
Non-Public School Approval Process Rule 0520-07-02

The Background:

T.C.A § 49-1-302(l) provides that the State Board of Education shall “enforce standards for... programs operated by private schools as defined by § 49-6-3001(c)(3).” State Board of Education rule 0520-07-02 currently establishes the requirements for six categories of non-public schools in Tennessee. In an effort to provide greater clarity and remove outdated language within the non-public school approval process rules, the Department recommends updated language to provide clearer requirements for each non-public school category. All proposed rule changes have been reviewed and approved by the Tennessee Non-Public Advisory Council.

Since first reading the following changes have been made (page numbers refer to the version with tracked changes):

- **Page 1:** Clarifies definition of Category V schools and updates outdated language.
- **Page 2:** Updates outdated language and clarifies the age requirement for entry into kindergarten.
- **Page 4:** Updates requirements for compliance with laws, rules, and regulations for facilities.
- **Page 6:** Clarifies the age requirement for entry into kindergarten.

The Fiscal Analysis Impact:

T.C.A. § 49-1-212 requires that the Department prepare a fiscal analysis of any policy, rule or regulation proposed to the State Board of Education. This item has no financial impact on an LEA.

The Recommendation:

The Department of Education recommends adoption of this item on final reading. The SBE staff concurs with this recommendation.