Tax Credit for Low Income Students Scholarship Program

The Tax Credit for Low Income Students Scholarship Program was enacted in the 2014 session of the Kansas State Legislature. The program was established to provide eligible students with an opportunity to attend schools of their parents’ choice.

In the legislation, a qualified school is one that is accredited by the State of Kansas through the State Board of Education, or a national or regional accreditation agency recognized by the State Board for the purpose of eligibility for the Tax Credit for Low Income Students Scholarship Program.

For the purposes of identifying accrediting agencies for the Tax Credit for Low Income Students Scholarship Program, the Kansas Department of Education (KSDE) will recognize any accrediting agency that is included on the Student Exchange and Visitor Program verified list. This does not mean that the agencies, or the schools accredited by the agencies meet all of the requirements in place to be accredited by the State of Kansas through its KESA process. It does indicate that by being accredited by one of these agencies, there are certain minimum requirements met that would qualify for the Tax Credit for Low Income Students Program.

Tax Credit for Low Income Students Scholarship Program Act- K.S.A. 72-4351, 72-4352, 72-4353, 72-4354, 72-4355, 72-4356 & 72-4357

Link to SEVP identified accrediting agencies:
https://www.ice.gov/doclib/sevis/pdf/

This list of accrediting agencies is to be used solely for compliance with the requirements of the Tax Credit for Low Income Students Scholarship Program. These agencies do not replace accreditation by the Kansas Board of Education.
The following is not an all-encompassing list, but identifies some of the prominent private school accrediting agencies:

**K-12 Accrediting Agencies:**

- Accrediting Association of Seventh-day Adventist schools, colleges and universities (North America Division)
- Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI)
- Association of Christian Teachers and Schools Assembly of God (ACTS)
- American Association of Christian Schools (AACS)
- Christian Schools International (CSI)
- International Christian Accrediting Association
- Montessori School Accreditation Commission
- National Christian School Association
- National Independent Private Schools Association
- National Lutheran School Accreditation (NLSA)
- Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod School Accreditation (WELSSA)
- Cognia (Formerly AdvancED)
- Middle States Association
- New England Association
- Western Association
- Association of Independent Schools of New England
- Independent Schools Association of the Central States
- Independent Schools Association of the Southwest
- Pacific Northwest Association of Independent Schools
- Southern Association of Independent Schools
- Association of Classical and Christian Schools

For more information, contact:
Jay Scott  
Director of Accreditation and Design  
(785) 296-6818  
jscott@ksde.org

or

Dale Brungardt  
Director of School Finance  
(785) 296-4974  
dbrungardt@ksde.org

Please use the link on the front page of this document for a complete list of recognized accrediting agencies.