

N P S A G

Celebrating Our 30th Year <> Serving Private Schools in All 50 States & Internationally

National Private Schools Accreditation Group

Accreditation <> Teacher Certification <> Professional Administrator Certification

Private School Accreditation Program Overview

Thank you for your interest in Accreditation. The following information is submitted to assist you in understanding the purpose, philosophy and structure of the accrediting process.

Accreditation is a voluntary process of self-evaluation as measured against published standards or criteria and certified by an independent third party in the various fields evaluated.

By Law, the State does not act as an approval or accrediting agency for the private (non-public) school industry. The process of Accreditation is entirely voluntary. If the State could regulate and control the Private School industry, they would already be doing it.

Mission

NPSAG recognizes that there exists a number of fine accrediting organizations and the individual private school has the option of which organization to choose.

We at NPSAG feel that our mission is different than others, in that we recognize it is the uniqueness and diversity of the private school industry that drives the industry and this uniqueness and diversity is directly responsible for its success. Therefore, we have no pre-conceived notions which would limit your formula for success, nor do we expect you to meet any pre-conceived rigid set of standards.

What we do, is strive to identify and assist you in delineating your distinctive characteristics, then communicate that inherent identity in a meaningful way to parents, transfer institutions, grant organizations, the government, curriculum writers, standardized testers and others who rely on accreditation as a traceable measure of your private school's commitment to the effective education of its students. We are here to assist you in becoming accredited, not require you to jump through endless hoops to become accredited.

Purposes of Accreditation

To provide parent and student assurance regarding the overall quality of the private school

To preserve the uniqueness of the individual private school and its unique educational program

To better know and understand self and school

To seek out and accept objective evaluation

To provide well deserved recognition to the individual and the school

To be student oriented always

To provide external evaluation, consultation and visitation

To establish acceptable criteria for student transfer

To establish acceptable criteria for student assessment

To demonstrate traceability regarding grades, attendance, curriculum and advancement

To provide a learning experience for the staff and administration

To promote professional development

To enhance the learning process

To minimize incidents of misunderstandings between the school and parents/students while transferring

To successfully address the inevitable incidents through conflict resolution to the satisfaction of all concerned

Philosophy

NPSAG seeks to preserve the uniqueness of the individual private school and its educational program and promote the notion of voluntary participation in the accreditation process, which publicly demonstrates the private schools commitment to the educational profession, through an independent third party, without government interference.

NPSAG accreditation provides a highly visible and tangible source of professional recognition and assures public confidence and accountability towards the accredited school. NPSAG Accreditation provides an avenue for periodic self-analysis which enhances the above stated purposes and helps educators meet their goals and responsibilities through organized, structured and published processes.

We at NPSAG feel that accreditation is not and should not be a regulatory process. Private Schools should voluntarily demonstrate high standards of professional conduct involving their educational processes and business ethics.

Acceptance

In the United States accreditation is not a legal designation, rather a voluntary process. Those who have come to rely on accreditation as a measure of private school competency and professional dedication include Parents, students, transfer institutions, curriculum publishers, grantors, standardized testing groups, the US Military, Colleges and Universities, etc. It is up to the individual or organization who relies on the Accredited status of a private school to accept, recognize, list or acknowledge your schools accredited status based on their own internal policy. One accrediting organization is not legally designated as being superior over another.

Many private schools seek recognition and acceptance that may come through accreditation and the ability to display the accreditation documents, validate their transcripts with the accreditation seal, the pride that comes from publicly promoting the schools accredited status and have that status verified by an independent third party.

The State is generally prohibited from interfering with the operation of a private school and does not necessarily imply approval, acceptance acknowledgement, listing or accredit the individual private school or the individual accrediting organization. There are several organizations with widely variant quality standards and program requirements that accredit private schools. Consequently, the acceptance of diplomas, transcripts and transfer credits for the private school is according to the requirements of the accepting institutions.

Accreditation Classifications

CLASS I	Private School-Graded
CLASS II	Private School-Un-graded
CLASS III	Preschool/Kindergarten
CLASS IV	Home School
CLASS V	Learning Center/Tutorial
CLASS VI	Post-Secondary Education
CLASS VII	Alternative Private School
CLASS VIII	Technical. Trade School
CLASS IX	Special Education
CLASS X	Correspondence School
CLASS XI	Religious Seminary
CLASS XII	Distance Learning-Independent Study-Supervised
CLASS XIII	Distance Learning-Independent Study-Unsupervised

Accreditation Overview Statement

In the United States, public authority in Education is constitutionally reserved to the States. The system of voluntary non-governmental evaluation, called accreditation has evolved to promote both regional and national approaches to the determination of educational quality. Accrediting agencies, therefore come to be viewed as quasi-public entities with certain responsibilities to the many groups which interact with the educational community.

The Accreditation process requires private schools to examine their goals, activities and achievements: to determine internal procedures for action and maintain continuous self-study and improvement mechanisms.

Accreditation Process Explained

Step One: Accreditation Application requested by school

Step Two: Application is returned to NPSAG. The application will be accepted if is 100 % completed and is reasonably verifiable. The Accreditation fee of \$2695.00 is due with application.

Step Three: You will receive the Facility Evaluation and Educational Program Certification Survey (Self Study) as well as the Administrators Handbook of Forms which will assist you in documenting your Educational Facilities Programs. The school has up to one year to complete the survey.

There is no short-term time frame to complete this process.

