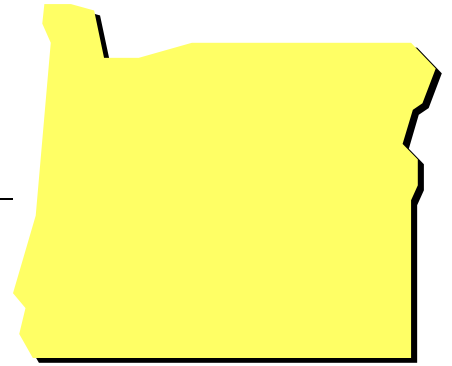


OREGON



ACCREDITATION, LICENSING & APPROVAL

Applies to all private schools

- Private schools may apply to be registered with the state, but are not required to do so. Schools applying for registration must demonstrate that its teachers are qualified by education and experience (but need not be licensed); that school facilities are adequate and safe; and that its curriculum meets the academic standards of the state. Registration is renewable annually.

TRANSPARENCY & REPORTING

Applies only to registered schools

- When a student applies to enroll, the private school must notify the school in which the student formerly was enrolled and request the student's education records within 10 days.
- Private schools must transfer all student education records relating to a particular student upon request by a school or other institution to which the student is transferring within 10 days of receiving the request.
- Private schools must notify parents annually of their right to review and propose amendments to student records.
- Private schools must furnish reports and information the state Department of Education requires, and must maintain copies of the reports on file.
- If a school closes, it must transfer permanent student records to the appropriate office of the local school system. Currently records may also be deposited with the state Department of Education, but this depository is expected to be eliminated in the near future. A school may use another depository for student records if it notifies the department in writing of the name and location of the depository.

CURRICULUM & ACADEMICS

Applies to all private schools

- Instruction in all subjects must be conducted primarily in English, except in foreign language classes and classes to assist non-English speaking students.

Applies only to registered schools

- Private schools must file a written statement of their philosophy. School goals must reflect the state's Goals for Elementary and Secondary Education, with the exception of any goal that is contrary to or inconsistent with the school's statement of philosophy.
- Curricula must be sound and comprehensive and must consider the goals of modern education. They particularly should emphasize establishment of the highest practical standards and, in secondary schools, establishment of academic standards necessary for students to qualify to attend community colleges and institutions of higher education.
- Courses must be taught for a period of time equivalent to that required for students attending public schools.
- Private schools must have the administrative and secretarial capacity necessary to ensure their effective operation.
- School administrators must possess a current administrative certificate from any state, be enrolled in and working toward an educational program leading to an administrative certificate or possess verifiable relevant experience.

- Private school teachers must possess a current teaching certificate from any state, a B.S. or B.A. degree in the subject matter taught or verifiable relevant experience.
- Private schools may not knowingly misrepresent their accreditation status or the qualifications of their staff or teachers.
- Private schools must have instructional media centers to provide services for all students.
- Print and non-print materials, including textbooks, must be adequate to meet the needs of the instructional program.
- Equipment must be adequate in quality and quantity to achieve the purposes of the educational program. Classroom furniture must conform to hygienic requirements and shall be adaptable to classroom activities. Each room must be equipped with instructional materials, providing the environment appropriate for the work assigned to that room.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Applies to all private schools

- No person may operate a private boarding school without a license from the state Department of Health and Human Services. The department inspects private boarding schools at least every two years to make sure they provide a safe and healthy environment for students. The department must consult with representatives of private schools and organizations to develop standards for these inspections. Any person, including the department's director of human services, may file a complaint with the department alleging that students attending a private boarding school are not receiving shelter, food, guidance, training or education necessary to their health, safety, welfare or social growth or necessary to serve the best interests of society. A public hearing is then held to address the complaint and, if necessary, the school can be ordered to improve or have its license revoked.
- Before enrolling, all students must submit documentation of immunization, a physician's statement exempting the student from immunization for medical reasons or a letter from the parents exempting the student for religious reasons. Private schools may adopt additional or more stringent requirements, as long as medical and religious exemptions are included and the requirements comply with the recommendations of the U.S. Public Health Service Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices.
- Schools may not permit any person under 18 to possess tobacco products while on school grounds, in school buildings or in attendance at school-sponsored activities.
- Private schools must have one fire drill a month and keep all doors and exits unlocked during school hours.
- All painting or finish applied to interior combustible surfaces, except floors and trim, must be of a fire-retardant material that meets flame-spread regulations for interior finish established by the state fire marshal.
- All schools are required to instruct and drill students on emergency procedures so that they may respond to an emergency without confusion or panic. At least 30 minutes in each school month must be used to instruct students on fire, earthquake and, where appropriate, tsunami dangers and drills. At least two drills on earthquakes must be conducted each year. Schools in coastal zones must conduct at least three drills on earthquakes and tsunamis each year.
- If private schools provide transportation, they must comply with all applicable state and federal laws and with the rules and regulations of the state Board of Education.
- Private schools are required to conduct child abuse prevention training each school year for staff, and make training available to parents and to students.

Applies only to unregistered schools

- Unregistered private schools may request a general state background check of applicants, but not fingerprint-driven criminal background checks.

Applies only to registered schools

- Registered private schools may request state fingerprint-driven criminal background checks of applicants.

MISCELLANEOUS

- Private schools may not deny any student the right to participate in interscholastic athletics solely on the ground that the student transferred between schools or participated in athletics at another school.
- Whenever any school district provides transportation for public school students, all private students are entitled to transportation provided the private school is along or near the public school route.



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.