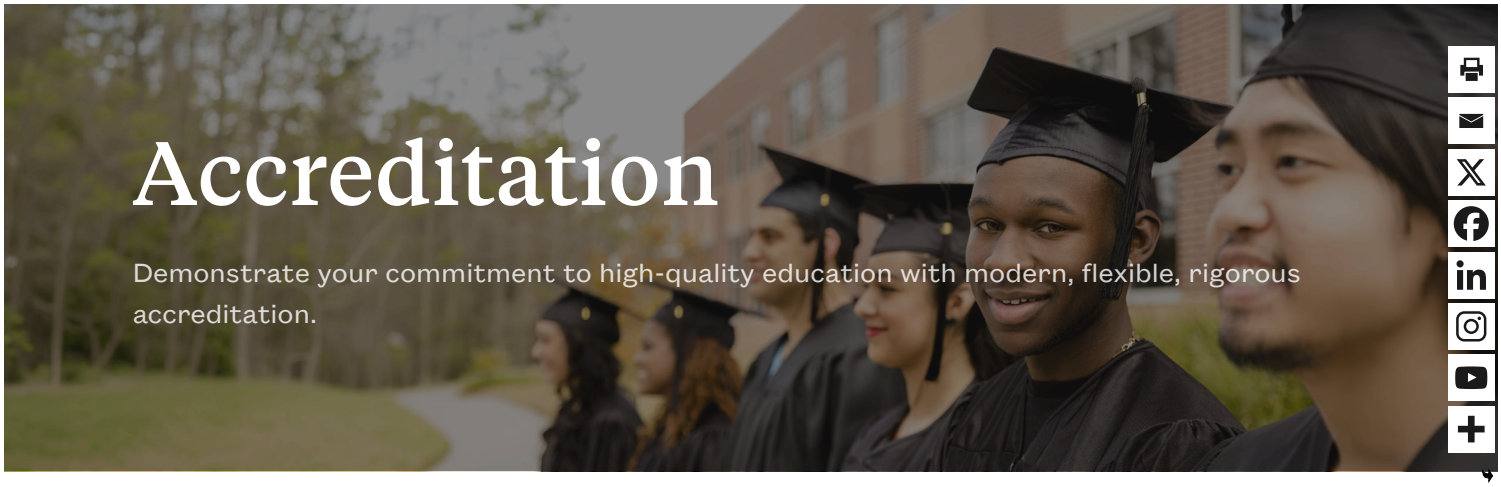


Accreditation

Demonstrate your commitment to high-quality education with modern, flexible, rigorous accreditation.

Accelerate improvement—showcase credibility

Cognia Accreditation is designed for progress, not pressure. Whether your institution is new, emerging, or established, we provide a clear, evidence-based framework that builds confidence, strengthens readiness, and fosters continuous improvement over time.

With more than 130 years of experience, we continue to evolve and meet PreK–12 and postsecondary institutions where they are while maintaining rigorous, meaningful expectations for quality and growth.

Cognia Accreditation is respected worldwide, providing an independent mark of quality in more than 100 countries. Our performance-based accreditation statuses honor improvement and recognize achievement.

MEMBER MILESTONES >

ACCREDITATION WITH HONORS >

We serve:

- Charter schools and charter school authorizers
- Corporations
- Digital learning
- DoWEA
- Early learning*
- Education service agencies
- Education service organizations
- Emerging schools
- Microschools
- Non-Public including Catholic schools, dioceses, and other faith-based affiliates
- Postsecondary
- School Boards
- Schools
- Special purpose
- State education agencies
- Systems

*Early and extended learning institutions undergo a Candidacy pathway, instead of Initial Accreditation, before pursuing accreditation.

Start your accreditation journey

Our streamlined approach to accreditation respects local context and maintains high expectations to meet institutions where they are. Pursuing Cognia Accreditation starts with Membership, setting your institution on a continuous improvement journey.



TALK TO AN ACCREDITATION EXPERT >

Ensure high-quality teaching and learning

The Requirements and Standards

- Essential Requirements for Initial Accreditation
- Performance Standards for K–12 and Postsecondary Institutions
- Performance Standards for Early Learning Schools
- Performance Standards for Education Service Organizations
- Performance Standards for Extended Learning Programs
- Performance Standards for State Education Agencies

Resources to guide you

- Cognia Performance Standards: Examining the Research
- Research Brief: Cognia Accreditation
- Educational Practices Reference Guide
- Policies and Procedures
- Data Story: Measuring What Matters: School Excellence in 2024

Be inspired by success stories from Cognia schools and

systems







> "Addressing Cognia's improvement goals has strengthened our school's collaboration, instructional practices, and academic culture. It has also deepened faculty engagement in curriculum review, data analysis, and PD. Personally, it has made me a stronger, more reflective administrator."
>
> **Vincent Murray**
> Principal
> Dominican High School, Wisconsin

Frequently asked questions

- What role does the Cognia Global Commission play?
- Is Cognia Accreditation recognized by universities?
- Where can I find accredited schools near me?
- What is the timeframe for Initial Accreditation?
- Does Cognia provide training for school boards and governing bodies as a part of the continuous improvement process for accreditation?



Ready to get started?

TALK TO AN ACCREDITATION EXPERT

LEARN ABOUT MEMBERSHIP

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- Customizable Professional Learning

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- Leadership Development and Growth
- School and System Improvement
- Professional Learning
- State Solutions
- Early Learning
- Non-Public Schools
- Charter Schools

Why Cognia

- Standards-based Approach
- Research
- Insights
- Benefits of Network Membership

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