

Accredited Correspondence Schools and Competent Private Instruction Annual Assessment

If you are not using a supervising teacher, an annual assessment is required. The annual assessment can be a standardized test, portfolio evaluation by a licensed teacher, or an end-of-year report from an accredited correspondence school. An accredited correspondence school's end-of-year report may only be used for annual assessment purposes if the correspondence school is accredited by an agency recognized by the United States Department of Education. All annual assessments – including end-of-year reports from accredited correspondence schools – must be completed by May 1 and submitted to the Iowa Department of Education and your local school district by June 30 of the school year.

Below is a limited list of accredited correspondence schools. This list is **NOT** an endorsement by NICHE for any of the listed institutions – nor is it a recommendation of the accredited correspondence school option for annual assessment. Great care and discernment is necessary when choosing programs and legal options for your children. As you make these decisions, you will need to:

1. Determine if enrolling your child in a correspondence school is best possible alternative.
2. Decide whether you and your child can commit to all of the correspondence school's requirements, including costs, curriculum choices, and timelines for completion.
3. Verify that the correspondence school's worldview is compatible with your own.
4. Certify, each year you use the correspondence school for annual assessment purposes, that the school is appropriately accredited and obtain printed verification of this fact.
5. Understand that utilizing end-of-year reports from accredited correspondence schools for competent private instruction annual assessment purposes does not automatically ensure that credits earned through an accredited correspondence school can be transferred to a public school, if you should ever desire to do so.

Correspondence Schools

This list is not exhaustive. There may be other appropriately accredited institutions.

There are notes with some of the entities on our list. These notes are for informational purposes to assist you in making your decision. Please understand that NICHE is not endorsing any of the entities nor are we responsible for any changes in their accreditation status.

A Beka Academy is accredited by FACCS, SACS CASI, and CITA.

www.abekaacademy.org

Alpha Omega Academy is accredited by CITA and NCA CASI.

www.aoademy.com

American School (Lansing, IL) is accredited by NCA CASI and CITA

<http://americanschoolofcorr.com>

Basic Christian Education Academy (Greenville, OH) is accredited by NAPS

<http://www.basicchristianeducation.com/index.php>

Bridgeway Christian Academy (Alpharetta, GA) is accredited by SACS CASI.

www.homeschoolacademy.com

Calvert Education Services (Hunt Valley, MD) is accredited by CITA.

www.calvertschool.org

Catholic Schools K12 (Coral Springs, FL) is accredited by SACS CASI. [Catholic]

<http://www.csk12.com/>

Clonlara School (Ann Arbor, MI) is accredited by CITA and NCA CASI

www.clonlara.org

Griggs University High School Online (Silver Spring, MD) is accredited by SACS [Seventh-day Adventist]

<http://www.griggs.edu/highschoolonline.html>

Heritage Homeschool Academy (Overland Park, KS) is accredited by NAPS

<http://www.heritagehomeschool.com/>

Home Study International (Silver Springs, MD) is accredited by SACS and CITA

www.hsi.edu

(This is a Seventh-day Adventist correspondence school.)

Indiana University High School (Bloomington, IN) is accredited by CITA and NCA CASI

www.scs.indiana.edu

Keystone National High School (Bloomsburg, PA) is accredited by NASC

www.keystonehighschool.com

Kolbe Academy (Napa, CA) is accredited by National Association of Private Catholic and Independent Schools

www.kolbe.org

Laurel Springs School (Ojai, CA) is accredited by WASC

www.laurelsprings.com

Liberty University Online Academy (Lynchburg, VA) is accredited by SACS CASI

www.libertyonlineacademy.com

Lighthouse Christian Academy (Bloomington, IN) was confirmed as accredited by the Iowa DE

www.lighthouse-christian.com

Mother of Divine Grace School (Ojai, CA) is accredited by WASC

www.motherofdivinegrace.org/

North Dakota Division of Independent Study (Fargo, ND) is accredited by CITA and NCA CASI.

www.ndcde.org

NorthStar Academy (Colorado Springs, CO) is accredited by NCA CASI and CITA

www.NorthStar-Academy.org

Oak Meadow School (Brattleboro, VT) is accredited by CITA

www.oakmeadow.com

Seton Home Study School (Front Royal, VA) is accredited by CITA and SACS CASI

www.setonhome.org

(This is a Catholic correspondence school.)

University of Arizona (Tucson, AZ) is accredited by NCA CASI

<http://www.ceao.arizona.edu/corresp/>

University of Missouri-Columbia High School (Columbia, MO) is accredited by NCA CASI

<http://cdis.missouri.edu/>

University of Nebraska (Lincoln, NE) is accredited by NCA CASI

<http://nebraskahs.unl.edu>

University of Oklahoma High School (Norman, OK) is accredited by CITA and NCA CASI.

www.isd.ou.edu

Key to accreditation terms:

CITA = Commission on International and Trans-Regional Accreditation

FACCS = Florida Association of Christian Colleges and Schools

NASC = Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges

NCA CASI = North Central Association, Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement

SACS CASI = Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement

WASC = Western Association of Schools and Colleges