

**South Carolina Education Oversight Committee (EOC)
Annual Standards Assurance Form**

H.4077 (R.247) as Signed by the Governor on May 18, 2018

2018-19

Document A – Application for Continued Participation in ECENC Program

Please complete the information requested below concerning your independent school. This information will be listed on the South Carolina Education Oversight Committee's website, www.eoc.sc.gov.

Independent School Name:	Trident Academy
Independent School Contact Person:	Betsy Fanning
Independent School Address:	1455 Wakendaw Rd
City, State, Zip Code:	Mt Pleasant, SC 29464
Independent School Telephone Number:	(843) - 884-7046
Independent School Fax Number:	(843) - 881-8320
Independent School E-mail Address:	bfanning@tridentacademy.com
Independent School Website Address:	www.tridentacademy.com

Please review the standards below based on H.4077 (R.247) as signed by the Governor on May 18, 2018. An "eligible school" is defined as "an independent school including those religious in nature, other than a public school, at which the compulsory attendance requirements of Section 59-65-10 may be met," and does not discriminate based on the grounds of race, color, or national origin. Please indicate whether your school has met each standard to ensure the following academic requirements are being met. The S.C. Education Oversight Committee reserves the right to request additional documentation to show the school is in compliance with state law.

STANDARDS	YES	NO
1. Offers a general education to primary or secondary school students.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, or national origin.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Is located in this state.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Has an educational curriculum that includes courses set forth in the state's diploma requirements, graduation certificate requirements (for special needs children), and where the students attending are administered national achievement or state standardized tests, or both, at progressive grade levels to determine student progress. Please	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Has school facilities that are subject to applicable federal, state, and local laws.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Is a member in good standing of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, the South Carolina Association of Christian Schools, the South Carolina Independent Schools Association, or the Palmetto Association of Independent Schools.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Provides a specially designed program or learning resource center to provide needed accommodations based on the needs of exceptional needs students or provides onsite educational services or supports to meet the needs of exceptional needs students, or is a school specifically existing to meet the needs of only exceptional needs students with documented disabilities. Please provide a summary of the services provided based on exceptional needs of students served.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Did this school receive any grants last fiscal year (July 1, 2017 until June 30, 2018) from Exceptional SC from the Educational Credit for Exceptional Needs Children Fund? Please complete Document B.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. By December 31, 2018, will your school submit school-level test score results from the prior school year on national achievement tests and individual student test scores for students who received a grant from Exceptional SC in the prior school year? Please complete Document C.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. By December 31, 2018, will your school provide a "compilation, review, or compliance audit of the organization's financial statements as relating to the grants received, conducted by a certified public accounting firm"? Please complete Document D.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

I assure that all documents submitted to the SC Education Oversight Committee for the purpose of applying as an eligible school, as defined by state law, is true, accurate, and complete under penalty of perjury in accordance with Section 16-9-10 of the South Carolina Code of Laws.

Signature: Betsy A. Fanning

Date: 5/31/18

Print Name of Signature Above: Betsy A. Fanning

Title: Head of School

Email: bfanning@tridentacademy.com

Return this form to Melanie Barton

- Phone: 803.734.6148
- E-mail: mbarton@eoc.sc.gov
- Mail: P.O. Box 11867
Columbia, S.C. 29211
- Fax: 803.734.6167
- Physical Location:
1205 Pendleton Street
Room 502 Brown Building
Columbia, SC 29201

The logo for Trident Academy features the word "TRIDENT" in a large, blue, serif font with a yellow sunburst icon above the letter "I". To the right of "TRIDENT" is the word "ACADEMY" in a smaller, blue, serif font. Below the main text is the tagline "Where Bright Minds Find Bright Futures" in a smaller, blue, sans-serif font.

TRIDENT ACADEMY

Where Bright Minds Find Bright Futures

At Trident Academy, we understand that students who **learn** differently need to be **taught** differently. Our teachers employ the Orton-Gillingham approach which offers a very structured, diagnostic and prescriptive approach to identifying and working with each student's individual needs. Each academic year, students receive specific academic instruction based on their unique learning profiles. Students are taught traditional subjects using various multi-sensory techniques, experiences outside of the classroom that correspond to relevant subject matter and via the incorporation of assistive technology.

Here at Trident Academy, we believe in unlocking the potential of each of our students. Our motto is "**WHERE BRIGHT MINDS MEET BRIGHT FUTURES**".

That is exactly how we feel about each and every one of our students. Our student population is small compared to traditional schools; however, this is by design. We believe that not only does small classroom size and individualized instruction help our students become better learners, but it also helps them build confidence and self-awareness.

We are committed to helping our students succeed not only here at Trident Academy, but also when they transition back into more traditional school settings.

**Document B
Grants Received**

**Application for Continued Participation
Educational Credit for Exceptional Needs Children (ECENC) Program
2018-2019**

Independent School Name: TRIDENT ACADEMY

An independent school continuing to participate in the Educational Credit for Exceptional Needs Children for Fiscal Year 2018-19 is required to submit the following information:

Total number of grants and total amount of grants received in the preceding fiscal year, from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

Please complete the following chart. If no grants for any qualifying student were received from Exceptional SC in Fiscal Year 2017-18, please indicate with "0" grants received and "\$0" in total amount of grants received.

