



SPECIAL NEEDS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM INFORMATIONAL BULLETIN

Bulletin 02-02

Revised November 2024

Accreditation Information

This bulletin contains information on meeting the accreditation requirement under Wis. Stat. § 115.7915(2)(c) and Wis. Admin. Code § PI 49. Under Wis. Admin. Code § PI 49.03(6), the accreditation notice, from the accreditation agency, must be submitted by **August 1 annually** and may not be dated any earlier than July 1 of that school year. If the school is also participating in the Private School Choice Programs, one notice may be submitted to the Department for the school.

The DPI will work directly with the accrediting agencies to obtain the accreditation notice. Schools are responsible for ensuring they are fully accredited by their accrediting agencies and are included in the notice, by reaching out to their accrediting agency. The accreditation notice must be completed by an authorized member of the accrediting agency and include all of the following information:

- The private school's name;
- The private school's address for each location included in the accreditation;
- The grades accredited; and
- Indication that the private school is accredited at the time the notice is filed.

The grades that a Special Needs Scholarship Program (SNSP) school is accredited for must include all of the grades available for SNSP students as indicated on the Intent to Participate and, if applicable, any additional grades added in the SNSP Portal through the School Information Update Form: SNSP Scholarships and Grades Available. A SNSP school cannot have SNSP students in grades that it is not fully accredited for by a statutorily approved accreditation agency.

If a school is not fully accredited for all grades available for SNSP students, it must:

- 1) File a SNSP Private School Requirements Form and all required attachments with the DPI by the first weekday in March in advance of the school year the school will participate in

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction
Jill K. Underly, PhD, State Superintendent
201 West Washington Avenue, Madison, WI 53703
P.O. Box 7841, Madison, WI 53707-7841

Parental Education Options
Special Needs Scholarship Program
1-888-245-2732 ext. 4
snsp@dpi.wi.gov

<https://dpi.wi.gov/parental-education-options/special-needs-scholarship>

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, creed, age, national origin, ancestry, pregnancy, marital status or parental status, sexual orientation, or ability and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups.

the SNSP. As part of the SNSP Private School Requirements Form, the school must meet the requirements for all grades offered by the school, even if the grades are not available grades for SNSP students; and

- 2) Be approved as a private school by the state superintendent by August 1.

A school that meets both of the above requirements is not required to meet the accreditation requirements for the SNSP.

STATUTORILY APPROVED ACCREDITATION AGENCIES

The following is a list of the statutorily approved accreditation agencies and their contact information. Please contact the accreditation organizations directly with questions about their accrediting process.

Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI)

P.O. Box 62249
Colorado Springs, CO 80962
800-367-0798
www.acsi.org

National Lutheran School Accreditation

LCMS International Center
1333 S. Kirkwood Rd.
St. Louis, MO 63122
800-248-1930
www.lcms.org/schools

Christian Schools International

99 Monroe Avenue NW, Suite 200
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
800-635-8288
www.csionline.org

The Diocese or Archdiocese within which the school is located

Listing of all Dioceses:
www.usccb.org/about/bishops-and-dioceses/all-dioceses.cfm

Cognia, Inc.

9115 Westside Parkway
Alpharetta, GA 30009
888-413-3669
cognia.org

Wisconsin Association of Christian Schools

1840 Bond Street
Green Bay, WI 54303
920-360-4979
www.wacschools.org

Independent Schools Association of the Central States

55 West Wacker Drive, Suite 701
Chicago, IL 60601
312-750-1190
www.isacs.org

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod School Accreditation

N16W23377 Stone Ridge Drive
Waukesha, WI 53188
414-256-3220
<http://welsrc.net/>

Any other organization recognized by the National Council for Private School Accreditation

PO Box 13686
Seattle, WA 98198
www.ncpsa.org/

Wisconsin Religious and Independent Schools Accreditation

P.O. Box 154
Sparta, WI 54656
608-567-1208
www.wrisa.net