Step Four: Completed Self Study is returned for review and critique. The Accreditation Alliance will review and critique your submission and a Provisional Accreditation Status will be granted.

Step Five: School requests a site visit or makes arrangements for a video tour. Upon completion of this step the School will be awarded a Certificate of Full Accreditation, Letter of Accreditation, and Code of Ethics and a customized Press Release. This Accredited Status is valid for one year from the start of your Accreditation Process.

The School will be required to re-certify their Accredited Status by completing an update profile annually. The cost of this recertification is \$425.00 and will be sent to 90 days prior to expiration of your current Accreditation Documents.

Phase Two Professional Development

This phase requires that at least one person holds professional administrator credentials from any recognized active entity that is authorized to issue such credentials, such as the Department of Education, Federal Government, Educational Institution, Military, Professional Association or any other Accrediting Agency.

The Administrator who completed the Facility Evaluation is eligible for Professional Administrator Certification as a result of completing the Self Study. The Administrator is required to complete the Professional Administrator Application and a letter stating they were the responsible party completing the Survey. This Professional Recognition is included in the cost of the Accreditation Process.

Teacher Certification

The Schools Staff can request a Professional Teachers Certification by requesting and completing an application and securing sponsorship from the Administrator of the Accredited School. The cost of the Teacher Certification is \$50.00 for the first subject.

Both of these Phase 2 programs are affordable, relatively easy to qualify for and designed to offer a justly earned Professional Designation, independent of the State. It is not a legal necessity that the Administrator and Teachers of a Private School hold Professional Credentials.

However, in the mind's eye of concerned parents, Transfer Institution and other interested third parties will enhance your image and interactions with those who evaluate your Private School, it's Administration and Staff.

Accreditation Application

National Private Schools Association Group, Inc.
Application for "Fast Track" Accreditation
"We Warmly Welcome You to Become Fully Accredited"

Complete by printing or typing all requested information and return. Use N/A, none, or extra paper as required. There is no specific requirement or deficiency noted should you not offer any specific policy listed.

NPSAG qualifies as a Local, Regional and National Accreditation.

I am applying for "Fast Track" Accreditation. This process is self-paced and expedited.

School Name _____

Legal Name of Organization _____

Physical Address _____

Mailing Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

County Campus located in _____

Principal/Administrator/Contact & Title _____

Area Code/Telephone Number _____

Fax Number _____

Is Fax line dedicated? _____

E-Mail Address _____

Do you have a web site? _____ Web site address: _____

Legal Structure: Corp, Partnership, Sole Proprietor, Etc. _____

Officers Names & Titles _____

FEIN, if Corp _____

Licenses held for City, County, State _____

Enrollment _____ Grade Range _____

Number of Teachers/Staff _____ Number of Students: _____

School Type: Co-ed, Boys, Girls, Boarding Military, Home Based Etc. _____

Curriculum _____

Extra Curricular Activities _____

Athletic Activities _____

Any Water Sports _____

Fees/Tuition Range _____

Religious Affiliation _____

Accreditation/Affiliation _____

Transportation Provided for Students _____

Vehicles Owned (Number & Type) _____

Summer Program _____

Meals Provided/Cafeteria _____

School Housing Provided _____

Do Students Remain Overnight _____

Describe Facilities/Campus Size, Library, Pool, Gym, Etc. _____

Do You Own Your Building(s) _____

Age of Building(s) _____ Square Footage _____

Type of Construction _____

Central Heat, Central Air, Fire Sprinklers _____

Age & Description of Playground Equipment _____

Admission Requirements _____

Years in Operation _____

Do you wish to participate in an Educational Panel _____

Top issues that concern you as a Private School owner/administrator _____

Top issues that concern you as an educator _____

INDICATE THE ACCREDITATION CLASSIFICATION FOR WHICH YOU ARE
APPLYING

(Select only one classification by encircling it)

- CLASS I = PRIVATE SCHOOL GRADED
- CLASS II = PRIVATE SCHOOL UN GRADED
- CLASS III = PRE-SCHOOL EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING CENTER
- CLASS IV = HOME SCHOOL
- CLASS V = LEARNING CENTER/TUTORIAL
- CLASS VI = POST SECONDARY EDUCATION PROGRAM
- CLASS VII = ALTERNATIVE PRIVATE SCHOOL
- CLASS VIII = TECHNICAL/TRADE SCHOOL
- CLASS IX = SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM
- CLASS X = CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOL
- CLASS XI = DISTANCE LEARNING-INDEPENDENT STUDY-SUPERVISED
- CLASS XII = DISTANCE LEARNING-INDEPENDENT STUDY-UNSUPERVISED

Important

Your application will be accepted if it is 100% complete and the basic information is reasonably verifiable. The remittance due at this time is \$2,695.00 and must accompany this application. Your application will not be processed without proper remittance. Return the completed application and you will be forwarded the complete accreditation package. Make Check Payable to "National Private Schools"

The undersigned affirms that I am authorized to contract on behalf of the entity described above, that the entity seeks the Status of Applicant for Accreditation through the National Private Schools Association Group's Accreditation Program and acknowledges that there exists no verbal agreements between NPSAG and the above entity that would be contrary to the published documents offered by NPSAG, in effect, at the time of execution. The undersigned affirms that I have been provided an opportunity to review the details, processes, expectations and requirements to achieve and maintain the NPSAG Accreditation and that those specifics & details are available by request by contacting NPSAG at 407-522-0124 or online at the NSPAG Website www.npsag.com.

Signed: _____

Title: _____ Date: _____

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