

**NATIONAL PETITION FOR AN INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF THE ASSESSMENT,
MODERATION AND MARKING OF THE BASIC EDUCATION CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION
(BECE) AS THEY RELATE TO CANDIDATES FROM PRIVATE SCHOOLS IN GHANA**

Presented to:

7TH AUGUST, 2026

THE HONOURABLE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

Republic of Ghana.

JOINTLY SUBMITTED BY

1. THE GHANA NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PRIVATE SCHOOLS (GNACOPS).

2. THE GHANA NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PRIVATE SCHOOLS (GNAPS).

On behalf of duly registered private pre-tertiary educational institutions throughout the Republic of Ghana.

HONOURABLE MINISTER,

We, the undersigned duly registered private pre-tertiary educational institutions in the Republic of Ghana, acting through our recognised national representative bodies the **Ghana National Council of Private Schools (GNACOPS)** and the **Ghana National Association of Private Schools (GNAPS)** respectfully submit this National Petition requesting the establishment of an **Independent Review** of the assessment, moderation and marking processes of the Basic Education Certificate Examination (BECE), 2026

1. Constitutional and Legal Foundation

This Petition is founded upon the Constitution of the Republic of Ghana and the laws governing education in Ghana. Article 25(2) of the 1992 Constitution guarantees the right of every person to establish and maintain private schools and other private educational institutions, subject to conditions and standards prescribed by law. The constitutional recognition accorded to private education is not merely a right to establish schools; it necessarily guarantees that learners enrolled in duly approved private schools are entitled to equal recognition, equal treatment and equal protection within Ghana's educational system, including the conduct, assessment and certification of national examinations.

2. The Role of Private Schools in National Development

For decades, private schools have played an indispensable role in advancing Ghana's educational development. They continue to complement Government's efforts by expanding access to quality education, investing substantial private resources in educational infrastructure, creating employment and preparing a significant proportion of candidates who sit for the Basic Education Certificate Examination (BECE). The constitutional and statutory recognition of private education therefore demands that every candidate, irrespective of the category of school attended, enjoys complete confidence in the fairness and integrity of Ghana's national assessment system.

3. Basis of the Petition

Across the country, private schools have consistently observed significant disparities between the sustained academic performances of many of their candidates, as demonstrated by cumulative school-based assessments, terminal examinations, mock examinations and other documented academic records, and the grades subsequently awarded to those candidates in the Basic Education Certificate Examination (BECE). These observations are not isolated occurrences but recurring experiences reported by schools over several examination years.

The persistence of these disparities has generated serious concern throughout the private education sector and has raised an important question of public interest that deserves an independent and authoritative determination.

4. The Question for Determination

the question is this:

Whether the existing assessment, moderation and marking processes employed in the administration of the Basic Education Certificate Examination (BECE) 2026, provide sufficient institutional safeguards to ensure that candidates from duly approved private schools are assessed fairly, impartially, consistently and solely on the basis of merit, without distinction arising from the category of school they attend.

5. Public Interest Considerations

This question goes to the heart of constitutional governance, public confidence and educational justice. It also engages the obligation of public authorities to administer their statutory functions fairly, reasonably, transparently and in a manner that inspires confidence among all stakeholders. Equally, the objectives of the Education Regulatory Bodies Act, 2020 (Act 1023) and the Pre-Tertiary Education Act, 2020 (Act 1049) reinforce the State's responsibility to uphold quality, accountability, equity and excellence throughout Ghana's education system.

6. Reliefs Sought

Accordingly, the Petitioners respectfully pray that the Honourable Minister for Education, pursuant to his constitutional and statutory responsibility for the oversight of Ghana's education sector, constitute an **Independent Review Body** comprising persons of unquestionable integrity, competence, and independence to inquire into the matters raised in this Petition.

Without limiting the Committee's mandate, we respectfully request that it be tasked to:

1. **Examine** the assessment, moderation, marking, quality assurance, and results-processing procedures employed by the West African Examinations Council (WAEC) in the administration of the Basic Education Certificate Examination (BECE);
2. **Determine** whether the existing assessment and moderation framework provides adequate safeguards to ensure fairness, consistency, objectivity, transparency, and equal treatment for all candidates, including those from private schools;
3. **Investigate** whether there exist any systemic, procedural, administrative, or operational deficiencies capable of producing disparities or unintended inequities in the assessment outcomes of candidates from private schools;
4. **Receive and consider** documentary evidence, expert submissions, statistical analyses, and representations from all relevant stakeholders, including the Petitioners, WAEC, educational experts, school authorities, and any other persons whose evidence the Committee considers relevant to its inquiry;
5. **Evaluate** the adequacy and effectiveness of existing quality assurance, moderation, standardisation, and oversight mechanisms governing the marking and release of BECE results;
6. **Make findings of fact** on the matters investigated and determine whether any reforms are required to strengthen public confidence in the integrity, credibility, and impartiality of the BECE assessment process; and
7. **Recommend** such legislative, policy, administrative, regulatory, or institutional measures as may be necessary to enhance transparency, accountability, fairness, due process, and the overall integrity of Ghana's national examination system.

The Petitioners further undertake to make themselves available before the Committee to provide oral and documentary evidence in support of this Petition and to cooperate fully with the Committee in the discharge of its mandate.

1. Supporting Evidence

The Petitioners wish to state that they are in possession of relevant documentary and empirical evidence in support of the concerns raised in this Petition. Upon the establishment of an independent review body, the Associations shall make themselves available to present their case and submit all relevant evidence, including cumulative assessment records, terminal examination results, mock examination results, BECE results, and any other materials the review body may require to facilitate a comprehensive, objective, and evidence-based inquiry

8. Conclusion

We are firmly convinced that an independent review undertaken in the national interest will strengthen public confidence in Ghana's educational assessment framework, reinforce the constitutional recognition of private education, protect the legitimate expectations of learners and parents, and further enhance the credibility of the West African Examinations Council and Ghana's national examination system.

We therefore respectfully urge the Honourable Minister to give this Petition favourable and urgent consideration.

Kindly accept the assurances of our highest consideration.

Respectfully Submitted.

1. FOR THE GHANA NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PRIVATE SCHOOLS (GNACOPS)

O BENFO NANA KWASI GYETUAH

Signature: 

Date: 07/08/26

National Executive Director, Ghana National Council of Private Schools (GNACOPS)

Pre-Tertiary Private Education Representative, Governing Council, National Teaching Council (NTC)

Pre-Tertiary Private Education Representative, Governing Council, National Schools Inspectorate Authority (NaSIA).

2. FOR THE GHANA NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PRIVATE SCHOOLS (GNAPS)

Dr. AISHA ASI AKROFI

GREATER ACCRA REGIONAL CHIARPERSON.

Signature: 

Date: 7/8/26