

GEORGIA ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

- You lend your voice to ever-increasing legislative and legal challenges to churches and Christian schools. Politically, there is strength in numbers.
- The GACS NEWSLETTER includes monthly updates on Christian school news, legislative and regulatory agency information, and other timely items.
- You obtain substantial discounts from Pearson on nationally standardized achievement tests. For non-member school orders, Pearson has a minimum charge on materials and scoring orders. GACS schools are exempted from this. Also, you may order any quantity of tests needed and are not required to purchase a minimum number of pre-packaged tests or answer forms.
- You have the opportunity to participate in Annual Teachers' Conventions. The GACS Convention is one of the best in the country. Speakers and workshop leaders who participate in many Christian school conventions state their appreciation for the good organization, positive spiritual atmosphere, and overall benefit of the GACS Convention.
- You also have the opportunity to participate in the regional Southeast Christian School Convention with the North Carolina Christian School Association and the South Carolina Christian School Association. This is one of the larger Christian educator conventions in the southeast.
- The GACS offers a Pastors' and Administrators' Seminar each year that addresses pertinent topics for Christian pastors/educators.
- Often executive retreats are held in the summer for Christian school administrators and key supervisors. Spouses are welcome. This is an informal time for leaders to address crucial issues facing Christian education, share ideas with one another, and enjoy fellowship in a relaxed atmosphere.
- Student participation in state-wide and national Christian school Bible, academic, and fine arts competition (including music, speech, art, science fair, Bible quiz, preaching, and other types of competition).
- Student participation in a state-wide full sports program (football, soccer, volleyball, golf, basketball, baseball, softball, and cross-country) through the Georgia Christian Athletic Association (GCAA). The Jerry Lanier Memorial Scholarship is awarded to the top student-athletic nominated by the student's school and selected by the GCAA leadership.
- Your school is eligible for GACS school accreditation and teacher certification programs - adapted specifically to the Georgia compulsory attendance law and Georgia graduation requirements. GACS school accreditation is recognized by the Georgia State Department of Education, Board of Regents, and Georgia Student Finance Commission (HOPE Scholarship) on an equal basis with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and the Georgia Accrediting Commission for transfer of credits, college entrance, HOPE Scholarships, and other purposes.
- Administrator/Teacher placement services. Administrators are informed of available teachers.

- Student prospects through listing in GACS Directory and frequent inquiries to the GACS office from families seeking good Christian schools. We refer families to GACS schools on a regular basis.
- Legislative representation, on both the state and federal levels, keeps our schools and affiliated churches informed on pending legislation and regulatory agency decisions which may have either positive or negative impact on churches and Christian schools.
- Student participation in Christian Honor Society Chapters and presentation of Christian College Scholarships. Scholarships to Christian colleges have helped many needy students over the years. Accredited schools are eligible for National Honor Society membership.
- The GACS office is available for counseling in academic, legislative, spiritual, business, and other matters. If we do not have the answer, we can usually find it or direct you to someone who knows.
- A Communication Hotline is in effect for legislative and other needs when information must be shared quickly.
- Through affiliation with the American Association of Christian Schools (AACCS), GACS members receive free subscriptions to the JOURNAL FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS (for each teacher) and the WASHINGTON FLYER (weekly update of legislative information). All AACCS benefits are available (including full-time legislative representatives in Washington, DC).
- Representation as an officer on the board of the Georgia Private School Accreditation Council (GAPSAC).
- You have the opportunity to identify with other Christian schools in Georgia.
- A full-service state office exists to serve you.
- The AACCS, our national affiliate, provides an annual National Educators' Conference.
- The AACCS, our national affiliate provides an annual Legislative Conference in Washington, DC.
- The AACCS National Office in Chattanooga, Tennessee is a full-service office for members.
- The AACCS offers a 403-B Retirement Program for members.
- Life, Disability, Student Accident, Long-term Care, and Cancer Insurance is available through our preferred provider, Educator Resources.

Contact the GACS office at the address below:

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 157 Holly Hills Drive
 Athens, GA 30606
 Phone: 706-549-2190
 Email: info@gacs.org

For additional information, please consult the GACS website at www.gacs.org.