Oklahoma State
Department of Education

MEMORANDUM

TO: The State Department of Education

FROM: Stacy Eden

DATE: July 22, 2026

SUBJECT: Lindsey Nicole Henry Scholarship

Ignite Christian Academy (ICA) request approval to participate in the Lindsey Nicole Henry Scholarship for Students with Disabilities program. They are accredited through Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) and recognized by the Oklahoma Private School Accreditation Commission charged by the Oklahoma State Department of Education with overseeing educational quality of accredited private schools in the state.

ICA offers a small classroom environment with instructional strategies designed to support individual learners. Accommodations include quiet spaces for students who need opportunities to regulate their emotions or reduce sensory stimulation, as well as noise-reducing headphones and other sensory supports for students who benefit from a quieter learning environment. Additional supports include small-group instruction, reading interventions, assistive reading tools, and modified instructional strategies and pacing.

To further enrich the educational experience, ICA partners with volunteers, retired educators, and experienced professionals who generously give their time to provide students with additional academic support, mentoring, tutoring, classroom assistance, and encouragement.

Included is compliance documentation that meets certain criteria in the application.

- Criteria 1: Fiscal Soundness – School History and Calendar
- Criteria 2: Non-Discrimination – ICA Handbook
- Criteria 3: Teacher Requirement – ICA Handbook
- Criteria 4: Accreditation – ACSI Certificate

SE

2500 North Lincoln Boulevard, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105-4599
(405)521-3301 phone • (405)521-6205 fax • www.ok.gov/sde

LINDSEY NICOLE HENRY SCHOLARSHIP
PRIVATE SCHOOL APPLICATION

Ignite Christian Academy	K4-12th
NAME OF PRIVATE SCHOOL	GRADE LEVELS

488 Industrial rd. A	Grove	OK	74344
ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP + 4

918-314-7817	ignitechristianacad.org
PHONE NUMBER	WEBSITE ADDRESS

Shelley Jobe Head of School

SUPERINTENDENT, HEADMASTER OR PRINCIPAL NAME

Shelley Jobe	shelleyajobe@ignitechristianacad.org
PRIVATE SCHOOL CONTACT FOR LNH	CONTACT EMAIL

The Lindsey Nicole Henry (LNH) Scholarship Act requires participating schools to be physical, brick-and-mortar institutions in Oklahoma and meet certain approval criteria. Schools must provide documentation to show they comply, which will be reviewed by the Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE). This documentation is often found in the school's policies or handbook. Please prepare a PDF for each item listed below to email with your application.

The OSDE will approve a private school for the scholarship program if it meets the following criteria:

1. The private school must demonstrate fiscal soundness by having been in operation for one (1) year or providing the OSDE with a statement by a certified public accountant confirming that the private school is insured and the owner or owners have sufficient capital or credit to operate the school for the upcoming year by serving the number of students anticipated with expected revenues from tuition and other sources that may be reasonably expected. In lieu of a statement, a surety bond or letter of credit for the amount equal to the scholarship funds for any quarter may be filed with the Oklahoma State Department of Education. ***Proof of compliance required. Save in a PDF, and label it Criteria 1.***

2. The private school must comply with the antidiscrimination provision of 42 U.S.C. § 2000d. ***Proof of compliance required. Save in a PDF, and label it Criteria 2.***

3. The private school must employ or contract with teachers who hold baccalaureate or higher degrees, or have at least three (3) years of teaching experience in public instruction in subjects taught. ***Proof of compliance required. A statement or excerpt from the school polices or handbook stating the educational requirement for the teaching staff is acceptable documentation. Save in a PDF, and label it Criteria 3.***

4. The private school must meet the accreditation requirements set by the SDE or another accrediting association approved by the OSDE. ***Please type the name of your accrediting agency in the box below. Save the accreditation approval letter or certificate as a PDF, and label it Criteria 4.***

Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI)

5. The private school must be able to provide services and/or accommodations for students with disabilities. ***Please describe in detail the services, programs and support you offer to students with disabilities in the box below.***

Services, Programs, and Support for Students with Disabilities

At Ignite Christian Academy, we believe every child is fearfully and wonderfully made by God, uniquely gifted with individual strengths, talents, and learning styles. We recognize that no two students learn the same way, and because of that, we do not expect students to fit into a one-size-fits-all educational model. Instead, we intentionally tailor each student's educational experience to help them grow academically, spiritually, socially, and emotionally while reaching their fullest God-given potential.

