

ACSI Introduces Global Core Standards for Teacher Certification

The Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) maintains global and locally relevant core standards for teacher certification that are biblically sound. These standards were developed by a global committee of qualified educators who answered the question, "What should every quality Christian school teacher know and be able to do?" The Global Core Standards are:

Standard 1: The candidate for teacher certification has a basic knowledge of the theory and practice of teaching.

Standard 2: The candidate for teacher certification understands God's Word and can integrate it into their lives and teaching.

Standard 3: The candidate for teacher certification has a philosophy of education informed by a biblical worldview.

Standard 4: The candidate for teacher certification can develop integrated lessons that promote a biblical worldview for both the content and practice of learning.

Standard 5: The candidate for teacher certification is committed to his/her own growth as a follower of Christ.



The Global Core Standards™ support the work of Christian school associations and training providers around the world with a common language and reference point for the training of teachers. Building on local excellence, the Global Core Standards provide a unifying reference point. Christian school leaders will practically experience the value of an ACSI Global Core Standard certified teacher in their schools. Teacher candidates for a teaching position or promotion will also find value in obtaining the ACSI Global Core Standard Teaching Certificate. Christian universities with a teacher training program can partner with ACSI to offer a program that meets the Global Core Standards. For more information contact: Gavin Brettenny, Gavin Brettenny@asci.org Debbie MacCullough, Debbie Maccullough@acsi.org

Criteria:

Standard 1: The candidate for teacher certification has a basic knowledge of the theory and practice of teaching.

Criterion 1.1: The candidate has foundational knowledge of the subject area for certification demonstrated through prior learning or coursework in the subject area from the training the teacher is undergoing for ACSI certification.

Criterion 1.2: The candidate has knowledge of teaching methodologies (including theories of learning, assessment practices, classroom learning behaviours, etc.) demonstrated through prior learning or coursework from the training the teacher is undergoing for ACSI certification.

Criterion 1.3: The candidate has practical teaching experience (at least 6 weeks) that included mentoring and assessment of the candidate's ability to meet students' learning needs.

Standard 2: The candidate for teacher certification understands God's Word and can integrate it into his/her life and teaching.

Criterion 2.1: The candidate can clearly articulate an overview of the biblical narrative and how it relates to education, demonstrated through prior learning or coursework from the teacher's training for ACSI certification.

Criterion 2.2: The candidate knows how to study God's Word as demonstrated through prior learning or coursework from the teacher's training for ACSI certification.

Criterion 2.3: The candidate applies biblical knowledge to both the role of the teacher and the teaching process. This is demonstrated through prior learning or coursework from the teacher's training for ACSI certification.

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

-Matthew 28:19-20

Standard 3: The candidate for teacher certification has a philosophy of education informed by a biblical worldview.

Criterion 3.1: The candidate can articulate the core concepts of a biblical worldview and the purposes of education from a biblical perspective. This would include an overview of basic reality (metaphysics), truth (epistemology), and values (axiology).

Criterion 3.2: The candidate can articulate the aim of Christian education, the nature and role of the teacher, the nature of the learner, and the curricular and methodological implications of a Christian philosophy of education.

Criterion 3.3: The candidate's philosophy should inform the teacher's practices; that is, how he/she teaches and why she/he teaches that way. This can be demonstrated in the practical teaching experience.

Standard 4: The candidate for teacher certification can develop integrated lessons which promote a biblical worldview for both the content and practice of learning.

Criterion 4.1: The candidate can incorporate a framework for developing and evaluating educational practices consistent with his/her biblical knowledge. This can be demonstrated through prior learning or coursework from the teacher's training for ACSI certification.

Criterion 4.2: The candidate shows instructional strategies that help students develop a biblical worldview about the content being taught. This includes:

- God's overarching story throughout history, including the themes of creation, the fall, and redemption.
- Humans' role in the stewardship of God's creation, the proclamation of God's redemptive purpose, and the hopefilled partnership in His final restoration.
- Habits of analysis and reflection that incorporate a biblical understanding of our world.
- Teaching strategies that build character, critical thinking, collaboration, and interpersonal relationships reflective of the biblical model.

These strategies can be demonstrated through prior learning, practice teaching, and coursework from the teacher's training for ACSI certification.

Standard 5: The candidate for teacher certification is committed to his/her growth as a follower of Christ.

Criterion 5.1: The candidate has at least two reliable character references who affirm that the candidate knows and is growing in:

- Pursuing personal spiritual growth that is holistic, moving beyond a simple head knowledge of Bible content, to understanding and applying this knowledge.
- Expanding a biblical worldview understanding through personal and corporate Bible study.
- Shaping learning experiences through the application of a biblical worldview.
- Developing personal character that is aligned with the ACSI Statement of Faith.
- Maintaining a godly testimony and modeling spiritual growth by cultivating healthy relationships for accountability, transparency, and continued learning.





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