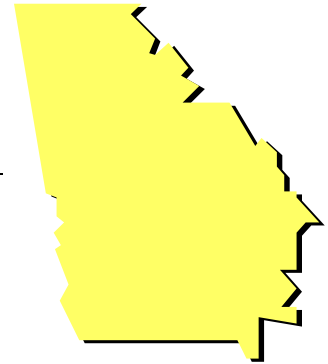


Georgia



ACCREDITATION, LICENSING & APPROVAL

Applies to all private schools

- Georgia does not require private schools to be accredited or licensed.

TRANSPARENCY & REPORTING

Applies to all private schools

- Within 30 days after the beginning of each school year, a private school must provide its students' names, ages and residences to the superintendent of a public school district that has residents enrolled in the private school.
- At the end of each school month, a private school must notify the superintendent of its local public school district of the name, age and residence of each student residing in the district who enrolled or terminated enrollment at the private school during the month. These records must indicate when attendance was suspended and the grounds for the suspension. Enrollment records and reports may not be used for any purpose except providing necessary enrollment information, except with the permission of parents, pursuant to a subpoena or for verification of attendance by the state Department of Public Safety.

CURRICULUM & ACADEMICS

Applies to all private schools

- Private schools must provide instruction for the equivalent of 180 school days a year, with each school day consisting of at least four and a half school hours.
- Private schools must provide a basic academic educational program that includes reading, language arts, mathematics, social studies and science.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Applies to all private schools

- Any building used for private school purposes must meet all health and safety standards established under state law and local ordinances.
- No person may manufacture, distribute, dispense or possess with intent to distribute a controlled substance or marijuana in, on or within 1,000 feet of any real property owned by or leased to any private school.
- The state commissioner of driver services must make the alcohol and drug course, and instructors where necessary, available to private schools.
- No person may remain on the premises of a private school or within the school safety zone when that person does not have a legitimate cause or need to be present. Private school principals or their designees have the authority to exercise control over school buildings and grounds so as to prohibit any person who does not have a legitimate need or cause to be present from loitering on the premises. Each principal or designee must notify the appropriate law enforcement agency to prohibit any person who does not have a legitimate need or cause to be present from loitering within the school safety zone.
- Private schools may operate school buses meeting the equipment, color and marking requirements of state law.

MISCELLANEOUS

- No law or regulation may be construed as prohibiting or discouraging a private school from conducting a prayer prior to an athletic event held on the campus of the private school. No athletic team from any public school may be prohibited by state law or regulation from participating in an athletic event held on the campus of a private school because the private school conducts a prayer prior to the event. No school that receives state funding may participate in, sponsor or provide coaching staff for interscholastic sports events that are conducted under the authority of, conducted under the rules of or scheduled by any athletic association that prohibits or discourages a private school from conducting a prayer prior to an athletic event held on the campus of the private school.
- Sales of tangible personal property and services used exclusively for educational purposes by bona fide private schools that have been approved for tax exemption are exempt from taxation.
- Sales by any private school of tangible personal property, concessions or tickets for admission to a school event or function are tax exempt, provided the net proceeds are used solely for the benefit of the school or its students.



This list was compiled by the Friedman Foundation for Educational Choice based on publicly available laws and regulations. In each state we sought the assistance of the state's Department of Education in ensuring the accuracy of our information. However, given the enormous volume of relevant laws and regulations, some errors or omissions may still occur. The Friedman Foundation welcomes suggestions for corrections or additions to this list. For more information on the regulation of private schools, see "Fifty Educational Markets: State Laws and Regulations Governing Private Schools" by Friedman Foundation Senior Fellow Chris Hammons.