



## Roadmap to continuous improvement

Cognia® K-12 and Early Learning STEM Certification recognizes schools and systems that demonstrate a strong and effective STEM focus through a set of evaluative criteria that serve as a roadmap for implementing high-quality STEM practices and processes. Our accreditation is a prerequisite for pursuing STEM certification, and Certification Engagement Reviews are conducted in conjunction with the Accreditation Engagement Review.

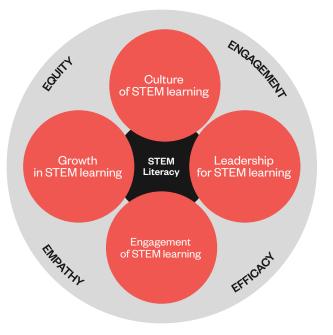
Based on rigorous, research-based standards, both accreditation and certification help you meet high standards while demonstrating your dedication to excellence and continuous improvement.

Trained evaluators generate responsive feedback suggesting how to build on your institution's strengths and address areas of need.

## Characteristics of a high-quality program

The framework of our globally recognized certification includes these hallmarks of a high-quality STEM program:

- Thoroughly embedded in and supported by the institution
- Defined by clear expectations for STEM learning outcomes
- Composed of integrated activities within and beyond the school day
- Focused on performance-based demonstrations of learning



Our holistic STEM model allows learners to develop the skills, knowledge, and competency to achieve STEM literacy. This is realized with high student engagement, program efficacy, empathy, and equity within our four key characteristics of high quality institutions: culture of, leadership for, engagement of, and growth in learning.

## Connect with Cognia

For more information about certification, visit cognia.org/STEM