

Private School Regulationsⁱ Comparison Chart: Accreditation, Registration, Licensing, and Approval

(Summary based on information provided by the states)

States	Accreditation	Registration	Licensing	Approval
Alabama		● Except a Church School		
Alaska	○			
American Samoa				●
Arizona				
Arkansas				
California		●		● For a nonsectarian school that enrolls publicly placed private school children with disabilities
Colorado	○			
Connecticut	● For a school seeking approval			○
Delaware		●		
District of Columbia	○			●
Florida		●		
Georgia	● For a school seeking to participate in the public scholarship/tax credit programs			
Guam				
Hawaii	○	●	○	
Idaho	○			
Illinois		○		○
Indiana	○			○
Iowa	●			
Kansas	○	● Except an accredited school		● For a religious high school
Kentucky	○		● For a for-profit school/Optional for a regular private, parochial, or church school	

Key:

● Required

○ Optional

Notes clarify the type of school affected

States	Accreditation	Registration	Licensing	Approval
Louisiana		● Except an approved school		○ For a school receiving state or federal funding
Maine	○			●
Maryland		● For a church-exempt school		●
Massachusetts				●
Michigan	○		● For a boarding school	●
Minnesota	○			
Mississippi	○			○
Missouri		● For a grant-receiving school		
Montana	○			
Nebraska	○			● Except an exempt school
Nevada	○		● Except a school operated by churches, religious organizations, or faith-based ministries	
New Hampshire	○	●		●
New Jersey		●		
New Mexico	○			
New York		○		● For an independent school
North Carolina	○	●		
North Dakota	○			●
Northern Marianas Islands				
Ohio	○			
Oklahoma	○			
Oregon		● For a private alternative school	● For a school that has a residential program	● For a private alternative school or a school that accepts publicly placed students with disabilities

States	Accreditation	Registration	Licensing	Approval
Pennsylvania	● Except a licensed school, religious school, or school owned by a college or university	● For a religious school	● Except an accredited school, religious school, or school owned by a college or university	
Puerto Rico	○		●	
Rhode Island		●		●
South Carolina	● Except approved, parochial, denominational, and church-related schools			● Except accredited, parochial, denominational, and church-related schools
South Dakota	○			
Tennessee	● For a Category II or III school			● Required if a Category I school/Optional if a Category IV school
Texas	○			
Utah	○			
Vermont				●
Virgin Islands	○		●	● Except accredited schools
Virginia	○		○	
Washington	○			●
West Virginia	○	● Required if an exemption (k) school/Optional if not		○ For an exemption(b) school
Wisconsin	● Required if voucher school/Optional if not			○
Wyoming			● Except a religious school	

Note: This chart is a high-level summary. More detailed information can be found on each individual state page at <https://innovation.ed.gov/resources/state-nonpublic-education-regulation-map/>.

ⁱ State regulations include all laws, statutes, code, and policies of a state that affect private schools.