

## FCC's Accreditation Committee

The FCC Accreditation Committee operates with the approval of the Conference and the Bishops of the seven dioceses of Florida. The 14-member Committee includes:

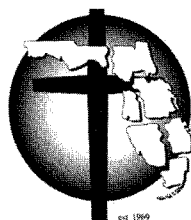
- An Episcopal Moderator (a Florida Bishop who serves as a liaison with the state's other Bishops);
- Eight representatives from Diocesan Offices of Schools, including the seven Dioceses in Florida as well as the Diocese of Savannah, GA;
- Two appointed educators from outside organizations such as the Florida Department of Education and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools;
- Two representatives from the FCC, the Executive Director, and the Associate for Education; and,
- The FCC Accreditation Program Manager, as an "ex officio" (by the nature of position) member.

For a current list of Committee members, please see the accreditation part of FCC's website at:

[www.flacathconf.org](http://www.flacathconf.org).

## About the Accreditation Program Manager...

As a staff member of the FCC, the Program Manager handles much of the daily operation of the FCCAP. The Program Manager's duties include: maintaining rosters for team members to visit schools; assembling visitation teams; collecting dues and recording deposits from member schools; helping to insure that schools complete an annual report about compliance with standards; and a variety of other assignments to carry out the "will and sentiment" of the FCC Accreditation Committee.



*For more information, please contact:*

**James B. Herzog,**  
**Accreditation Program Manager,**

Florida Catholic Conference

201 W. Park Ave.

Tallahassee, FL 32301-7715

Phone: (850) 224-7906

Fax: (850) 224-7501

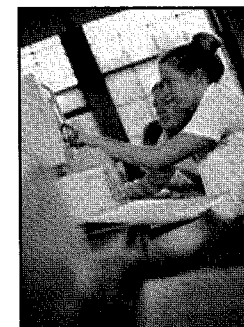
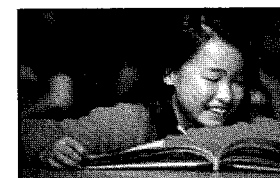
Website:

[www.flacathconf.org/Accreditation/index.htm](http://www.flacathconf.org/Accreditation/index.htm)

Email: [accreditation@flacathconf.org](mailto:accreditation@flacathconf.org)

Revised 2007

## The Florida Catholic Conference Accreditation Program (FCCAP)



*"In my opinion, the establishment of the Florida Catholic Conference's Accreditation Program was one of the best, if least known, accomplishments of the conference."*

Thomas A. Horkan, Jr.

FCC Executive Director Emeritus

- Charter member of the National Council for Private School Accreditation (NCPSA);
- Establishing standards in key areas such as Mission and Beliefs, Personnel, Program of Learning, Administration, Health and Safety and more.

## Florida Catholic Conference (FCC)

Established in 1969, the Florida Catholic Conference is an agency of the state's Catholic Bishops. It speaks for the Bishops in matters of public policy, serves as liaison to government officials, and coordinates communication between the Church and secular agencies.

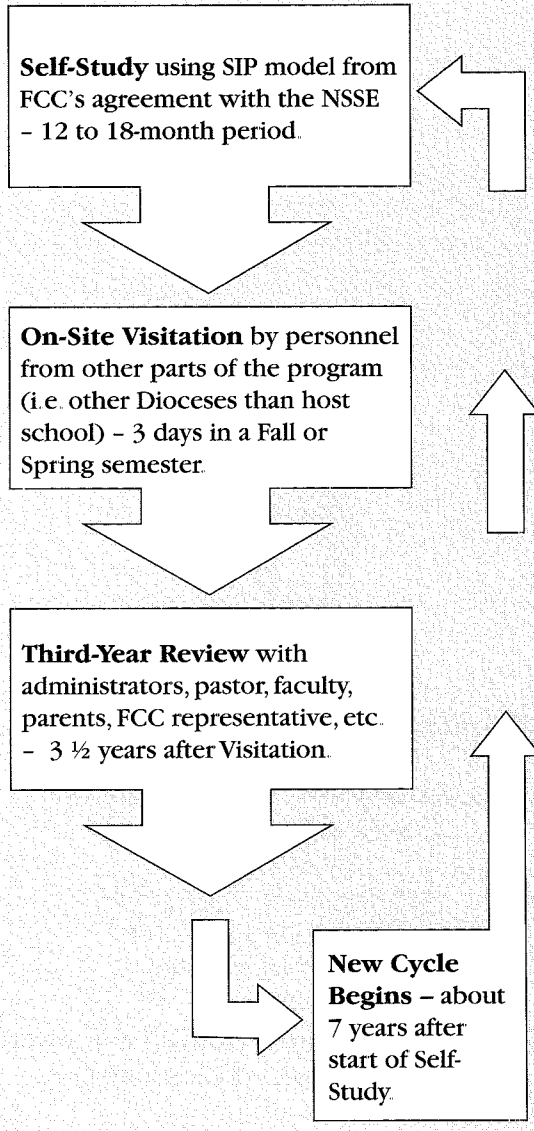
## Accreditation Program Overview

The Florida Catholic Conference Accreditation Program (FCCAP) serves nearly 200 Pre-Kindergarten through Eighth Grade Schools, located in the six Dioceses of Florida and the Archdiocese of Miami, as well as the Diocese of Savannah, GA. In 1969-70, the program was established by the Florida Bishops. Key facets include:

- The FCCAP is considered one of the finest accreditation organizations in the nation and has served as a model for other areas.
- The program has established a system for accountability and school improvement through the adoption of educational standards and a "Seven-Year Cycle" of accreditation.
- Each "fully accredited" school undergoes a self-evaluation process using the School Improvement Plan (SIP) model, under an FCC agreement with the National Study of School Evaluation (NSSE).

## The 'Seven-Year Cycle'

*The FCCAP has established a repeating timeline for accreditation to insure that schools meet standards for beliefs and mission, personnel, program of learning, etc. Here is how it works:*



## History of the Program

The FCCAP is one of the oldest Catholic accreditation programs in the country. In the 1960's, the Florida Bishops appointed a committee to explore accreditation. After studying various systems, they established a program unique to Catholic schools which would guarantee constant and continued improvement.

The program was adapted from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) system. The Bishops established the FCCAP in 1969-70 and required all parochial and diocesan elementary and special education schools to be accredited. (High schools continued to seek SACS accreditation.)

In 1970-71, the first set of schools began Self-Studies. In 1972, these "pioneer" schools were visited and received accreditation. By 1981, 140 schools had been accredited. In 1995, the Diocese of Savannah was accepted into the program. More recently, the program is serving 190-200 schools per year.

### SPECIAL NOTE: Standards Review

Standards are periodically reviewed and updated by the FCC Accreditation Committee. Since 1972, the accreditation standards and process have been revised several times. During this revision process, **feedback is encouraged and solicited** from a variety of school stakeholders such as pastors, staff, parents, community leaders and others.