

## What are the benefits for students attending an accredited school?

Next to a parent, a teacher is one of the most influential figures in a student's life. So as parents, you want to know that teachers are working all the time to improve the learning opportunities for your child. An accredited school pays attention to providing teachers the resources and tools to succeed in the classroom. An accredited school is committed to offering students a rigorous, diverse and sound curriculum instructed by qualified teachers. Students also are eligible for special programs, grants and scholarships.

## How can I find out more about AdvancED?

You can visit [www.advanc-ed.org](http://www.advanc-ed.org) to learn more about the work we do as well as locate accredited schools and school systems in your community. If your school isn't accredited, encourage them to learn more and contact us today.

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Helping Parents  
and the Community  
Create a World of  
Opportunities  
for Every Learner



AdvancED is the world leader in providing improvement and accreditation services to education providers of all types in their pursuit of excellence in serving students. AdvancED serves as a trusted partner to more than 32,000 schools and school systems — enrolling more than 20 million students — across the United States and 70 countries.

We are an innovative nonprofit organization dedicated to making sure education providers have access to tools and processes that help them be the best they can be. As a direct result of that support, education providers in turn deliver an ever-improving educational experience for their learners.



For over 100 years,

AdvancED's three U.S.-based regional accreditation agencies — the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement (NCA CASI), the Northwest Accreditation Commission (NWAC) and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (SACS CASI) — have helped education providers of all types in their pursuit of excellence in serving students. Today, we're even more committed to this purpose. We're committed to creating a world of opportunities for every learner.

## Our Mission...

Our mission is to lead and empower the education community to ensure that all learners realize their full potential. We achieve this mission by providing institutions with improvement tools and resources through **accreditation**. We recognize that everyone has a role in the success of students including you and other members of the community. We take pride in our role just like the pride you feel when your child is thriving, learning and succeeding. We are passionate advocates for all learners.

### What we believe...

**We believe** every student should have access to high-quality instruction, learning materials and educational services that will help them thrive in and out of school.

**We believe** all institutions, whether public, nonpublic, charter, early learning or parochial—year-long, traditional or online, should strive to improve continually the instruction, resources and services they provide to the students of their community.

**We believe** educational providers are much more likely to improve or maintain a high level of performance with the benefit of an objective third-party evaluator such as AdvancED.



### Why is accreditation important?

More than 100 years ago American universities needed to know which institutions provided quality programs for their graduates, so they began the accreditation system. Today, to demonstrate education quality, accreditation is used by a wide range of education providers, from traditional schools to distance learning providers to tutoring centers, serving all ages of students from toddlers to adults. Accreditation provides institutions with the tools and the know-how to ensure students are college- and career-ready.

### How does a school earn accreditation?

If your child's preschool, school or local school system is accredited, they have gone through a rigorous evaluation process that involves internal and external review. The school has met a set of standards developed by AdvancED that offer education providers of all types a framework for school improvement. The school has agreed to regular self-reviews and reviews by outside evaluators to check their ongoing progress.

### What does it mean to be accredited?

Do students have everything they need to optimize their learning? Are students prepared to succeed in college or their career? An AdvancED accredited institution has access to valuable resources and tools that provide answers to these questions and more. A school is equipped to better identify and implement strategies for improvement giving you peace of mind that your child is attending a school that cares about quality.