



PHILOSOPHY & FOUNDATIONS

Accreditation Documentation
ACSI Standard 1 | Maryland COMAR 13A.09.09

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*"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom,
and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight."*

— Proverbs 9:10 (ESV)

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SECTION 1: STATEMENT OF FAITH

Full Life Institute affirms the following essential doctrines of the Christian faith. All board members, administrators, and instructional staff must affirm agreement with this Statement of Faith.

1.1 The Scriptures

We believe the Bible is the inspired, infallible, and authoritative Word of God, without error in the original manuscripts and the supreme standard for all faith and practice. (2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21)

1.2 The Godhead

We believe in one God, eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit — co-equal and co-eternal, one in essence yet distinct in person. (Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14)

1.3 Jesus Christ

We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, His virgin birth, sinless life, miracles, vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, bodily resurrection, ascension to the right hand of the Father, and personal return in power and glory. (John 1:1-14; Philippians 2:5-11)

1.4 The Holy Spirit

We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit, who indwells all believers, enabling them to live godly lives, empowering them for service, and producing spiritual fruit. (John 14:16-17; Galatians 5:22-23)

1.5 Humanity

We believe that God created human beings, male and female, in His own image. Marriage is defined as the covenant union between one man and one woman (Genesis 2:24). (Genesis 1:27; Genesis 2:24)

1.6 Salvation

We believe that salvation is by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone. All have sinned and fall short of God's glory, and the only way of salvation is through the regenerating work of the Holy Spirit. (Ephesians 2:8-9; Romans 3:23; John 14:6)

1.7 The Church

We believe in the universal Church, the living spiritual body of which Christ is the head and all regenerated persons are members. (Ephesians 1:22-23; 1 Corinthians 12:12-13)

1.8 Future Things

We believe in the personal, visible return of the Lord Jesus Christ, the resurrection of the dead, and the final judgment of all people. (Acts 1:11; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17)

SECTION 2: MISSION, VISION, AND CORE VALUES

Our Mission

Build. Impact. Finish. Full Life Institute exists to equip the next generation of Christian leaders with a comprehensive, biblically-grounded education that develops the whole child — spiritually, intellectually, emotionally, physically, and practically — preparing them to thrive in an ever-changing world while remaining anchored in eternal truth.

Our Vision

We envision graduates who are not merely academically prepared, but who are equipped as servant-leaders ready to impact their families, communities, churches, and the marketplace with excellence and integrity.

Core Values

- **Biblical Authority:** Scripture as the foundation for all truth and learning
- **Excellence:** Pursuing the highest standards in all academic and character development
- **Whole-Child Development:** Nurturing every aspect of the student's being
- **Future-Ready:** Preparing students for technological and societal changes
- **Character Formation:** Building integrity, resilience, and emotional intelligence
- **Practical Application:** Connecting learning to real-world impact
- **Family Partnership:** Supporting parents as primary educators

SECTION 3: PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION

Educational Approach

Full Life Institute employs a classical Christian education model enhanced with modern pedagogical research and practical life application. Our approach recognizes that children develop through distinct stages (grammar, logic, rhetoric) and tailors instruction accordingly while maintaining seven-pillar integration throughout.

Grammar Stage (Preschool – Grade 4)

Focus on foundational knowledge through memorization, songs, stories, and hands-on exploration.

Logic Stage (Grades 5–8)

Students ask “why” and “how” questions. Emphasis on critical thinking, cause-and-effect, and deeper analysis.

Rhetoric Stage (Grades 9–12)

Students synthesize information, articulate persuasive arguments, and apply knowledge to real-world situations.

Distinctives from Other Christian Curricula

- Seven-Pillar Integration across every lesson
- Future-Ready Focus: AI, technology, and career preparation
- Emotional Intelligence development alongside academics
- Parent Coaching Scripts in every lesson
- Brain Builders (executive function) in every lesson
- Creation Moments (nature connection) in every lesson
- Multi-Modal Expression (verbal, gestural, creative)
- Classical Elements (memory work, narration, Socratic questioning)
- Daily Declarations (bold, Scripture-anchored identity statements)
- Technology & AI Readiness (integrated + 27 elective courses)
- Individual & Group Adaptations in every activity
- Diverse Representation reflecting the body of Christ
- Affordable design using household materials

SECTION 4: ACADEMIC PROGRAM & SEVEN PILLARS

FLL's academic program is detailed in the companion Scope & Sequence document (v4) and Master Curriculum Framework (v3). The Seven Pillars — Theology, Life Skills, Finances, Relationships, Leadership, Health & Fitness, and Business — are woven throughout every lesson at every grade level.

