

JILLIAN BALOW

Superintendent of Public Instruction

DICKY SHANOR

Chief of Staff

Wyoming Cowboy Challenge Academy

Information for School Districts

Accreditation

Is the Wyoming Cowboy Challenge Academy accredited?

The Wyoming Cowboy Challenge Academy (WCCA) is accredited by AdvancED. The WCCA received its initial accreditation from the AdvancED Global Commission in January of 2019. The Wyoming State Board of Education will vote to grant accreditation by the State of Wyoming at its February 2019 board meeting.

What is the accreditation designation for the WCCA (e.g. institutional school, special purpose school)?

The WCCA is classified by AdvancED as a school with no other designation.

High School Completion

Can a student get a High School Equivalency Certificate while at the program?

Yes. the WCCA is a State of Wyoming approved High School Equivalency Certificate testing site.

Can students earn a Wyoming high school diploma issued by the WCCA?

Students can earn high school credits while attending the WCCA, maximizing their ability to earn a diploma upon re-joining their respective high schools. The WCCA does not issue high school diplomas.



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If a student leaves a Wyoming public school to attend the WCCA, does high school graduation rate accountability change?

Similar to students who leave a Wyoming public school to participate in a foreign exchange program, graduation rate accountability remains with the last Wyoming school attended while the student is away. Then, either the student will return to the district to continue high school, or the district is responsible to provide documentation that the student exited from the school's graduation cohort.

While away, a student can earn high school credits that will transfer back to the Wyoming public school. Potentially, students may have earned enough credits to fulfill their resident district's graduation requirements (so as to be issued a regular Wyoming high school diploma by the district) without additional schooling.

If a youth who has never been enrolled in a Wyoming public high school attends the WCCA, does any Wyoming school have high school graduation rate accountability for the student?

No, unless the youth enrolls in a Wyoming public high school after attending the WCCA.

Enrollment considerations

Does a student remain enrolled in a Wyoming public school while attending the WCCA?

No. Students do not remain enrolled in Wyoming public schools when they leave to attend the WCCA, just like students leaving to participate in a foreign exchange program. Students are to be exited in a WDE684 enrollment record submission using the appropriate exit codes:

- Attending the WCCA: 159 Discontinued schooling to participate in a GED or other education or training program that does not grant a 'regular high school diploma'
- Foreign exchange program: 248 Enrolled in a foreign exchange program.



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Are students with disabilities allowed to attend WCCA?

Youth identified as a student with a disability are considered by the WCCA for participation in the program on a case-by-case basis.

Contact information

For more information about WCCA, its programs, curriculum and enrollment procedure, contact the WCCA at 307-836-7500 or visit wycowboychallenge.org.