Total Number of Grants Received	Total Amount of Grants Received
53	\$ 406,887.50

Total number of grants is the number of individual children/students who received a grant even if the school received more than one grant for a specific child/student. The total amount of grants per child/student should not have exceeded \$11,000.

Document C
Student Assessment Data

Application for Continued Participation
Educational Credit for Exceptional Needs Children (ECENC) Program
2018-2019

Independent School Name: Trident Academy

An independent school applying for continued participation in the Educational Credit for Exceptional Needs Children Program for Fiscal Year 2018-19 is required to submit the following information **by December 31, 2018**:

Student test scores, by category, on national achievement or state standardized tests, or both, for all grades tested and administered by the school receiving or entitled to receive scholarship grants pursuant to this section in the previous school year. The school shall also provide individual student test scores on national achievement or state standardized tests, or both, for any student in grades one through twelve who received a grant from the program during the prior school year. The information must be used to provide program level reports to determine whether students participating in the program have experienced measurable improvement. Students with disabilities for whom standardized testing is not appropriate are exempt from this requirement.

Section 12-6-3790(E)(1)(b)

The information will be used to issue an annual report.

Annually, the Education Oversight Committee shall issue a report to the General Assembly documenting the impact of the Educational Credit for Exceptional Needs Children Program on student achievement. In addition, the report must include information on individual schools if at least fifty-one percent of the total enrolled students in the private school participated in the Educational Credit for Exceptional Needs Children Program in the prior school year. The report must be according to each participating private school, and for participating students, in which there are at least thirty participating students who have scores for tests administered. If the Education Oversight Committee determines that the thirty participating-student cell size may be reduced without disclosing personally identifiable information of a participating student, the Education Oversight Committee may reduce the participating-student cell size, but the cell size may not be reduced to less than ten participating students.

Section 12-6-3790(E)(6)

Schools applying for continued participation in the ECENC Program must provide the following:

- 1. School-level assessment results** for school year 2017-18 on national achievement tests for all grades tested in the school and for each grade with at least 10 students tested. Information should be provided for English language arts (reading) and mathematics achievement of students in the grade. Examples include: *TerraNova*, *Stanford 10*, *Iowa Test of Basic Skills*, etc. For grades 9-12, the school may provide average PSAT, SAT, ACT, or other scores as appropriate.

For schools that specifically exist to meet the needs of only exceptional needs students with documented disabilities, the EOC will work with the schools to provide information (including formative assessments, portfolios, etc.) that document the students' academic and social development.

How many students were enrolled in your school in 2017-18? 72

The following is a **template** that you may use for reporting purposes. For questions, contact the EOC office.

**2017-18 School Year Results for (NAME OF ASSESSMENT)
National Percentiles, Mean (Average) Scale Scores, Grade Equivalents, etc.**

Grade	English language arts (Reading)	Mathematics
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		

- 2. Individual student test scores** on national achievement tests for any child who received a grant from the program during the 2017-18 school year. No personally identifiable information will be published; instead, the information will be aggregated at the school or state level as stipulated in law.

Each school will have access to a secure data portal to upload individual student assessment results, which will include personally identifiable information. The portal will capture, at a minimum, the following information:

- Name of the student who received a grant from Exceptional SC in the prior school year along with data including date of birth, sex, grade level, etc. to ensure that the assessment results can be matched to the individual student who received a grant;
- For each student who received a grant, the results of a national assessment or assessments in 2017-18 and if possible, in 2016-17 as well to document academic growth. The name of the assessment as well as scale scores for students or national percentile ranks must be included; and
- If a student received a grant but due to the student's exceptional needs was not able to be assessed with a national assessment, the school must provide an explanation by student of the reason why a national assessment was not administered and how the school is measuring academic and personal growth for each student not assessed.

Please identify one staff person from your school who will provide the individual student test scores from this school:

Name:

Betsy Fanning

Title:

Head of School

Telephone Number:

843-884-7046

Email Address:

bfanning@tridentacademy.com

2017-2018 Gates, TOWRE, TWS, & GMADE Test Results

Gates MacGinitie

Vocabulary

- Students who attended Trident Academy during the 2017-2018 school year, on average, increased their vocabulary scores by 12.9 percentile points.
- Students who attended Trident Academy during the 2017-2018 school year, on average, increased their vocabulary scores by 236.1%.

Comprehension

- Students who attended Trident Academy during the 2017-2018 school year, on average, increased their comprehension scores by 6.1 percentile points.
- Students who attended Trident Academy during the 2017-2018 school year, on average, increased their comprehension scores by 188.1%.

TOWRE

Sight Word Efficiency

- Students who attended Trident Academy during the 2017-2018 school year, on average, increased their sight word efficiency scores by 4.21 percentile points.
- Students who attended Trident Academy during the 2017-2018 school year, on average, increased their sight word efficiency scores by 132.9%.

