

NLSA Routes to Accreditation

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod schools have four options when looking to complete the National Lutheran School Accreditation (NLSA) process. Review each option below and work with your NLSA District Commissioner and Education Executive to determine which one will best serve your ministry.

	Option A	Option B	Option C	Option D
Accreditation Process(es) Used	EBA	EC	Combined EBA and EC	Separate EBA and EC
Ages/Grades Accredited	Age 0 – Grade 12	Age 0 – Grade 3	Age 0 – Grade 12	Age 0 – Grade 12
Number of Applications	One	One	One	Two (one for EC and one for EBA)
Self-Study Document(s)	Only EBA	Only EC	Both EBA and EC	Separate EBA and EC
Number of Validation Team Visits	One	One	One (Two reports submitted together)	Two (One for EC and one for EBA)
Validation Team Member Minimum	4	4	8 ¹	4: EBA 4: EC
Accreditation	Single (One Certificate ²)	Single (One Certificate ²)	Single (One Certificate ²)	Dual (Two Certificates)
Number of Annual Fees	One	One	One	Two
2022 – 2023 Invoice	\$750	\$750	\$750	\$1,500 (\$750 per School)
Cumulative Annual Report	One	One	One (Combined)	Two (One for EC and one for EBA)
Provisional Status Requirement	Single	Single	Single Combined ³	Separate

Abbreviations:

EBA: Evidence Based Accreditation

EC: Early Childhood Accreditation (2018)

Notes:

¹ A school completing Option C will need to have a single Validation Team Visit with no fewer than 8 team members distributed accordingly to evaluate each program and Self-Study document.

² Duplicate certificates may be requested to hang in offices on multiple campuses.

³ If the Validation Team Report for either Self-Study process recommends “Provisional” status, the entire school’s Accreditation will reflect this as an overall status until resolved.