

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS BY APPLICANT GROUPS SEEKING TO ESTABLISH A CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY THE NYS BOARD OF REGENTS

The information below provides responses to specific questions asked by charter school applicant and the general public. Applicant groups are advised, and the public is encouraged to become familiar with New York State Education Law, Article 56: Charter Schools Act and all related regulatory provisions most of which are available [law, Regulations & Current Memo](#). To submit an application to establish a new charter school authorized by the Board of Regents, applicant groups should thoroughly review the requirements for submission as contained in the current year's [Request for Proposals \(RFP\)](#)/MC007214-4687-04-01 (NY State Education Law Article 56(o)12.9(l)96) several hours before the deadline.

submitted via email or by postal special delivery carriers will not be accepted

Successful submission of the Letter of Intent and Full Application using the web portal will automatically generate an acknowledgment email to the applicant. If a confirmation email is not received, the applicant should conclude that the submission was not received and proceed to log back in to see that you have clicked the "Submit" button at the very end of your task list. If further assistance is needed, please call the Charter School Office before the 3:00 PM deadline for assistance or further guidance-14.9(ur) submission?

Yes. If not previously identified in the Letter of Intent, the applicant group may need to add new members to Table 1 and submit for each new member the following documents:

- a. Applicant and Proposed School Trustee Background Information Sheet
- b. Resumé or Curriculum Vitae
- c. Copy of Diploma or Transcript from Highest Degree Granting Institution

- If an individual has education credentials but cannot provide such documentation, please submit a signed and notarized letter stating the highest level of education obtained

3. In the Full Application, may we add an individual (not included in the Letter of Intent) to the proposed school's founding board? May we remove an individual that was named as a founding board member in the Letter of Intent?

As stated above, it is reasonable and acceptable that there may be changes in the composition of the applicant group (including the proposed founding board of trustees) between the submission of the LOI and the Full Application. Applicant groups may reflect any additions or deletions by updating table 1: Applicant Group Information.

- 4.

9.

Pursuant to paragraph (a) of subdivision 1 of section 2856 of the Education Law, as amended by Chapter 59 of the Laws of 2017, total 2018 Charter School Basic Tuition to be paid to charter schools is the lesser of:

(A) the 2017 Charter School Basic Tuition times the average of the three middle values among the five year-to-year quotients in the school district's Approved Operating Expense (AOE) starting from aid years 2011 to 2013 and ending with aid years 2015 to 2017.

Example of Quotient determination:

The average of the three middle values from the following five values (the highest and lowest quotients are excluded):

- x Quotient of 2012 AOE / 2011 AOE is 100.00
- x Quotient of 2013 AOE / 2012 AOE is 103.00
- x Quotient of 2014 AOE / 2013 AOE is 103.50
- x Quotient of 2015 AOE / 2014 AOE is 107.50

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16. Please provide clarity about the level of specificity required in this section. Should academic

No. Pursuant to Education Law §2854(2)(c), a charter school may serve one or more grades kindergarten through 12. A charter school may not enroll or serve kindergarten students unless awarded a Universal Pre-K grant through their district of location after authorization. Such charter schools may enroll prekindergarten students in that program which is separate and independent of the charter school program approved through the NYSED New Charter School RFP.

22. What are enrollment and retention targets?

In accordance with the 2010 revisions to the Charter Schools Act, the Board of Regents and the State University of New York have worked collaboratively to establish targets for the enrollment and retention of students with disabilities, English language learners and students who are eligible for the free and reduced price lunch program. The targets are comparable to the figures for these categories of students within the public school district of location.

The Letter of Intent and Full Application should include detailed information about the school's planned strategies to recruit, serve and care these targeted populations. As part of the evaluation of the charter

multiple charter schools and/or add to a network of existing charter schools, whether these schools are in

applications exceeds the number of available charters, Charter School Office staff will prioritize the applications according to the criteria set forth in Appendix C: New York State Priority Scoring Rubric

31. On what grounds may a charter application be denied?

Applications that do not meet the criteria outlined in the charter school application will not be recommended to the

37. Do charter school teachers have to be certified?

Yes, however, charter schools have a great deal of flexibility established in law. Charter Schools may employ uncertified teachers with at least three years of classroom teaching experience or two years of satisfactory Teach for America experience, or who are tenured or tenured college faculty, or individuals with exceptional business, professional, artistic, athletic, or military experience. The number of uncertified teachers employed by a charter school may not be more than the sum of: (A) thirty per centum of the teaching staff of a charter school, or five teachers, whichever is less; (B) five teachers of mathematics, science, computer science, technology, or career and technical education; plus (C) five additional teachers.

CHARTER SCHOOL FUNDING

38. How much money do charter schools receive?

The amount depends on the number of students the charter school serves and the approved operating expense (AOE) based on local, State, and federal funds of respective districts of residence of enrolled students. Current information about charter school basic tuition rates paid by districts is available on the NYSED [State Aid webpage](#). If the charter school provides special education programs and services to its students, rather than have such services provided by the schools of residence, the charter school will also receive federal, state and local aid in proportion to the level of services provided.

Yes. Charter schools may use per pupil funding (charter school basic tuition) to pay for lease payments, mortgage payments, rents and other operational costs bundled or associated with these facilities payments. Charter schools may also use per pupil funding to pay for construction costs.