

"Tell the people what the Lord has done." Ps 105:1b

LCA ACCS ACCREDITATION SIX YEARS OF EXCELLENCE, ON THE PATH TO ACCREDITATION

Upon opening doors in Fall 2020, Laramie Christian Academy set sights on becoming a fully accredited school. We started our school using the Association of Classical Christian School's (ACCS) start-up pack and have maintained annual membership with the ACCS. Since inception we have been proceeding by best-practices by the ACCS and ACCS schools who have started before us and paved the way so to speak. We desired to avoid pitfalls discovered by those who have gone before us and utilize the lessons they learned to set up LCA for the best possible outcome.

We looked into several options for accreditation and discovered some shocking realities. First, we learned that accreditation is not in fact required and second, we learned that not all accrediting organizations are in the best interest of LCA.

Accreditation is not actually required for religious primary schools or even religious secondary schools in Wyoming. In the same way that homeschools are not required to be accredited, students who study at a religious brick-and-mortar school in Wyoming have fully transferrable records to other schools in any US state and even qualify for Hathaway scholarships at the University of Wyoming.

Why even become accredited if it's not, in fact, required? Accreditation lends credibility to a school by validating through a third party that the claims a school makes are in fact true. We say we are a Classical Christian School. Are we? We say we are academically excellent. Are we? We say we have Biblically integrated subjects. Do we? And can someone besides ourselves verify these claims. That is, in essence, what an accrediting organization does for a school.

Accredited schools are also perceived to be a higher value for enrolling parents and an added assurance to universities across the country that diplomas given at LCA reflect courses that have adequately prepared students for college, and future employment. While accreditation is not "required" for a school to issue a high school diploma, many parents prefer a diploma from an accredited school. Also, while it is rare today, certain colleges may choose to require an accredited diploma for enrolling students. Other factors such as higher CLT test scores also increase college acceptance, with or without an accredited diploma. To meet perceived higher value for both parents and institutions of higher education, LCA desires to be accredited even if it is ultimately not a requirement of the government.

The second reality we discovered when researching accreditation, was that not all accrediting organizations are in LCA's best interest. Some accrediting organizations could simply be purchased - mail in your check and "presto" you're accredited. We also learned that some accrediting organizations would require us to teach beliefs contrary to our Statement of Faith. Further some accrediting organizations charged an exorbitantly expensive fee. Ruling out those extremes we had a few options to choose from for accreditation including the ACSI (Association of Christian Schools International), N.A.P.S (National Association of Private Schools), and ACCS.

We kept coming back to the ACCS accreditation as the best choice for LCA. In addition to the required documentation, the ACCS accreditation features a process where accrediting schools are guided into growth through mentorship of ACCS leaders and other school principals. It's this process of mentorship and accountability that LCA most appreciated about the ACCS model of accreditation. The ACCS process of mentorship elevates LCA to the next level in excellence and sets LCA up for longevity.

LCA has been navigating the accreditation process with ACCS since January of 2024, first submitting preliminary documentation, and then an initial pre-visit to LCA by the Director of Accreditation in May of 2024. We have since been completing our final documentation which needed to include 5 years of operations, following recommendations to visit other Classical schools, and observing classrooms to prepare for the visitors. Our final visit is scheduled for May 5th and 6th 2026. The outcome from that visit will either be accreditation or revisional actions to be completed within a given timeframe. Either outcome is part of the process that will ultimately culminate in accreditation upon completion of requirements.

FEED THE NEED IN FULL SWING



This year's Feed the Need campaign is very well received by students and their families. Many students are actively and cheerfully engaged and many families are raising more than their minimum \$900 goal. Donors are responding in kind with many people generously giving. Overall the engagement and response to this year's Feed the Need may be the best yet. We are so excited to both raise funds for our school and learn about world hunger while being a part of the solution. The Feed the Need packing party is April second.

2025-2026 LCA Yearbook!

Purchase Now for
Free Delivery in May

Purchase by May 5th
Soft Cover \$13.33
Hard Cover \$21.04

Purchase includes two free pages
of custom student/family photos
Upload by April 27th for
Two Free Custom Pages!

WYTOPP and CLT - 2026

Students at LCA participate in two standardized test opportunities each year. The WY-TOPP is our state of Wyoming standardized test and measures our students academic progress both individually and against those of other students/schools in Wyoming.

Subjects Assessed	Grade Level
ELA and Mathematics	Grades 3-10
Science	Grades 4, 8, 10
Writing	Grades 5, 7, 9

WYTOPP tests at LCA are administered over three weeks with each student doing one test, in one subject, two to three weeks in a row. For example, students of grade x may test ELA on Monday the first week, in Math on Monday the second week and in Writing or Science on Monday the last week. WYTOPP tests are administered electronically via computer and a secure browser.

WYTOPP SPRING 25 4TH GRADE

	Average Scale Score	Performance Distribution	Percent Proficient
State	612 ± 1	Percent 22% 26% 32% 20%	51%
Laramie Christian Academy	646 ± 13	Percent 67% 33%	100%

Students who have studied at LCA for their entire education (K-4)

The CLT (Classical Learning Test) is the standardized test that Classical schools can utilize to measure students' academic progress both individually and against students in other Classical schools across our country. At LCA the CLT is given to grades 3-10 via book and paper. The CLT given to 11th and 12th grade students is a new assessment that can substitute for an SAT or an ACT score. Students who score well in the CLT-10 or the CLT (given to 11th or 12th grade students) are eligible for scholarships and awards. So yes, high school students, it is in fact possible to be paid to take a test at school!

Over the past 4 years, LCA students have scored high

Rhetoric – Spotlight

Learning about fire from a firefighter is a great basic life skill for rhetoric students. One never knows when they will need fire savvy skills. At the end of their lesson students practiced the proper use of a fire extinguisher in the event they ever need to use one in real life.

Firefighters must be in shape to work in intense heat, wearing heavy protective gear that include: boots, overalls, coat, gloves, specially made balaclava, mask, and helmet, compressed air tank. They have 2 minutes to wake up, dress, and be loaded on the fire truck to head out the door.



CLT - SPRING 25



Students in 4th grade who had been enrolled at LCA for K-4th grade scored better than 69 percent of students across the nation. These scores are commendable. They are also noteworthy remembering that LCA was only five years old when the assessment was given.

**ACADEMIC
EXCELLENCE**

DATES TO REMEMBER

APRIL 03-06 – EASTER BREAK

APRIL 14TH - MAY 1 – WYTOPP

APRIL 27TH- FREE CUSTOM PHOTO YEARBOOK PAGES DUE

MAY 1 – DONUTS WITH DAD, MAY 8 -MUFFINS WITH MOM

MAY 5-6 – ACCS ACCREDITATION VISIT

MAY 5 – FREE SHIPPING DEADLINE FOR YEARBOOK PURCHASE

MAY 18 – CLOSING CELEBRATION 6 PM

MAY 22 – LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

THE BIG "3" OF LCA

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

BIBLE INTEGRATION

RESILIENT HOPE IN JESUS



March 2026

LCA IS AN OFFICIAL

MEMBER OF THE
ASSOCIATION OF
CLASSICAL CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS



2025 LARAMIE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY ACADEMIC CALENDAR

APRIL 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			01	02	03	04
05	06	07	08	09	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

MAY 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					01	02
03	04	05	06	07	08	09
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

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