



COMMISSION ON INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

Standards for Accreditation

- Standard 1 (Mission):** There is congruence between the school's stated mission and core values and its actual program, policies, planning, and decision-making at both the operational and governance levels.
- Standard 2 (Governance):** The school has an appropriate system of governance that assures that the school remains true to its mission and that it has the necessary resources to support its present and prospective operations.
- Standard 3 (Enrollment):** The admissions process assures that those students who enroll are appropriate, given the school's mission, and are likely to benefit from their experience at the school.
- Standard 4 (Program):** The school provides a comprehensive program of intellectual, aesthetic, and physical activities that is appropriate to support the school's mission and core values, and is consistent with the needs of the range of students admitted. Program planning is informed by relevant research regarding how students learn and the knowledge and capacities they will need to lead purposeful and constructive lives.
- Standard 5 (Experience of the Students):** The school actively considers individual students and has developed plans, policies, programs, and pedagogy to nurture, support, and encourage all students to reach their potential and to participate in the life of the school.
- Standard 6 (Resources to Support the Program):** Given the school's mission, there are adequate resources (space, equipment, technology, materials, and community) to support the school's program.
- Standard 7 (Early Childhood Program):** The Early Childhood Program enriches the social and intellectual development of its students by providing comprehensive programs and appropriate staffing, resources and facilities.
- Standard 8 (Residential Program and/or Homestay Program):** The Residential Program and/or Homestay Program provide for an intentional curriculum, appropriate facilities, engaging activities, and adequate supervision to meet the needs of each student.
- Standard 9 (Faculty):** There is a sufficient number of appropriately qualified faculty to carry out the mission of the school and the school follows a comprehensive and defined program of professional development that supports continued enhancement of teachers' skills.
- Standard 10 (Administration):** The administration provides leadership and maintains a structure to facilitate the effective functioning of the school, including the participation of faculty in decision-making.
- Standard 11 (Evaluation and Assessment):** The school engages in forms of programmatic assessment consistent with fulfilling its mission and core values. This data is used to inform decision-making and planning.
- Standard 12 (Health and Safety):** The school is a safe place that supports the physical, emotional and cognitive health and development of all students, faculty and staff.
- Standard 13 (Communication):** The school maintains effective systems of external and internal communication and record keeping that inform all constituents and facilitate participation where appropriate.
- Standard 14 (Infrastructure):** There are adequate resources (personnel, finances, facilities, equipment, and materials) to provide for the overall institutional needs of the school.
- Standard 15 (The Accreditation Process):** The school is fully committed to institutional improvement and to the process of accreditation. The school completed an inclusive Self-Study, conducted in a spirit of full disclosure and following Association guidelines; responds to Commission recommendations and the requirement to meet all Standards; and participates fully in the peer review process, hosting a Visiting Committee and sending personnel to serve on Visiting Committees to other institutions.