Our philosophy is simple: we meet students where they are and help them become who God created them to be. Whether a student learns quickly, requires additional support, has experienced trauma, has autism, dyslexia, ADHD, or another learning difference, our teachers strive to understand each child's unique needs and provide individualized strategies that promote confidence, growth, and success.

Our classrooms are intentionally designed to be welcoming, therapeutic, calming, and engaging learning environments. We understand that students learn best when they feel safe, valued, and understood. Flexible classroom spaces allow students to learn in ways that best support their individual needs. While traditional desks are available, students may also choose alternative learning spaces such as floor seating, bar-height tables, or other flexible seating options during appropriate learning activities. These choices encourage comfort, focus, and engagement.

Teachers thoughtfully adapt the classroom environment and instructional strategies to support individual learners. Examples of accommodations and supports may include:

- Quiet spaces or calming corners for students who need opportunities to regulate emotions or reduce sensory stimulation.
- Noise-reducing headphones or other sensory supports for students who benefit from a quieter learning environment.
- Small-group or individualized instruction to reinforce academic concepts.
- Reading interventions, assistive reading tools such as reading pens, or additional literacy support for students with dyslexia or other reading challenges.
- Modified instructional strategies and pacing based on each student's learning profile.
- Frequent encouragement, positive reinforcement, and relationship-centered teaching that builds confidence and resilience.

We also recognize that some students come to us carrying challenges beyond academics. Students who have experienced trauma, including those in foster or kinship care, often benefit from consistent relationships, encouragement, patience, and a strong sense of belonging. Our faculty intentionally creates a culture where every child is known by name, celebrated for who they are, and reminded that they are deeply loved and valued. We believe that healing, growth, and learning flourish in an environment built on trust, grace, and genuine care.
Our teachers work closely with families to understand each student's strengths, needs, and learning goals. Open communication and partnership with parents allow us to make thoughtful adjustments that support each child's educational journey while encouraging continued growth at home and at school.

Although Ignite Christian Academy is a small school, we believe our size is one of our greatest strengths. Our smaller classrooms allow us to build meaningful relationships with each student and provide the individualized attention they deserve. We are intentional about creating a learning environment where every child is known, valued, encouraged, and supported.

To further enrich the educational experience, we are blessed to partner with dedicated volunteers, retired educators, and experienced professionals who generously share their time, knowledge, and gifts with our students. These individuals provide additional academic support, mentoring, tutoring, classroom assistance, and encouragement, allowing us to better meet the unique needs of each learner.

This collaborative approach enables us to provide personalized instruction and additional support when students need it most. Whether reinforcing reading skills, offering one-on-one guidance, assisting with enrichment opportunities, or simply providing an extra caring adult to encourage a child, our volunteers and retired teachers play a vital role in helping students build confidence and achieve success.

At Ignite Christian Academy, we believe it takes a community to help children flourish. By combining passionate educators, supportive volunteers, engaged families, and a Christ-centered mission, we are able to help each student reach his or her God-given potential and prepare them to make a lasting impact for Christ.

Above all, our commitment extends beyond academic achievement. We seek to nurture the whole child—mind, body, heart, and spirit. Through a Christ-centered education, students develop knowledge, strong character, critical thinking skills, and a biblical worldview while discovering the unique purpose God has for their lives.

At Ignite Christian Academy, every student is known, valued, encouraged, challenged, and loved. We believe every child deserves the opportunity to succeed, and we are committed to providing an environment where each student can flourish academically, spiritually, and personally while being equipped to impact the world for Christ.

I verify that Ignite Christian Academy complies with all the criteria listed above and will provide documentation for each as proof. The information I have provided to the OSDE is correct and complete to the best of my knowledge.

NAME OF PRIVATE SCHOOL

SIGNATURE

7-21-2026

DATE

How to Submit the Private School Application to participate in the LNH Scholarship

1. Save each criterion as an individual PDF, labeling them as "Criteria 1," "Criteria 2," and so on.
2. Email the complete application, along with all required PDF attachments to stacy.eden@sde.ok.gov. You may also contact Stacy at (405) 521-4876.

