Nonpublic School Accrediting Association
Michigan: University of Michigan (Bureau of School Services)
Minnesota Independent School Association
Minnesota Nonpublic School Accreditation Association
Mississippi Association of Independent Schools (formerly the Mississippi Private School Association)
Missouri: University of Missouri
New York Schools of the Archdiocese of NY (see AdvancED)
New York: University of the State of New York (public charter schools only)
North Carolina Division for Nonpublic Education
Ohio Catholic School Accrediting Association
Puerto Rico—CADIE, Department of Public Instruction
South Carolina Independent School Association
Tennessee Association of Non-Public Academic Schools ([TANAS](#))
Texas Catholic Conference
Texas Private School Accreditation Commission ([TEPSAC](#))
Virginia Council for Private Education
Wisconsin Nonpublic School Accrediting Association
Wisconsin Independent and Religious Schools Accreditation ([WRISA](#))

* The following are recognized members of **NCPSA** (links to these groups can be found at www.ncpsa.org):

Accreditation International
Accrediting Association of Seventh Day Adventist Schools, Colleges and Universities
American Montessori Society
Association of Christian Teachers and Schools – Assemblies of God
Association of Independent Schools of Florida
Association of Waldorf Schools of North America
Christian Schools of Florida
E.A. Sutherland Education Association
Florida Association of Christian Colleges and Schools
Florida Catholic Conference
Kentucky Nonpublic School Commission



National Accreditation Board of Merkos L'Inyonei Chinuch
National Independent Private Schools Association
North American Christian Schools Accrediting Agency ([NACSAA](#))
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod School Accreditation

** The following are recognized members of **NAIS** (links to these groups can be found at www.nais.org):

Association of Colorado Independent Schools (ACIS)
California Association of Independent Schools (CAIS/CA)
Canadian Accredited Independent Schools (CAIS/CAN)
Connecticut Association of Independent Schools (CAIS/CT)
Council of International Schools (CIS)
Florida Council of Independent Schools (FCIS)
Hawaii Association of Independent Schools (HAIS)
New Jersey Association of Independent Schools (NJAIS)
New York State Association of Independent Schools (NYSAIS)
Pennsylvania Association of Independent Schools (PAIS)
Virginia Association of Independent Schools (VAIS)
Association of Independent Schools in New England (AISNE)
Independent Schools Association of the Central States (ISACS)
Independent Schools Association of the Southwest (ISAS)
New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC)
Northwest Association of Independent Schools (NWAIS)
Southern Association of Independent Schools (SAIS)
Southwestern Association of Episcopal Schools (SAES)
The Association of Independent Maryland and DC Schools (AIMS)

***The following are recognized members of NFNSSAA (links to these groups can be found at www.nfnssaa.com):

Arkansas Nonpublic School Accrediting Association (ANSAA)
Michigan Nonpublic School Accrediting Association (MNSAA)
Minnesota Nonpublic School Accrediting Association (MNSAA)
Missouri Nonpublic School Accrediting Association (MNSAA)
National Federation of
Wisconsin Independent and Religious Schools Accreditation (WRISA)

Note: The accrediting agencies listed above have demonstrated that they follow standard accrediting procedures as developed and approved by the regional accrediting agencies or other national groups. NASSP does not approve the accrediting practices of individual accrediting agencies, but seeks to support standards of accreditation that are commonly accepted within the educational community by recognizing those agencies found in the approved list above.

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