



Here are the key ways accredited organizations distinguish themselves:

1. Independent Validation of Quality

Accreditation provides **external, objective confirmation** that an organization meets recognized standards of quality, governance, and accountability—not just internal claims of good practice.

- Decisions and practices are **reviewed by trained external reviewers**
- Compliance is demonstrated through evidence, not intention
- Credibility is strengthened with funders, partners, and regulators

Non-accredited organizations may do good work, but they lack independent validation.

2. Stronger Governance and Accountability

Accredited organizations typically demonstrate:

- Active, informed Boards with defined roles and oversight
- Clear policies for risk, succession, ethics, and financial stewardship
- Regular review and improvement cycles

This results in **better decision-making** and reduced organizational risk.

3. Consistency and Reliability

Accreditation requires organizations to:

- Standardize key practices (HR, safety, rights, service delivery)
- Reduce reliance on informal or “person-dependent” processes
- Ensure quality is maintained even during staff or leadership changes

This creates **organizational resilience**, not just good intentions.

4. Culture of Continuous Improvement

Accredited organizations move beyond compliance and ask:

- *What's working?*
- *What needs to improve?*
- *How do we know?*

They use:

- Data and feedback
- Surveys and stakeholder input
- Quality Improvement Plans (QIPs)

This signals a **learning organization**, not a static one.

5. Clear Commitment to the People They Support

Accreditation emphasizes:

- Rights, dignity, and inclusion
- Person-centred approaches
- Safety and informed choice

Accredited organizations can **demonstrate** how these values show up in daily practice—not just state them.

6. Stronger Workforce Practices

Accredited organizations are more likely to have:

- Clear supervision and accountability structures
- Defined expectations and training pathways
- Better staff engagement and retention

This translates into **more stable, confident teams** and better outcomes.

7. Greater Trust with Funders and Community Partners

Accreditation signals that an organization:

- Uses resources responsibly
- Manages risk proactively
- Is transparent and accountable

This often leads to:

- Stronger partnerships
- Increased confidence from funders
- Competitive advantage in funding or service agreements

In short:

Accredited organizations don't just say they are doing good work—they can show it.

Accreditation sets them apart as organizations that are:

- Accountable
- Consistent
- Transparent
- Continuously improving
- Committed to excellence over time