Background and Transition from Living Water Christian Academy to Ignite Christian Academy

Living Water Christian Academy (LWCA) opened its doors in 2020 with a vision to provide Christ-centered education to families in our community. Over the next five years, the school experienced steady growth, expanding its enrollment each year and serving approximately 40 students during the 2025–2026 school year. During this time, the school also achieved a significant milestone by earning accreditation through the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI), completing the accreditation process in late 2024 and receiving official accreditation for the 2025–2026 school year.

Following the retirement of the school's Head of School and the transition of three-fourths of the governing board during the 2025–2026 school year, the new leadership recognized a unique opportunity to strengthen the school's vision while preserving the strong foundation that had already been established. Rather than simply continuing under the existing name, the leadership chose to rebrand the school as **Ignite Christian Academy**, reflecting a renewed mission, fresh direction, and an even clearer commitment to serving students and families.

While Ignite Christian Academy carries a new name, it is not a new beginning from scratch. The school’s accreditation is still in place. The school continues to build upon the educational excellence, accreditation, and Christ-centered foundation established by Living Water Christian Academy. The transition represents growth and renewed purpose rather than a departure from the school's history.

Ignite Christian Academy's mission is:

"To partner with families to educate, encourage, and equip the next generation with faith, knowledge, and godly character, empowering students to love God, love others, and ignite the world for Christ."

This mission reflects the heart of who we are and the direction we are pursuing as we prepare students for lives of faith, leadership, and service.

Ignite Christian Academy was born from a recognition of our community's need for a safe, nurturing, and Christ-centered educational environment where students are encouraged to thrive academically, spiritually, and personally. Today, the school is led by knowledgeable, certified leadership, a dedicated governing board, and passionate, certified teachers who are committed to providing an exceptional Christian education.

As a non-denominational Christian school, we partner with families to help students discover their God-given purpose, develop strong character, pursue excellence, and become servant leaders who impact their homes, churches, and communities for Christ. Our desire is that every student feels known, valued, challenged, and loved while receiving an education grounded in biblical truth and academic excellence.

Although Ignite Christian Academy is operating under a new name, it proudly carries forward the legacy, experience, accreditation, and commitment established through Living Water Christian Academy while embracing a renewed vision for the future.

Living Water Christian Academy

2024–2025 School Calendar

2024–2025 Academic Calendar

August 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

1–Professional Day
2–Professional Day
3–First Day of School

September 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

2–No School
20–Family Bible Study
27–Field Trip

October 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

4–End of Quarter
15–Parent | Teacher Conference
16-18–No School
24–Family Bible Study

November 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

25-29–No School

December 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

6–Field Trip
13–End of Quarter
17–Christmas Program
18-31 No School

January 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

1–3–No School
23–Family Bible Study

February 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

7–End of Quarter
27–Family Bible Study
28–Field Trip

March 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

13–Parent | Teacher Conference
17-21–No School

April 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

14-17–Achievement Tests
18–No School
24–Family Bible Study

May 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

9–Last Day of School
12–Professional Day

Professional Day
First Day of School
No school
Field Trip
Family Bible Study
End of Quarter
Parent | Teacher Conference
Christmas Program
Achievement Tests
Last Day of School

Instructional Days

Instructional Days	
First Quarter	43 Days
Second Quarter	47 Days
Third Quarter	47 Days
Fourth Quarter	35 Days
Total Instructional Days	**172 Days**

—Note: The addition of four professional days is not included in the total number of instructional days.

Instructional Hours

Instructional Hours	
First Quarter	301 Hours
Second Quarter	329 Hours
Third Quarter	329 Hours
Fourth Quarter	245 Hours
Total Instructional Hours	**1204 Hours**

