

# Characteristics of an APPLE and NCPSA Accredited School...

**It is devoted to a mission.** Your school cares enough about what it does to seek validation from two recognized accrediting agencies.

**It knows itself.** Your school operates from an examined vision of services to students, family, and community.

**It keeps its promises.** APPLE and NCPSA accreditation ensure that the school is what it says it is and does what it says it does.

**It accepts objective evaluation.** Your school invites validation from experienced educators who have no involvement with the school other than to provide annual and scheduled evaluations.

**It is recognized.** Your school is accredited by APPLE and NCPSA and is listed as an accredited school at [www.ncpsa.org](http://www.ncpsa.org) and [www.appleaccreditation.org](http://www.appleaccreditation.org)

**It is self-correcting.** APPLE and NCPSA accreditation begins with self-evaluation, which results in a strategic plan that fosters continuing school improvement.

**It is student-centered.** Your school's philosophy of education expresses what it does for the whole student.

**It plans for its future.** Your school has plans that include continuous strategies from anticipated events and goals toward even higher levels of quality and school improvement.

**It examines performance.** Your school continuously obtains and analyzes objective evidence on student achievement and growth.



Empowering Educators  
Inspiring Learners

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[www.APPLEAccreditation.org](http://www.APPLEAccreditation.org)

APPLE and Your School  
Are Accredited by:



NCPSA

P.O. Box 13686

Seattle, Washington 98198-1010

[www.ncspa.org](http://www.ncspa.org)

## Your Child is in an Accredited School...



Florida Association  
For Child Care Management  
**FACCM**  
Florida's Voice For Early Learning



# How Your School Became Accredited by APPLE, a Nationally Recognized Accrediting Agency, and NCPSA

## First, the Portfolio (Self-Study)

*APPLE & NCPSA Accreditation Commissions believe that students benefit from being in a school that knows itself thoroughly.*

The accreditation process begins with a comprehensive Self-Study aligned to the APPLE Standards. Programs reflect on their mission, leadership, staff, learning environments, safety practices, and family engagement—laying the foundation for continuous improvement.

## Second, the Verification Visit (Objective Evaluation)

*APPLE & NCPSA Accreditation Commissions believe that students benefit when their program undergoes an objective, external review.*

An APPLE-trained team of verifiers visits the program to observe practices, review documentation, and validate the Self-Study. Their feedback includes commendations and actionable recommendations.

## Third, APPLE Commission Review

*APPLE & NCPSA Accreditation Commissions believe that students benefit when accreditation decisions are guided by expert evaluation.*

All findings are reviewed by the APPLE Accreditation Commission—a panel of experienced educators—to ensure programs meet APPLE's high standards.

## Fourth, Accreditation

*APPLE & NCPSA Accreditation Commissions believe that students benefit if their school continues to be actively involved with other quality schools, both to improve itself and to participate in the national movement to improve education.*

Programs that meet the standards are granted accreditation and join a national network of high-quality schools dedicated to growth and excellence.

## Fifth, Continuous Evaluation

*APPLE & NCPSA Accreditation Commissions believe that a quality, accredited school must show stability and continuous improvement.*

Each year, accredited programs submit an Annual Report to show continued compliance and progress toward long-term goals, sustaining quality for students and families.



# Your Accredited School has Met Standards for...

- defining appropriate educational goals and providing educational programs to achieve them;
- maintaining a qualified faculty and an effective school organization;
- assessing outcomes of school experiences and controlling the quality of educational programs;
- responding to concerns of parents and needs of the school community;
- providing for the continuity of its programs and planning for their future;
- describing with accuracy the content of its services and programs;
- developing plans and activities for continuous school improvement.

APPLE Accreditation has established the standards for accrediting your school. These standards and the association have been formally recognized and approved, and your school has been accredited by the National Council for Private School Accreditation (NCPSA). NCPSA is a member and participant with the regional accrediting associations as part of the Alliance of Regional Accreditors. Through NCPSA recognition and agreements, cooperative accreditation and transferability of credits/grade placement are possible for students attending schools accredited by NCPSA member accrediting agencies.

See [www.ncpsa.org](http://www.ncpsa.org) for a list of NCPSA-recognized private school accrediting agencies.