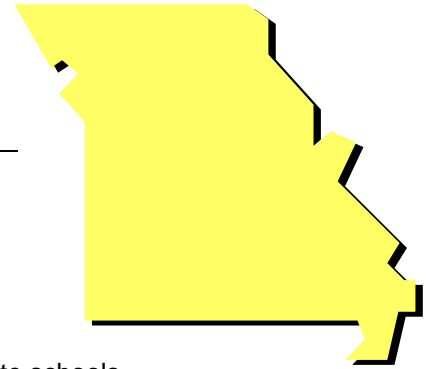


MISSOURI



ACCREDITATION, LICENSING & APPROVAL

- Missouri law has no accreditation or licensing requirements for private schools.

TRANSPARENCY & REPORTING

Applies to all private schools

- All private secondary schools must report to the state literacy hotline office the name, address and phone number of all students 16 or older who drop out of school for any reason other than to attend another school, college or university or to enlist in the armed services.

CURRICULUM & ACADEMICS

Applies to All Private Schools

- Regular courses of instruction in the constitutions of the United States and of the state of Missouri and in American history and institutions must be given in all private schools, beginning no later than seventh grade and continuing in high school. No student may receive a diploma from any private school other than private trade schools without passing an examination on the provisions and principles of the constitutions of the United States and of the state of Missouri and on American history and institutions. The state commissioner of education must provide a suitable list of textbooks. These requirements do not apply to foreign exchange students.
- Private schools are not required to include in their curricula any concept, topic or practice in conflict with the school's religious doctrines or to exclude any concept, topic or practice consistent with its religious doctrines. Departments and agencies of the state may not dictate a private school curriculum through rule, regulation or any other device.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Applies to all private schools

- No private schools may be located in an airport zone.
- Private school students must be immunized as required under the rules and regulations of the Department of Health and Senior Services and must provide satisfactory evidence of such immunization. A student may be exempt from this requirement for religious beliefs or medical conditions attested by a physician.
- Private schools must keep records of the immunization status of all students.
- Prescription medication may not be distributed in a private school or school bus to anyone who does not have a valid prescription for it or by anyone under 21 years of age. No one under 21 who does not have a valid prescription may possess prescription medication.
- Private schools may request an examination of the Central Registry of Child Abuse and Neglect for all employees and volunteers or prospective employees and volunteers who do or will provide services or care to children.
- Parents may request information from the state's central registry on private school employees. The central registry must furnish any information it has on an employee, as

long as the employee consents. Parents also may request information about reports filed against specific private schools; such reports do not identify specific individuals and do not require consent to be released.

- Students must wear appropriate protective eyewear in classes where activities or chemicals might pose a risk to a student's eyes.
- Each private school must report to the Department of Health and Senior Services the results of the examination of its structures for friable asbestos as required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. If the assessment indicates the presence of asbestos-containing materials, the report must identify the location of all materials containing asbestos, the location and square footage of friable asbestos, the average number of persons exposed, the percentage of asbestos found in the material, the test used to assess the material and plans for management of any friable asbestos. The report also must describe any plans for interim measures, such as treating or covering friable asbestos, pending management of the material. Any private school that adopts interim measures or that has not completed its management plan must reevaluate the material biennially, report its findings to the department and make its findings available to its employees and the public. Any private school that identifies nonfriable asbestos must reevaluate the material every three years, report its findings to the department and make its findings available to its employees and the public.

MISCELLANEOUS

- The chief officer of each private school must provide students and parents with information about financial assistance available for postsecondary education at degree-granting institutions. The commissioner of higher education must assist such efforts by making information relating to such programs and assistance available to schools and students.
- The state Board of Education must award funds for the purpose of providing support services to students enrolled in private schools who are identified as being at a high risk of dropping out of school. Services for private school students must be provided at sites other than sectarian private schools.



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.