School Calendar
2025-2026

Biblical Worldview Education Through Excellence

Living Water
Christian Academy

August 7–8	Staff Development
August 11	First Day of School
September 1	Labor Day | No School
September 4	Family Bible Study 6 p.m.
September 5	Field Trip
September 8	Grandparents' Day
September 24	See You at the Pole
October 9	Family Bible Study 6 p.m.
October 14	End of First Quarter
October 15–17	Fall Break | No School
October 21	Parent Teacher Conferences 4–7 p.m.
November 7	Field Trip
November 20	Feast and Bible Study | 1:30 Dismissal
November 24–28	Thanksgiving Break | No School
December 6	Christmas Parade
December 11	Christmas Program
December 15	Pancakes and Pajamas | Parties
December 16–17	First Semester Finals
December 17	End of Second Quarter | First Semester
December 18–January 2	Christmas Break | No School
January 5	School Resumes
January 8	Family Bible Study 6 p.m.
January 19	Open House
January 23	Field Trip
January 27	100th Day of School | Mission Project
February 5	Family Bible Study 6 p.m.
February 12	Valentine's Day Party
February 17	Parental Choice Tax Credit Application Opens
March 5	Family Bible Study 6 p.m.
March 6	End of Third Quarter
March 10	Parent Teacher Conferences 4–7 p.m.
March 16–20	Spring Break | No School
March 30	Moms' Day
April 2	Family Bible Study 6 p.m.
April 3	Good Friday | No School
April 10	Dads' Day
April 13	Achievement Tests
April 17	Snow Day
April 23	Field Day
April 24	Snow Day
April 30	Alternate Field Day
May 1	Snow Day
May 4–5	Second Semester Finals
May 6	Awards Assembly
May 6	Last Day of School
May 7	Graduation Ceremony
May 11–12	Staff Development

IGNITE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY 2026-2027 School Calendar

IGNITING THE FLAME IN THE NEXT GENERATION

AUGUST

Date	Event	Notes / Volunteers / Details
10	Staff Development	
11	Staff Development	
12	Teacher Prep Day	
13	First Day of School	
20	Bring Anything But a Water Bottle Day	Show-and-tell for the water bottles that are not used for water.

SEPTEMBER

Date	Event	Notes / Volunteers / Details
1	Student Recognition	
7	Labor Day No School	
8	Professional Day No School	
17	Give Back Day Backward Day	Bring a food item to donate to the Food Pantry and dress up as backward day.
23	See You At the Pole/ Donut Breakfast Day	Pray over the school.
25	Field Trip	

OCTOBER

Date	Event	Notes / Volunteers / Details
1	Student Recognition	
5-8	Spirit Week – Fruits of the Spirit	
5	Love, Joy, or Peace	Wear something that represents or says love, joy, or peace.
6	Patience, Kindness, or Goodness	Wear something that represents or says patience, kindness, or goodness.
7	Faithfulness, Gentleness, or Self-control	Wear something that represents or says faithfulness, gentleness, or self-control.
8	Farmer's Market Day	Dress up as a farmer, market worker, or a fruit, and there will be a Farmers Market taste testing.
12	End of 1st Quarter	
14	Parent/Teacher Conference	
15-16	No School Fall Break	
19	No School Professional Day	

NOVEMBER

Date	Event	Notes / Volunteers / Details
2	Student Recognition	
6	Field Trip Friday	
20	Bible Character Day	Dress like a Bible character.
23-27	No School Thanksgiving Break	
30	Decorate the Tree Day	Cookies and hot chocolate.

DECEMBER

Date	Event	Notes / Volunteers / Details
1	Student Recognition	
1	Cooking for Block Time	
2	Delivery	Deliver cookies.
3	Give Back Christmas Begins	
16-17	Semester Finals—Crazy Lunch Days	Bring anything but a lunch box day.
17	PJs and Breakfast/Waffles	
18	End of 2nd Quart/1st Semester	
21-Jan 1	Christmas/New Year Break	

JANUARY

Date	Event	Notes / Volunteers / Details
4	No School Professional Day	
5	School Resumes Student Recognition	
18	No School/MLK Day	
28	100th Day of School	Dress as you choose something Bible-related and fashion show.

FEBRUARY

Date	Event	Notes / Volunteers / Details
1	Student Recognition Positive Words Day	Wear positive, happy words on a shirt or hat.
9	Red, White, and Pink Day	Wear red, white, or pink.
10	School Love	Wear school colors or school shirt.
11	Valentine's Parties: Comfy/Cuddle Day	Wear pj's and bring a stuffed animal.
15	No School President's Day	

MARCH

Date	Event	Notes / Volunteers / Details
1	Student Recognition	
10	End of 3rd Quarter Idiom Day	Fashion show... can we guess your idiom!
11	Parent/Teacher Conferences	
15-19	No School Spring Break	
22	Professional Day	
25	No School Professional Day	
26	No School Good Friday	

APRIL

Date	Event	Notes / Volunteers / Details
1	Student Recognition	
2	Field Trip	
19-21	Achievement Tests	
19	Pj Day	Wear pj's showing you got a good night's sleep!
20	Neon Day	Wear neon for a bright day!
21	Loud and Proud Day	Wear school colors.

