

Performance Accreditation

Gain recognition for your sustained commitment to continuous improvement and better outcomes.



Engage in a holistic process

Cognia™ Performance Accreditation recognizes institutions that serve infant through postsecondary learners and that are committed to systemic and sustainable continuous improvement. These schools and systems use standards-based protocols and a holistic approach to empower students to succeed. The accreditation and improvement journey for each institution may look different, but it always includes measures of quality learning and instruction.

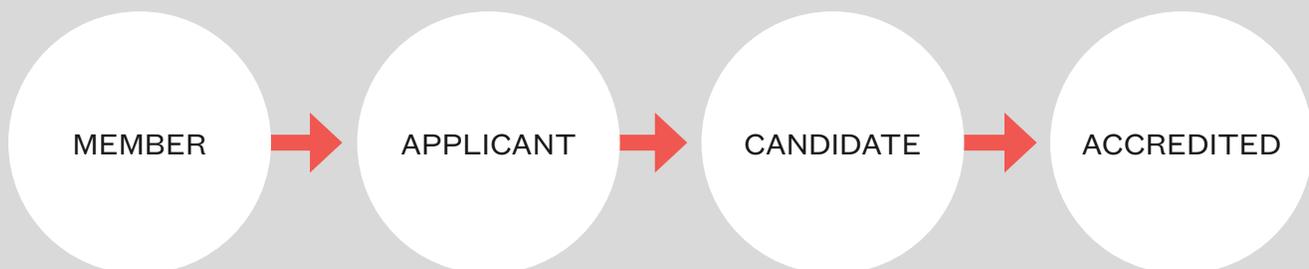
The Cognia difference

Cognia accreditation brings an impartial outside perspective from trained evaluators—seasoned educators just like you. These experts apply their learned experiences from many accreditation reviews to the unique circumstances of your school and community. Evaluators use Cognia’s set of rigorous, research-based performance standards that have been intentionally written to cover different school models, including K-12 and postsecondary institutions, early learning schools, and extended learning programs, and are evaluated in the context of your institution.

“Cognia has been a tremendous partner. Their rigorous accreditation and thorough review process was exactly what we needed to identify what we do well and how we can improve.”

Dr. Jeni Gotto, Deputy Superintendent
Westminster Public Schools PreK-12, CO

The Path to Cognia Accreditation



Charting your forward path

Our accreditation process is unique. Unlike other accreditors, we don't look back. After all, you're not going that way. By design, our continuous improvement model is forward-thinking and considers your current reality as well as future social, technological, economic, and political trends that may influence your students' learning. We collaborate with you to seek input from various stakeholder groups to shape short- and long-term objectives. And, once those objectives have been set, we help monitor progress at key milestones, celebrate your successes, and change course when needed.

Resources that drive improvement

Cognia accreditation is supported with unparalleled tools and resources. During the accreditation process and beyond, you can access digital observation tools, various stakeholder surveys, and diagnostics that help you measure key components of school quality and student engagement. Additionally, a dedicated local expert stands ready to respond to your needs.

In good company

With more than 125 years of accreditation experience, our rich history has shaped the accreditation process and continues to redefine it. More than 24,000 schools and systems across the United States and in 90 countries around the world entrust Cognia as an accreditation partner that examines the whole institution, so every part is moving in one direction.

Education providers that earn Cognia Accreditation are awarded that recognition by the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement (NCA CASI), the Northwest Accreditation Commission (NWAC), and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (SACS CASI), which comprise three of the six regionally recognized K-12 accrediting bodies. Accreditation with Cognia is more than a stamp of approval. It is a sign of your deep commitment to student learning and places you in very good company.

Continuous Improvement System

Reflect, evaluate, and adjust

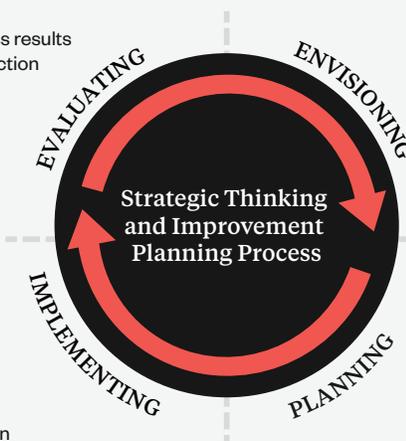
- Determine action effectiveness
- Hold collaborative discussions to discuss results
- Make decisions to continue or change action

Build momentum and capacity

- Implement the strategies
- Monitor and adjust action
- Ensure stakeholder participation

Initiate the journey

- Engage in training
- Build acceptance and stakeholder buy-in
- Deploy the plan



Imagine the possibilities

- Gather data to understand current reality
- Identify trends to imagine the future
- Determine the connections between current reality and future trends

Communicate with stakeholders

- Share what you've learned with your stakeholders
- Collaborate to determine priorities
- Ensure the vision aligns to priorities

Plot the journey

- Align priorities with goals
- Develop a plan to improve and sustain practices
- Identify strategies to fulfill the priorities

Connect with Cognia

For more information, please contact the Cognia Accreditation Services team at accreditationservices@cognia.org or 1.888.413.3669 (U.S.), +1.678.392.2285 (international).