Level	Theme	Session	Units
18-24 Months	Discovering My World	45-60 min	18 (2-wk)
2 Years	Exploring God's Creation	60-75 min	18 (2-wk)
3 Years	Growing & Learning	90 min	18 (2-wk)
Pre-K (4 Years)	Ready for School	2-3 hours	15 (2-3 wk)
Kindergarten	Building Foundations	Full day	12 (3-wk)
Grades 1-5	Academic Progression	Full day	9-10 (3-4 wk)
Grades 6-8	Middle School	Full day	9 (4-wk)
Grades 9-12	High School	Full day	6-8 (4-6 wk)

Additionally, FLL offers 27 standalone elective courses across 5 pillar categories (Technology/AI, Business, Finances, Leadership, Nutrition & Wellness) available Grades 6–12.

SECTION 5: EVIDENCE-BASED INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES

FLI has adopted eight evidence-based instructional strategies that enhance every lesson without adding significant time or cost. These strategies are research-backed practices drawn from neuroscience, Harvard's Center on the Developing Child, NAEYC, classical education, and peer-reviewed studies.

The result is a curriculum that no single competitor can match: structured faith-based content, multi-sensory play, executive function development, parent coaching, diverse representation, nature connection, classical learning elements, and technology/AI readiness — all in one affordable, accessible package.

Strategy 1: Practical Life Integration

Adapted from: Montessori Method

Real-world tasks scaled to ability: pouring, wiping, sorting, dressing, simple cooking. Build motor skills, independence, and stewardship.

Research Foundation: Montessori children perform above grade level and demonstrate strong self-regulation. Practical life builds fine/gross motor foundations for writing and self-care.

FLI Application: Each lesson includes a Life Skill Moment using everyday household items. Not specialized Montessori equipment.

"Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord." (Colossians 3:23, ESV)

Strategy 2: Nature Connection & Creation Moments

Adapted from: Charlotte Mason / Waldorf

Regular outdoor time connecting children to God's creation through observation, sensory exploration, and guided wonder.

Research Foundation: Nature learning reduces cortisol, improves attention, and builds sensory integration. Outdoor experiences produce calmer, more attentive learners.

FLI Application: Designated lessons include Creation Moments — brief outdoor activities tied to unit themes with Parent Script guidance.

"The heavens declare the glory of God." (Psalm 19:1, ESV)

Strategy 3: Parent Coaching Scripts

Adapted from: Unique to FLI

Scripted dialogue showing parents exactly what to say, how to respond, and when to adjust during each lesson.

Research Foundation: Harvard identifies responsive parent-child interaction as the #1 factor in healthy brain architecture. No major homeschool curriculum provides this level of coaching.

FLI Application: Every lesson contains Parent Script boxes with exact dialogue, serve-and-return prompts, and if/then guidance.

"You shall teach them diligently to your children." (Deuteronomy 6:6-7, ESV)

Strategy 4: Multi-Modal Expression

Adapted from: Reggio Emilia

Children express understanding through speech, movement, music, art, building, and dramatic play — not just verbal responses.

Research Foundation: Multi-sensory processing creates stronger neural connections. Verbal-only assessment dramatically underestimates what young children know.

FLI Application: Each objective provides three demonstration paths: verbal, gestural/physical, and creative expression.

"We are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus." (Ephesians 2:10, ESV)

Strategy 5: Executive Function Brain Builders

Adapted from: Harvard Center / Tools of the Mind

Playful games targeting working memory, inhibitory control, and cognitive flexibility. Labeled so parents understand the brain-building purpose.

Research Foundation: Executive function in preschool predicts academic achievement 3+ years later — more reliably than IQ.

FLI Application: Each lesson includes one 2–3 minute Brain Builder game with parent-facing explanation of the skill developed.

"God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control." (2 Timothy 1:7, ESV)

Strategy 6: Diverse Representation

Adapted from: Market Gap

Books, images, and examples reflecting diverse Christian families: different ethnicities, family structures united by faith.

Research Foundation: Black homeschooling grew from 3.3% to 16.1%. Limited representation is the #1 criticism of established Christian curricula.

FLI Application: Each unit includes diverse book recommendations. Language reflects the actual body of Christ. All family representations aligned with Genesis 2:24 biblical family model.

"A great multitude from every nation, tribe, people and language." (Revelation 7:9, ESV)

Strategy 7: Classical Elements

Adapted from: Classical Conversations / Veritas / Well-Trained Mind

Memory work, narration, Socratic discussion, and grammar-logic-rhetoric progression. Daily Declarations combine memory work with identity formation.

Research Foundation: Classical education produces strong critical thinking and communication. Narration is one of the most effective comprehension strategies available.

FLI Application: Preschool: memory verses, narration, Daily Declarations, Socratic questioning in Parent Scripts. Elementary: copywork, formal narration. Middle: logic, debate, apologetics. High: rhetoric, thesis, mastery.

"I have stored up your word in my heart." (Psalm 119:11, ESV)

Strategy 8: Technology & AI Readiness

Adapted from: Unique to FLI

Age-appropriate tech integration preparing for AI future. Hybrid: integrated throughout all levels + 7 standalone elective courses (Grades 6-12). 27 total electives.

