



## Commission on International Education



### About NEASC

A globally recognized standard of excellence, the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) accredits over 2,000 member schools worldwide – from early childhood through graduate school – and provides a framework for meaningful, ongoing school improvement. NEASC is an independent, voluntary, nonprofit membership organization which connects and serves public and independent schools, technical and career institutions, colleges, and universities.

Founded in 1885, NEASC has been working to establish and maintain high standards for all levels of education longer than any other accreditation agency in the United States. The four NEASC commissions decide matters of accreditation in the context of research-driven standards reviewed by their membership.

With **ACE**, our groundbreaking international education protocol, NEASC is reshaping accreditation into a vehicle for driving systemic change and transformation.

*“...education is not about teaching or knowledge transmission. Rather it is about supporting learning. ACE provides an excellent framework and process that can help schools start the shift.”*

*Yong Zhao, Ph.D.*

*“NEASC Accreditation reflects the larger context of education today and best practice. We know that students need to be highly engaged and active participants in their learning and have a voice in what and how they learn. The ACE Learning protocol helps schools focus on how culture and environment support students in achieving higher order skills such as critical thinking, creativity, and taking action beyond the classroom. NEASC puts the learner at the center.”*

*Diane Ullman,  
NEASC International Accreditation Leader*

Supporting transformative approaches to teaching and learning worldwide

# NEASC Commission on International Education

## Mission

NEASC's Commission on International Education (CIE) evaluates, accredits, and supports international educational institutions and programs from early childhood through secondary school in accordance with standards of best educational practice. CIE leads educational discourse and action, is a catalyst for innovation, and advocates for ethical conduct in education.

*"Accreditation by your peers helps schools to say, 'We share a common bond of professionalism, a common understanding of what constitutes effective practice, and what we need to do to further improve.' It's not about compliance. Accreditation is about growth and development."*

*Christine McGrath, Chair, CIE Commission*

## Accreditation of International Schools

CIE asks learning communities to reflect on how they equip learners with the understandings, competencies, knowledge, dispositions, and values needed to meet the challenges of our times. NEASC-accredited schools embrace inclusiveness and diversity of perspective, and focus on the impact they have on learners to determine how well key learning principles are embedded in school culture.

Accreditation ensures that learning occurs in safe, secure, and healthy communities, while sustaining and guiding these communities as they evolve into transformational learning environments. Thus, NEASC accreditation supports international schools in adopting best practice, but also encourages them to re-imagine education itself.

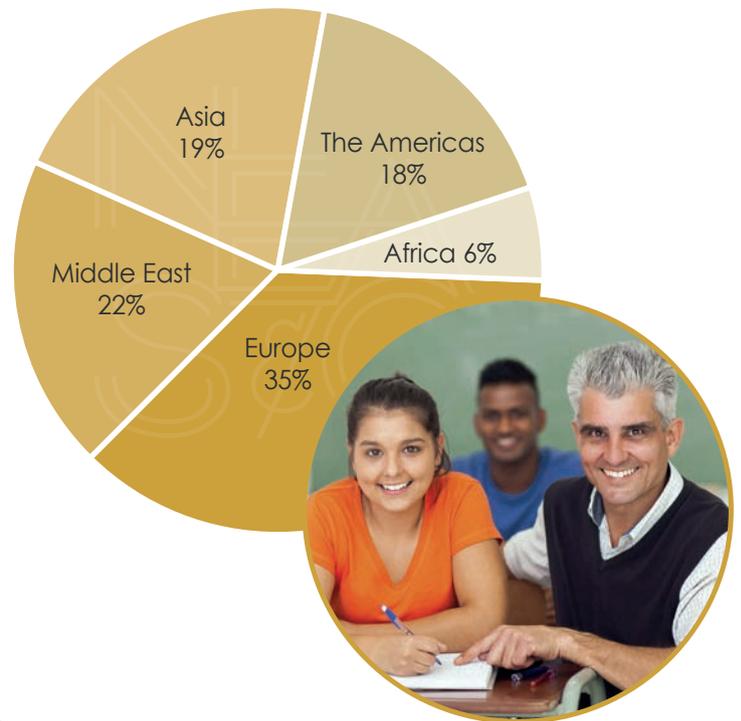
## Benefits

Accreditation by NEASC reassures parents, teachers, universities and governments that a school has the competence and resources to achieve its mission and educational objectives. For the school, accreditation provides a powerful framework for meaningful, ongoing whole school improvement. For the international education community, it highlights the quality and integrity of the institution.



## Diversity of Membership

More than 300 international schools around the world are NEASC members, Candidates for Accreditation, or have achieved Eligibility for Accreditation.



## Global Collaboration

CIE has partnerships and affiliations with several international government and quality assurance bodies. Among them are the Council of International Schools, the National Association of Independent Schools, ECIS, the International Baccalaureate Organization, Thailand's ONESQA, China's NCCT, and Dubai's KHDA. NEASC's collaboration with these organizations validates the accreditation process and provides targeted professional development and training to schools.

*"A lot of people equate accreditation to familiar words like inspection or checklists, but it's a huge misconception. It's less 'How can we do things better?', but rather 'How can we imagine things to be different?' I think the accreditation experience itself is the transformative piece."*

*Ji Han, Director of Curriculum and Learning,  
Zurich International School*

## Training and Resources

Training is provided for each stage of the accreditation process through workshops conducted at the schools or at various conferences in which NEASC participates. In addition, several guides with detailed information about each stage of the accreditation process and practical advice for preparing for eligibility, visits, and reports are available for download on the NEASC website:

[cie.neasc.org](http://cie.neasc.org)