MAY

Date	Event	Notes / Volunteers / Details
3	Student Recognition	
7	Fun Day	
17-18	Semester Tests Tourist Vacation Day	Dress like a tourist or vacation-ready.
19	Last Day of School: Awards Assembly	
20	Teacher Work Day	
21	Graduation/Promotion	

TOTAL DAYS **169** / PROFESSIONAL DAYS **6** / WORK DAYS **2**

FAITH. EXCELLENCE. PURPOSE. IGNITED.

colleges, universities, and employers.

Non-Discriminatory Statement

Ignite Christian Academy believes every person is uniquely created in the image of God and worthy of dignity, respect, and love. Ignite Christian Academy does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, age, or sex in its admissions, educational programs, employment practices, or school activities. We are committed to fostering a welcoming, Christ-centered environment for all members of our school community.

Teacher Education and Certification Policy

Purpose

Ignite Christian Academy is committed to providing students with an excellent Christ-centered education through qualified, knowledgeable, and dedicated educators. To ensure high academic standards and instructional excellence, all teaching staff are expected to meet the following educational and certification requirements.

Educational Requirements

All applicants seeking a teaching position at Ignite Christian Academy must possess, at minimum, a **bachelor's degree** from an accredited college or university. Degrees should be appropriate to the grade level or subject area being taught.

Applicants who do not meet this minimum educational requirement will not be considered for employment as classroom teachers.

Teacher Certification Requirements

All teachers employed by Ignite Christian Academy are required to obtain and maintain one of the following professional teaching credentials:

- A valid **State of Oklahoma Teaching Certificate**, or
- A valid **Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) Teacher Certification**.

Teachers who do not hold one of these certifications at the time of hire may be employed with the understanding that they will begin the certification process immediately and obtain the required certification **within six (6) months of their employment date**.

Employment Expectations

Teachers are expected to:

- Provide documentation of their bachelor's degree prior to employment.
- Submit proof that they have applied for the appropriate certification within a reasonable time after employment begins.
- Complete all certification requirements within six (6) months of their hire date unless an extension is approved by the Head of School due to circumstances beyond the teacher's control.
- Maintain all required certifications in good standing throughout their employment.

Failure to make satisfactory progress toward certification or to obtain the required certification within the established timeframe may result in disciplinary action, including reassignment or termination of employment.

Commitment to Professional Excellence

Ignite Christian Academy values educators who are lifelong learners and servant leaders. Teachers are encouraged to pursue ongoing professional development, instructional growth, and spiritual maturity as they partner with families to educate, encourage, and equip students for lives of faith, excellence, and service. Our desire is to cultivate a faculty that models Christ-like character while delivering high-quality, biblically integrated instruction that inspires every student to reach their God-given potential.

ACSI FOUNDATIONAL ACCREDITATION

ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS INTERNATIONAL

Criteria 4: Accreditation before name change

The Commission on Accreditation of the Association of Christian Schools International attests that Foundational Accreditation has been granted and thus affirms that this school is committed to the pursuit of excellence in education, to meet the established accreditation standards, and to follow an ongoing school improvement plan.

Living Water Christian Academy

Grades Accredited: K-12

Term of Accreditation: 01/01/2025-12/31/2027

Initial Accreditation: 01/01/2025

School ID: 7212230

LARRY TAYLOR, PHD
PRESIDENT

ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS INTERNATIONAL
ACSI
STRONGER TOGETHER
EST. 1978

STEPHEN DECK, EDS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION

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ACSI FOUNDATIONAL ACCREDITATION

ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS INTERNATIONAL

Criteria 4: Accreditation after name change

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Term of Accreditation: 01/10/2025 - 12/31/2027

Initial Accreditation: 01/10/2025

School ID: 7212230

Larry Taylor, PHD
President

Stephen Deck, EdS, Executive Director
Commission on Accreditation

ACSI

STRONGER TOGETHER

Member School
2024 - 2025

Living Water Christian Academy

Larry Taylor
President & CEO, ACSI

Todd Marrah
Chairman, ACSI Board of Directors

... that in all things He may have the preeminence. Colossians 1:18 (NKJV)

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