



# Indiana Department of Education

Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

**To:** Indiana State Board of Education  
**From:** Office of School Accountability  
**Date:** March 15, 2024  
**Subject:** Accreditation Petition for Eastside Christian Academy

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This memorandum provides a summary of the information provided by the school in its petition for performance-based accreditation and the final recommendation from the Indiana Department of Education (Department) regarding the accreditation of Eastside Christian Academy (ECA).

## **Background & Demographic Information**

Eastside Christian Academy currently operates in Terre Haute, Indiana and serves students in pre-kindergarten through grade 12. The school operates strictly in-person. Eastside Christian Academy has been in operation for three years.

Eastside Christian Academy is “dedicated to providing a nurturing and challenging educational environment that fosters academic excellence, (Christian) spiritual growth, and character development.”

Eastside Christian Academy’s current enrollment is 54 students. They anticipate their enrollment to grow to be between 100-150 student in the next three to five years.

## **Operations**

***Facilities:*** Eastside Christian Academy operates in a 56,000 square foot building located at 2955 Erie Canal Rd. in Terre Haute, Indiana. The building is annually inspected by the Indiana Department of Health and State and Local Fire Marshal. Fire systems were updated and passed inspection as of March 2023.

***Tuition:*** Annual tuition and application fees for Eastside Christian Academy total \$8,100 per student for students in grades K-12. Eastside Christian Academy indicated that it intends to participate in the Indiana Choice Scholarship program.

***Staffing:*** The administrative structure for Eastside Christian Academy is as follows:

Pastor Timothy A Minks, Superintendent, serves as the Spiritual leader for the academy and oversight of the academy business.

Felicia C. Walls, Interim Principal/ Test Coordinator, serves as principal and oversees day to day functions of the school including supervision of staff, finances, student enrollment and discipline. Ms. Walls has an Indiana Teaching License.



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Each academy leader supports the academic and safety of the students while ensuring that the financial and regulatory needs of the academy are met.

The ECA school board consists of five members of their local church, one of whom must be a current elder at The Life Center.

Currently, Eastside Christian Academy currently has nine teachers. ECA plans to hire two to three additional Indiana licensed teachers for the next school year.

## **Academic Programming**

Students will be instructed in the areas of English/language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, fine art, music, computer, French/Spanish, and Bible. Eastside Christian Academy follows the state standards in mathematics, science, English/language arts, and social studies using the Abeka curriculum.

Students are assessed using formative and summative assessments. They plan to give required state assessments.

## **Department Recommendation**

Eastside Christian Academy has been in operation for the last three school years, with their enrollment growing at a reasonable pace. In addition, Eastside Christian Academy has plans for steady reasonable growth for the future. Based on the submitted petition and accompanying materials, Eastside Christian Academy has a fair understanding of the requirements of being an Indiana performance-based accredited school. Therefore, the Department recommends granting Eastside Christian Academy provisional state performance-based accreditation as a nonpublic school in Indiana.