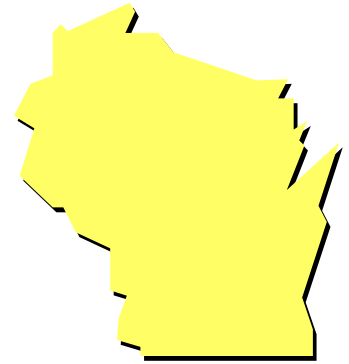


# WISCONSIN

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## ACCREDITATION, LICENSING & APPROVAL

### **Applies to all private schools**

- Private schools may request approval of their educational program by the state superintendent, but are not required to do so.

## TRANSPARENCY & REPORTING

### **Applies to all private schools**

- On or before each Oct. 15, each private school must submit a statement of enrollment on the third Friday in September in the elementary and high school grades. The administrator of each private school system is required to indicate whether the school system meets the requirements to be considered a private school.
- All private schools are required to keep a record containing the following information: the name of the school and its location; the names and addresses of their teachers; the number of months in the school year; their opening and closing dates; the names and ages of students between the ages of six and 18; the names, addresses and places of residence of the parents; the number of the school district; the distance the students reside from the schoolhouse; the number of days each student was present during each month; and any other information requested by the state. The record must be open to the inspection of school attendance officers at all reasonable times.
- Schools must maintain for at least seven years a record of each fire drill conducted.

## CURRICULUM & ACADEMICS

### **Applies to all private schools**

- Private schools must provide at least 875 hours of instruction each school year.
- Private boarding or residential schools must provide at least a two-month break in the summer.
- Private school programs must provide a sequentially progressive curriculum of fundamental instruction in reading, language arts, mathematics, social studies, science and health.
- A private school is not required to include in its curriculum any concept, topic or practice in conflict with its religious doctrines or to exclude from its curriculum any concept, topic or practice consistent with the program's religious doctrines.

## HEALTH & SAFETY

### **Applies to all private schools**

- The transportation of public and private school pupils must be effectively coordinated to ensure the safety and welfare of the students.
- Every private school must provide a standard first aid kit for use in emergencies.
- Once a month, without warning, private schools must conduct a fire drill, except when the person in charge determines that inclement weather may endanger the students' health.
- Private schools must provide parents of students in grades six and higher information about meningococcal disease, including the causes and symptoms of the disease, how it is spread, how to obtain additional information about the disease and the availability, effectiveness and risks of vaccinations against the disease.

## MISCELLANEOUS

### **Applies to all private schools**

- Every private school must cause the U.S. flag to be displayed in the schoolroom or from a flagstaff on each school ground during the school hours of each school day.
- Every private school must offer the pledge of allegiance or the national anthem each school day unless the governing body of the private school determines that the requirement conflicts with the school's religious doctrines.
- There must be reasonable uniformity in the minimum distance students attending public and private schools are transported.
- The school board of each district operating high school grades must provide transportation to and from school for each resident student who attends any elementary grade, including kindergarten, or high school grade at a private school located two miles or more from the student's residence, if the student lives within the school's attendance area and the school is within the school district or not more than five miles beyond its boundaries (measured along the usually traveled route). Busing requirements vary with city size and the location of the schools. Private school administrators work with their respective governing bodies to establish attendance areas for transportation purposes. State law specifies that the attendance areas of private schools affiliated with the same diocese, sponsoring group, agency, corporation or governing administrative authority may not overlap. No later than May 15 in each year, a private school must notify the local school board of the names, grade levels and locations of all students, if any, eligible to have transportation provided by the school board. School districts are not required to provide transportation to nonresident private school students, even if the school is located in the district.



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.