



New Regulation **704 KAR 3:315** **Certification of Nonpublic Schools**

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Background

- KRS 156.160 provides that nonpublic schools may voluntarily comply with the guidelines established by the KBE and be certified by the board.
- Since 1992, the KBE has collaborated with the Kentucky Non-Public Schools Commission (KNPSC) to complete the voluntary certification process.
- The KBE issues voluntary certifications annually at the June board meeting.

Section One – Definitions

- “Nonpublic school” means any private, parochial, home-based, or church school. A public charter school as defined by KRS 160.1592 is not a nonpublic school.

Section Two – Procedures for Certification

1. The nonpublic school must seek accreditation from an approved accreditor.
2. The nonpublic school must apply for voluntary certification through the KNPSC.
3. The KNPSC annually produces a list of nonpublic schools for consideration by the KBE.
4. Upon the recommendation of the KNPSC, the KBE may revoke certification at any point during the school year.

Section Three – KNPSC Required Policies

1. KNPSC shall adopt a policy for the screening and selection of eligible accrediting agencies.
2. KNPSC shall adopt a policy for recommending nonpublic schools to the KBE for certification.
3. KNSPC shall adopt a policy for recommending certification revocation.
4. The KDE shall provide technical assistance as requested by the KNPSC.
5. The KNPSC shall annually submit the three required policies to the KBE for review and approval.

Section Four – Posting Requirements

1. The KNPSC and KDE shall post on their websites a list of certified nonpublic schools that includes:
 - a) The name of the certified nonpublic school,
 - b) The public school district in which the nonpublic school is physically located,
 - c) The grade levels served,
 - d) The physical address,
 - e) The telephone number,
 - f) A static email address,
 - g) The school's website URL, and
 - h) The expiration date for the nonpublic school's voluntary certification.

Section Four, Continued

2. The KNPSC and KDE shall post on their websites a list of approved accrediting agencies.
3. The KNPSC and KDE shall post on their websites the three required policies.