Research Foundation: No Christian competitor addresses AI readiness. Essential for 21st century preparation. Children need skills AI cannot replicate.

FLI Application: PreK: zero screens. K-2: basic computer, safety, typing. 3-5: coding basics, digital citizenship. 6-8: AI awareness, coding, social media wisdom. 9-12: AI tools, digital entrepreneurship, tech ethics.

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart." (Colossians 3:23, ESV)

Daily Declarations (Integrated Across All Strategies)

Beginning in Year 3 and deepening through Pre-K and beyond, FLI incorporates Daily Declarations — bold, Scripture-anchored, faith-forward statements spoken over each child’s life. Modeled after the Declare Bible App format, these combine classical memory work with prophetic identity formation. Parent reads an authority-driven declaration paragraph, then the child repeats call-and-response lines with boldness. By Pre-K graduation, children have spoken over 150 unique declarations covering identity, family, community, health, career, literacy, stewardship, and the gospel.

Strategy Integration Summary

All eight strategies layer onto FLI’s existing lesson structure without adding significant time or cost. Strategies 7-8 and Daily Declarations are embedded within existing elements.

Lesson Element	Enhancement	Strategy Source	Brain Benefit
Prayer/Bible Time	+ Emotional Check-In	SEL Research	Emotional regulation
Circle Time	+ Parent Script + Language Boost	Harvard / NAEYC	Neural connections
Learning Activity	+ Multi-Modal + Brain Builder	Reggio / EF Research	Executive function
Sensory Play	+ Life Skill Moment	Montessori	Independence
Story Time	+ Diverse books + Narration	Charlotte Mason / Classical	Comprehension
Closing	+ Creation Moment + Declaration	Charlotte Mason / Declare	Wonder + Identity
Academic Focus	+ Classical memory + Tech awareness	Classical / FLI	Long-term retention

SECTION 6: EXPECTED STUDENT OUTCOMES (ESOs)

Expected Student Outcomes define what FLI students should know, be able to do, and be like upon graduation.

6.1 Academic Outcomes

Language Arts: Read with comprehension, analyze literature, write persuasively, communicate effectively, conduct research.

Mathematics: Demonstrate grade-level proficiency, apply reasoning to real-world problems, use quantitative analysis.

Science: Understand life/physical/earth sciences, apply scientific method, recognize God's design in creation.

Social Studies: Understand history, geography, civics, economics; analyze events through biblical worldview.

6.2 Seven Pillars Enrichment Outcomes

Theology: Personal faith in Christ, Scripture knowledge, Christian character, apologetics.

Business: Entrepreneurial understanding, strong work ethic, biblical stewardship of vocation.

Leadership: Servant leadership, effective communication, wise decision-making with integrity.

Relationships: Healthy God-honoring relationships, conflict resolution, honoring parents.

Finances: Biblical stewardship, budgeting, generous giving, wise saving.

Health & Fitness: Body as temple, healthy habits in nutrition/exercise/rest.

Life Skills: Time management, critical thinking, practical wisdom in daily decisions.

SECTION 7: BIBLICAL INTEGRATION

Biblical integration at FLI is not adding Bible verses to academic content. It is the intentional connection of ALL learning to God’s truth, demonstrating that every subject reveals God’s character, creation, and purposes.

Subject Area	Biblical Integration Approach
Language Arts	God as the Word, power of language, literature through biblical lens
Mathematics	God’s order and consistency, stewardship, logical thinking
Science	God as Creator, studying creation to know the Creator
Social Studies	God’s sovereignty in history, human nature, government
Arts	Reflecting the Creator’s creativity, beauty and truth
Physical Education	Body as temple, teamwork, perseverance, stewardship

SECTION 8: NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

Full Life Institute admits students of any race, color, national, or ethnic origin to all rights, privileges, programs, and activities. FLI does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national, or ethnic origin. This policy complies with Maryland COMAR 13A.09.09.04H and applicable federal requirements.

SECTION 9: REGULATORY COMPLIANCE

9.1 ACSI Accreditation Standards

This document addresses ACSI REACH Standard 1: Philosophy and Foundations.

9.2 Maryland State Requirements

FLI complies with Maryland COMAR 13A.09.09 including: educational programs in all core subjects, appropriate curriculum, non-discrimination, annual reporting, student records, health/safety compliance, and child abuse reporting procedures.

APPENDIX A: STATEMENT OF FAITH SIGNATURE PAGE

I have read and understand the Full Life Institute Statement of Faith. I affirm my personal agreement with each article.

I affirm my agreement with the FLI Statement of Faith

Printed Name: _____ Position: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Church Name: _____ Pastor: _____

APPENDIX B: ESO ASSESSMENT RUBRIC

Level	Score	Description
Beginning	1	Below grade level; needs significant support
Developing	2	Approaching grade level; making progress
Proficient	3	At grade level; meets expectations
Exemplary	4	Above grade level; exceeds expectations