

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

School Year: 2019-20

**Application to Participate in
Educational Credit for Exceptional Needs Children (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, <https://eoc.sc.gov/>.

Independent School Name:	Palmetto Christian Academy
Independent School Contact Person:	Lisa Shimakonis
Independent School Address:	361 Egypt Road
City, State, Zip Code:	Mt. Pleasant SC 29464
Independent School Telephone Number:	(843) 881-9967
Independent School Fax Number:	(843) 881-4662
Independent School E-mail Address:	admissions@palmettochristianacademy.org
Independent School Website Address:	palmettochristianacademy.org

Please review the standards below that are based on Act 247 of 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." Please indicate whether your school has met or intends to meet each standard to ensure the following academic and reporting requirements are met. The South Carolina Education Oversight Committee reserves the right to **request additional documentation** to show the school is in compliance with state law. Failure to meet these standards or reporting requirements will result in your school being denied or removed from participation in the program.

STANDARDS	YES	NO
1. Offers a general education to primary or secondary school students.	x	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, or national origin.	x	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Is located in this State.	x	<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.	x	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Has school facilities that are subject to applicable federal, state, and local laws.	x	<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.	x	<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.	x	<input type="checkbox"/>

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS	YES	NO
<p>1. If your school received any grants from Exceptional SC in school year 2018-19, then your school will report to the EOC the number and total dollar amount of grants received in the 2018-19 school year from Exceptional SC by September 1, 2019.</p>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>2. Your school will submit to the EOC by September 1, 2019 a statement of services that documents your school:</p> <p>(a) provides a specially designed program or learning resource to provide needed accommodations based on the needs of exceptional needs students; or</p> <p>(b) provides onsite educational services or supports to meet the needs of exceptional needs students; or</p> <p>(c) exists specifically to meet the needs of only exceptional needs students with documented disabilities.</p>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>3. Your school will submit to the EOC by November 15, 2019 the <u>school-level</u> assessment results for all grades in the school and for each grade with at least (10) students tested. Results should be provided for English language arts (reading) and mathematics achievement of students in each grade tested in school year 2018-19.</p>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>4. If your school received grants from Exceptional SC in school year 2018-19, the school will submit by November 15, 2019 <u>individual student test scores</u> on national achievement or state standardized tests for any student in grades one through twelve who received a grant from the program during school year 2018-19. The data will be collected using a secure portal. No personally identifiable information will be published; instead, the information will be aggregated.</p>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>5. If your school received grants from Exceptional SC in school year 2018-19, the school will submit to the EOC 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 November 15, 2019.</p>	x	<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. Failure to report to the EOC the required data will result in the school being removed from the list of approved schools.

Signature: *Lisa Shimakonis*

Date: 2/20/2019

Print Name of Signature Above: Lisa Shimakonis

Title: Director of Admissions

**Document A
Grants Received**

**Educational Credit for Exceptional Needs Children (ECENC) Program
2019-20**

Independent School Name: Palmetto Christian Academy

An independent school participating in the ECENC Program is required to submit the following information by **September 1**:

How many students in kindergarten through grade 12 were enrolled in your school in the prior school year? 546

What is the total number of grants and total amount of grants received in the prior school year from Exceptional SC? Please complete the following chart and sign below.

If no grants for any qualifying student were received from Exceptional SC in the prior school year, please indicate with "0" grants received and "\$0" in total amount of grants received from Exceptional SC.

Total Number of Grants Received	Total Amount of Grants Received
# 19	\$ 43,771.00

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.

Signature: 

Date: 8/28/2019

Print Name of Signature Above: Lisa Shimakonis

Title: Director of Admissions

Email: lisas@palmettochristianacadem.org

Summary of Special Services Provided by the Resource Room at Palmetto Christian Academy

Accommodations Plans (similar to 504 Plans in the public school setting) – A written plan summarizing the findings of a psycho-educational evaluation and the recommended accommodations based upon that evaluation. The plan is signed by teachers, administrators, parents, and the coordinator of the resource room services. The plan is reviewed and if necessary revised each academic year.

Study Skills Class – One-on-one or small group instruction, training students in the science and art of evidence-based study skills' strategies; applying these strategies to the work given to them from the regular classroom teachers. Meets one to two times per week.

Rx for Discovery Reading - One –on-one or small group reading intervention for those identified as having reading difficulties; applying the 5 components of reading as identified by the National Reading Panel (phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension). This is a pull-out program that meets twice weekly for 45 minutes.

Rx for Discovery Math – One –on-one or small group math intervention for those identified as having math difficulties. This pull-out program meets twice weekly instructing the students in the areas of number sense, mathematical vocabulary, numerical concepts, estimation, calculation, and applied mathematics in word problems.

Educational Therapy (“Discovery”) – Students are identified through a psycho-educational evaluation as having specified learning disabilities. This is a one-on-one educational therapy program. It is under the auspice of the National Institute for Learning Development (NILD). This is a pull-out program that meets twice weekly for 80 minutes per session.

In order to develop successful, independent learners, NILD Educational Therapy® focuses on developing four key components:

- **cognition**
- **perception**
- **academics**
- **emotions**

Our focus is to address the underlying causes of learning difficulties rather than simply treating the symptoms. NILD educational therapy is a true **therapy** because it is individualized and aims the intervention just above the student's level of functioning and raises expectations for performance. Students are trained to view themselves as **competent, confident** learners.

The goal of NILD Educational Therapy® is to help students develop **tools** of independent learning in the classroom and in life.

Our interventions can be one-on-one or small group. Each session includes a variety of techniques designed to address students' specific areas of difficulty and to improve their overall ability to **think, reason, and process** information. Techniques emphasize basic skill areas such as reading, writing, spelling, and math, as well as applying reasoning skills within each area. Students are taught by highly trained NILD Educational Therapists who utilize our unique methodology.

Grade	English Language (Reading)	Mathematics
K	147.8	149.8
1	171.8	171.6
2	189.7	185.9
3	203.9	200.8
4	208.8	208.8
5	221	219.4
6	221.7	224.4
7	227.7	232.5
8	226.5	233.4



George L. Garmendia, CPA
Heather M. Aydlette, CPA
James R. Swindal, III, CPA

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

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Palmetto Christian Academy SC Educational Oversight Committee

We have examined Palmetto Christian Academy's compliance with the requirements listed on the attached letter during the school year 2018-2019. Management of Palmetto Christian Academy is responsible for Palmetto Christian Academy's compliance with the specified requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on Palmetto Christian 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 Palmetto Christian Academy complied, in all material respects, with the specified requirements referenced above. An examination involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about whether Palmetto Christian 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 Palmetto Christian Academy's compliance with specified requirements.

In our opinion, Palmetto Christian Academy complied, in all material respects, with compliance the requirements listed in Attachment A. during the school year 2018-19.

Hyland Ruddy & Garbett CPAs, LLC.

Mt. Pleasant, SC

November 20, 2019



**SC EDUCATION
OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

Reporting facts. Measuring change. Promoting progress.

PO Box 11867 | 227 Blatt Building
Columbia SC 29211 | WWW.SCEOC.ORG

March 1, 2019:

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 2018-19 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 2018-19;
- 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