Phonemic Decoding Efficiency

- Students who attended Trident Academy during the 2017-2018 school year, on average, increased their phonemic decoding efficiency scores by 7.18 percentile points.
- Students who attended Trident Academy during the 2017-2018 school year, on average, increased their phonemic decoding efficiency scores by 83.7%.

Test of Written Spelling (TWS)

- Students who attended Trident Academy during the 2017-2018 school year, on average, increased their written spelling scores by 10.38 percentile points.
- Students who attended Trident Academy during the 2017-2018 school year, on average, increased their written spelling scores by 184.2%.

2017-2018 Gates, TOWRE, TWS, & GMADE Test Results

GMADE

- Students who attended Trident Academy during the 2017-2018 school year, on average, increased their math scores by 21.45 percentile points.
- Students who attended Trident Academy during the 2017-2018 school year, on average, increased their math scores by 348.8%.

**Document D
Compilation, Review or Compliance Audit**

**Application for Continued Participation
Educational Credit for Exceptional Needs Children (ECENC)
2018-2019**

Independent School Name: TRIDENT ACADEMY

An independent school applying for or continuing to participate in the Educational Credit for Exceptional Needs Children Program is required to submit the following information:

"a copy of a compilation, review, or compliance audit of the organization's financial statements as relating to the grants received, conducted by a certified public accounting firm."

By law the compilation, review or compliance audit will be posted online at www.eoc.sc.gov.

Please answer the following questions:

	YES	NO
Did your school receive from Exceptional SC any grants in the prior fiscal year, between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If Yes , will your school submit to the EOC a compilation, review, or compliance audit of the school's financial statements as relating to the grants received during the prior fiscal year and conducted by a certified public accounting firm by December 30, 2018 ? Failure to provide the compilation, review or compliance audit will result in your school's removal as an eligible school under the ECENC program.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If No , will your school submit to the EOC a compilation, review, or compliance audit of the school's financial statements as relating to the grants received and conducted by a certified public accounting firm by June 30, 2019 to the EOC if you receive grants from Exceptional SC this fiscal year between July 1, 2018 and June 30, 2019? Failure to provide the compilation, review or compliance audit will result in your school's removal as an eligible school under the ECENC program.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**TRIDENT ACADEMY, INC.
INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT
ON COMPLIANCE PROCEDURES**



HYLAND RUDDY & GARBETT, CPAs, LLC

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS • CONSULTANTS

John F. Hyland, CPA
Thomas E. Garbett, CPA
George L. Garmendia, CPA
Heather M. Aydlette, CPA
James R. Swindal, III, CPA

Established "1925"

Members
American Institute of CPAs
S. C. Association of CPAs

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT

Trident Academy

SC Educational Oversight Committee

We have examined Trident Academy's compliance with the requirements listed on the attached letter during the school year 2017-2018. Management of Trident Academy is responsible for Trident Academy's compliance with the specified requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on Trident Academy's compliance with the specified requirements based on our examination.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require that we plan and perform the examination to obtain reasonable assurance about whether Trident Academy complied, in all material respects, with the specified requirements referenced above. An examination involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about whether Trident Academy complied with the specified requirements. The nature, timing, and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgment, including an assessment of the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error. We believe that the evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Our examination does not provide a legal determination on Trident Academy's compliance with specified requirements.

In our opinion, Trident Academy complied, in all material respects, with compliance the requirements listed in Attachment A. during the school year 2017-18.

Hyland Ruddy & Garbett CPAs LLC

Mt. Pleasant, SC

December 14, 2018



May 22, 2018:

To Whom It May Concern:

State law requires that an independent school's application to the Educational Credit for Exceptional Needs Children (ECENC) program include "a copy of a compilation, review, or compliance audit of the organization's financial statements as relating to the grants received, conducted by a certified public accounting firm."

The term compliance audit refers to a determination of whether the school in the prior fiscal year complied with the requirements of the Educational Credit for Exceptional Needs Children Program. The certified public accounting firm confirms in writing that:

- the independent school can document and verify that all grants received under the Educational Credit for Exceptional Needs Children Program in 2017-18 were for eligible children enrolled in the school;
- the independent school can document the total amount of each grant per child from Exceptional SC;
- the independent school can document that no grant exceeded \$11,000 during school year 2017-18;
- the independent school returned a prorated amount of the grant to Exceptional SC if any student withdrew during the school year; and
- the total amount of each grant was used for tuition which is defined as "the total amount of money charged for the cost of a qualifying student to attend an independent school including, but not limited to, fees for attending the school and school-related transportation."

Sincerely,

Melanie D. Barton

Neil C. Robinson, Jr.
CHAIR

Bob Couch
VICE CHAIR

April Allen

Anne H. Bull

Raye Felder

Barbara B. Hairfield

Greg Hembree

Kevin L. Johnson

Dwight A. Loftis

John W. Matthews, Jr.

Henry McMaster

Daniel B. Merok

Molly Spearman

John C. Stookwell

Patti J. Tate

Ellen Weaver

Melanie D. Barton
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR