



# *State Charter Laws*

# *Charter School Definitions*

Updated August 2025

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# Introduction

WestEd monitors Charter Schools Program (CSP) grantees to assess the extent to which they implement their grant projects as approved and as required by law, in accordance with state and Federal regulations. Monitoring addresses whether the states in which CSP grantees are located have definitions of charter schools that align with the Federal definition of charter school.

Federal CSP statute requires charter schools funded under the CSP to meet the definition of charter school under section 4310(2) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and each of its 13 elements. To see the full definition, see the *Federal Definition of Charter School By Element Presented in State Profiles* on page 6 of this document.

This document includes an at-a-glance overview of whether states' and territories' definitions of charter schools aligns with the Federal definition of charter school as indicated with a "Yes," "Partially," and "No."<sup>1</sup> Each state or territory with a charter law has a profile page that summarizes whether and how it defines each of the 13 elements included in the Federal definition. The profile also cites the laws that contain the information presented for verification.

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<sup>1</sup> As of August 2025, six states and territories did not have a charter law, including American Samoa, Nebraska, Northern Mariana Islands, South Dakota, Vermont, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. These states and territories are not included in this document.

## Summary of State Charter Law Alignment With Elements of the Federal Definition of Charter School

States and territories with charter laws	A Flexible operation	B Public supervision	C Educational objectives	D K-12 education	E Nonsectarian	F Tuition-free	G Federal compliance	H Enrollment	I Audit	J Safety requirements	K State compliance	L Student performance	M ECE or postsecondary
<a href="#">Alabama</a>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<a href="#">Alaska</a>	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<a href="#">Arizona</a>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<a href="#">Arkansas</a>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<a href="#">California</a>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
<a href="#">Colorado</a>	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<a href="#">Connecticut</a>	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<a href="#">Delaware</a>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<a href="#">District of Columbia</a>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
<a href="#">Florida</a>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<a href="#">Georgia</a>	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<a href="#">Guam</a>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<a href="#">Hawai'i</a>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<a href="#">Idaho</a>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<a href="#">Illinois</a>	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<a href="#">Indiana</a>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<a href="#">Iowa</a>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<a href="#">Kansas</a>	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Partially	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
<a href="#">Kentucky*</a>	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Partially	Partially	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	No
<a href="#">Louisiana</a>	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Partially	Yes	No	Partially	Yes	No
<a href="#">Maine</a>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<a href="#">Maryland</a>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<a href="#">Massachusetts</a>	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<a href="#">Michigan</a>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<a href="#">Minnesota</a>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<a href="#">Mississippi</a>	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<a href="#">Missouri</a>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<a href="#">Montana</a>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No

\*The charter law was found unconstitutional at the time of publication.

*Summary of State Charter Law Alignment With Elements of the Federal Definition of Charter School (continued)*

<b>States and territories with charter laws</b>	<b>A Flexible operation</b>	<b>B Public supervision</b>	<b>C Educational objectives</b>	<b>D K-12 education</b>	<b>E Nonsectarian</b>	<b>F Tuition-free</b>	<b>G Federal compliance</b>	<b>H Enrollment</b>	<b>I Audit</b>	<b>J Safety requirements</b>	<b>K State compliance</b>	<b>L Student performance</b>	<b>M ECE or postsecondary</b>
<u>Nevada</u>	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Partially	Partially	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	No
<u>New Hampshire</u>	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Partially	Partially	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	No
<u>New Jersey</u>	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Partially	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<u>New Mexico</u>	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<u>New York</u>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<u>North Carolina</u>	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<u>North Dakota</u>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
<u>Ohio</u>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
<u>Oklahoma</u>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<u>Oregon</u>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<u>Pennsylvania</u>	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
<u>Puerto Rico</u>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<u>Rhode Island</u>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<u>South Carolina</u>	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<u>Tennessee</u>	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<u>Texas</u>	Partially	No	Yes	Partially	No	Partially	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially
<u>Utah</u>	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
<u>Virginia</u>	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
<u>Washington</u>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<u>West Virginia</u>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<u>Wisconsin</u>	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
<u>Wyoming</u>	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No

## The Federal Definition of Charter School by Element Presented in State Profiles

Element	The term “charter school” means a public school that—
<b>A. Flexible operation</b>	in accordance with a specific State statute authorizing the granting of charters to schools, is exempt from significant State or local rules that inhibit the flexible operation and management of public schools, but not from any rules relating to the other requirements of this definition
<b>B. Public supervision</b>	is created by a developer as a public school, or is adapted by a developer from an existing public school, and is operated under public supervision and direction
<b>C. Educational objectives</b>	operates in pursuit of a specific set of educational objectives determined by the school's developer and agreed to by the authorized public chartering agency
<b>D. K-12 education</b>	provides a program of elementary or secondary education, or both
<b>E. Nonsectarian</b>	is nonsectarian in its programs, admissions policies, employment practices, and all other operations, and is not affiliated with a sectarian school or religious institution
<b>F. Tuition-free</b>	does not charge tuition
<b>G. Federal compliance</b>	complies with: the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 section 444 of the GEPA (20 U.S.C. 1232g) (FERPA) Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
<b>H. Enrollment</b>	is a school to which parents choose to send their children, and that— (i) admits students on the basis of a lottery, consistent with section 4303(c)(3)(A), if more students apply for admission than can be accommodated; or (ii) in the case of a school that has an affiliated charter school (such as a school that is part of the same network of schools), automatically enrolls students who are enrolled in the immediate prior grade level of the affiliated charter school and, for any additional student openings or student openings created through regular attrition in student enrollment in the affiliated charter school and the enrolling school, admits students on the basis of a lottery as described in Clause (i)
<b>I. Audit</b>	agrees to comply with the same Federal and State audit requirements as do other elementary schools and secondary schools in the State, unless such State audit requirements are specifically waived for the purpose of this program
<b>J. Safety requirements</b>	meets all applicable Federal, State, and local health and safety requirements
<b>K. State compliance</b>	operates in accordance with State law
<b>L. Student performance</b>	has a written performance contract with the authorized public chartering agency in the State that includes a description of how student performance will be measured in charter schools pursuant to State assessments that are required of other schools and pursuant to any other assessments mutually agreeable to the authorized public chartering agency and the charter school
<b>M. ECE or postsecondary</b>	may serve students in early childhood education programs or postsecondary students

# Alabama

## Charter Law

### **A. Flexible operation**

(Ala. Code § 16-6F-4; Ala. Code § 16-6F-9)

A public charter school has autonomy over key decisions including, but not limited to, decisions concerning finance, personnel, scheduling, curriculum, instruction, and procurement.

### **B. Public supervision** (Ala. Code § 16-6F-4)

A charter school is a public school pursuant to chapter 6F and is governed by an independent governing board that is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization.

### **C. Educational objectives**

(Ala. Code § 16-6F-8)

The performance provisions within the charter contract shall be based on a performance framework that clearly sets forth the academic and operational performance indicators, measures, and metrics that will guide the authorizer's evaluations of each public charter school.

### **D. K-12 education** (Ala. Code § 16-6F-4)

A public charter school provides an educational program that includes any grade or grades from prekindergarten to 12th grade.

### **E. Nonsectarian** (Ala. Code § 16-6F-9)

No public charter school may engage in any sectarian practices in its educational program, admissions or employment policies, or operations.

### **F. Tuition-free** (Ala. Code § 16-6F-9)

A public charter school shall not charge tuition and may only charge such fees as may be imposed on other students attending public schools in the state.

### **G. Federal compliance**

(Ala. Code § 16-6F-9)

A public charter school shall be subject to all Federal laws and authorities enumerated herein or arranged by charter contract with the school's authorizer, where such contracting is consistent with applicable laws, rules, and regulations.

### **H. Enrollment** (Ala. Code § 16-6F-5)

**Lottery:** A public charter school is a school that admits students on the basis of a random selection process if more students attempt to enroll for admission than can be accommodated.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### **I. Audit** (Ala. Code § 16-6F-10)

A public charter school shall annually engage an independent certified public accountant to do an independent audit of the school's finances.

### **J. Safety requirements**

(Ala. Code § 16-6F-9)

Public charter schools shall be subject to the same civil rights, health, and safety requirements, including, but not limited to, state and local public health and building codes, employee fingerprinting and criminal background checks applicable to other public schools in the state, except as otherwise specifically provided in this chapter.

### **K. State compliance** (Ala. Code § 16-6F-9)

A public charter school shall be responsible for meeting the requirements of local educational agencies under applicable Federal, state, and local laws, including those relating to special education.

### **L. Student performance**

(Ala. Code § 16-6F-9)

Public charter schools shall be subject to the statewide end-of-year annual standardized assessment as applicable to other public schools in the state, but nothing herein shall preclude a public charter school from establishing additional student assessment measures that go beyond state requirements if the school's authorizer approves such measures.

### **M. ECE or postsecondary**

(Ala. Code § 16-6F-4)

A public charter school provides an educational program that includes any grade or grades from prekindergarten to 12th grade.

# Alaska

## Charter Law

### **A. Flexible operation**

*(Alaska Stat. § 14.03.255)*

A charter school operates as a school in the local school district except that the charter school (a) is exempt from the local school district's textbook, program, curriculum, and scheduling requirements; (b) is exempt from AS 14.14.130(c); the principal of the charter school shall be selected by the academic policy committee and shall select, appoint, or otherwise supervise employees of the charter school; and (c) operates under the charter school's annual program budget as set out in the contract between the local school board and the charter school under (c) of this section. A local school board may exempt a charter school from other local school district requirements if the exemption is set out in the contract.

### **B. Public supervision**

*(Alaska Stat. § 14.03.290; Alaska Stat. § 14.03.255)*

"Charter school" means a school established under AS 14.03.250 - 14.03.290 that operates within a public school district. A charter school shall operate under a contract between the charter school and the local school board.

### **C. Educational objectives**

*(Alaska Stat. § 14.03.255)*

A charter school contract must contain a description of the educational program, specific levels of achievement for the education program, and a termination clause providing that the contract may be terminated by the local school board for the failure of the charter school to meet educational achievement goals or fiscal management standards, or for other good cause.

### **D. K-12 education**

Not stipulated

### **E. Nonsectarian** *(Alaska Stat. § 14.03.265)*

A charter school shall be nonsectarian.

### **F. Tuition-free**

Not stipulated

### **G. Federal compliance**

*(Alaska Stat. § 14.03.255)*

A charter school contract must contain a statement that the charter school will comply with all state and Federal requirements for receipt and use of public money.

### **H. Enrollment** *(Alaska Stat. § 14.03.265)*

**Lottery:** If it is not possible to accommodate all eligible students who submit a timely application, students shall be accepted by random drawing.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### **I. Audit** *(Alaska Stat. § 14.03.260)*

The charter school shall provide the financial and accounting information requested by the local school board or the department of education and early development and shall cooperate with the local school district or the department in complying with the requirements of AS 14.17.910.

### **J. Safety requirements**

*(Alaska Stat. § 14.03.255)*

The chief school administrator determines if facilities meet requirements for health and safety applicable to public buildings or other public schools in the district.

### **K. State compliance**

*(Alaska Stat. § 14.03.255)*

A charter school contract must contain a statement that the charter school will comply with all state and Federal requirements for receipt and use of public money.

### **L. Student performance**

*(Alaska Stat. § 14.03.255)*

A charter school contract must contain specific levels of achievement for an education program.

### **M. ECE or postsecondary**

Not stipulated



# Arizona

## Charter Law

### **A. Flexible operation**

*(Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 15-183)*

The charter of a charter school shall ensure that, except as provided in this article and in its charter, it is exempt from all statutes and rules relating to schools, governing boards, and school districts.

### **B. Public supervision**

*(Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 15-181; Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 15-182)*

Charter schools are public schools. The state board for charter schools shall exercise general supervision over charter schools that are sponsored by the board, recommend legislation pertaining to charter schools to the legislature, and adopt rules and policies that the board deems necessary to accomplish the purposes prescribed in this section.

### **C. Educational objectives**

*(Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 15-183)*

A charter school must meet the operational performance expectations set forth in the performance framework or any improvement plans.

### **D. K-12 education** *(Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 15-183)*

The charter of a charter school shall ensure that it provides a comprehensive program of instruction for at least a kindergarten program or any grade between grades one and twelve, except that a school may offer this curriculum with an emphasis on a specific learning philosophy or style or certain subject areas such as mathematics, science, fine arts, performance arts, or foreign language.

### **E. Nonsectarian** *(Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 15-183)*

The charter of a charter school shall ensure that it is nonsectarian in its programs, admission policies, and employment practices, and all other operations.

### **F. Tuition-free** *(Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 15-185)*

The charter school shall not charge tuition for pupils who reside in this state. A charter school may admit pupils who are not residents of this state and shall charge tuition for those pupils in the same manner prescribed in section 15-823.

### **G. Federal compliance**

*(Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 15-183)*

The charter of a charter school shall ensure compliance with Federal, state, and local rules, regulations, and statutes relating to health, safety, civil rights, and insurance.

### **H. Enrollment** *(Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 15-184)*

**Lottery:** If remaining capacity is insufficient to enroll all pupils who submit a timely application, the charter school shall select pupils through an equitable selection process such as a lottery.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### **I. Audit** *(Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 15-183)*

The charter of a charter school shall ensure that, except as provided in this article, it is subject to the same financial and electronic data submission requirements as a school district, including audit requirements. The department of education or the office of the auditor general may conduct financial, program, or compliance audits.

### **J. Safety requirements**

*(Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 15-183)*

The charter of a charter school shall ensure compliance with Federal, state, and local rules, regulations, and statutes relating to health, safety, civil rights, and insurance.

### **K. State compliance**

*(Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 15-181)*

Charter schools shall comply with all provisions of this article to receive state funding as prescribed in section 15-185.

### **L. Student performance**

*(Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 15-183)*

The charter of a charter school shall ensure that it designs a method to measure pupil progress toward the pupil outcomes, including participation in the statewide assessment and the nationally standardized norm-referenced achievement test as designated by the state board and the completion and distribution of an annual report card.

### **M. ECE or postsecondary**

Not stipulated

# Arkansas

## Charter Law

*Charter schools are public schools that are referred to as either “conversion public charter schools” or “open-enrollment public charter schools.”*

### **A. Flexible operation** (Ark. Code § 6-23-103)

Charter schools are exempt from state and local rules, regulations, policies, and procedures specified in the contract and from the provisions of this title specified in the contract.

### **B. Public supervision**

(Ark. Code § 6-23-103; Ark. Code § 6-23-401)

An open-enrollment public charter school shall be governed by an eligible entity that is fiscally accountable and under the governing structure as described in the charter.

### **C. Educational objectives**

(Ark. Code § 6-23-201; Ark. Code § 6-23-303)

A charter school application must include a set of performance criteria that will be used during the initial five-year period of the open-enrollment public charter school's operation to measure its progress in meeting its academic performance goals and an agreement to provide an annual report to parents, the community, and the authorizer that demonstrates the progress made by the open-enrollment public charter school during the previous academic year in meeting its academic performance objectives.

### **D. K-12 education** (Ark. Code § 6-23-401)

An open-enrollment public charter school shall provide instruction to students at one or more

elementary or secondary grade levels as provided by the charter.

### **E. Nonsectarian** (Ark. Code § 6-23-103)

A charter school is nonsectarian in its program, admissions policies, employment practices, and operations.

### **F. Tuition-free** (Ark. Code § 6-23-401)

An open-enrollment public charter school shall not charge students tuition or fees that would not be allowable charges in the public school districts.

### **G. Federal compliance**

(Ark. Code § 6-23-507)

The state board of education shall have the authority to promulgate rules in accordance with other state and Federal statutes and regulations to implement this subchapter and § 6-23-402.

### **H. Enrollment** (Ark. Code § 6-23-306)

**Lottery:** If more eligible students apply for a first-time admission than the open-enrollment public charter school is able to accept by the annual deadline that the open-enrollment public charter school has established for the receipt of applications for the next school year, the open-enrollment public charter must require the open-enrollment public charter school to use a random, anonymous student selection method that shall be described in the charter application.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### **I. Audit** (Ark. Code § 6-23-505)

An open-enrollment public charter school shall prepare an annual certified audit of the financial

condition and transactions of the open-enrollment public charter school as of June 30 of each year in accordance with generally accepted auditing procedures and containing any other data as determined by the state board of education for all public schools.

### **J. Safety requirements**

(Ark. Code § 6-23-401)

An open-enrollment public charter school shall adhere to health and safety codes as established by the state board and local governmental entities.

### **K. State compliance** (Ark. Code § 6-23-401)

An open-enrollment public charter school is subject to any prohibition, restriction, or requirement imposed by Title 6 of the Arkansas Code and any rule and regulation promulgated by the state board under Title 6 of the Arkansas Code.

### **L. Student performance**

(Ark. Code § 6-23-202)

Applications for conversion public charter schools must include student achievement objectives for the term of the charter and the means for measuring those objectives on at least a yearly basis.

### **M. ECE or postsecondary**

(Ark. Code § 6-23-103)

“Adult education charter school” means a charter school for individuals at least nineteen (19) years of age that offers a high school diploma program and an industry certification program simultaneously to students.

# California

## Charter Law

### **A. Flexible operation**

(Cal. Educ. Code § 47610)

A charter school shall comply with this part and all of the provisions set forth in its charter but is otherwise exempt from the laws governing school districts, except (a) as specified in section 47611 and 41365, (b) all laws establishing minimum age for public school attendance, (c) the California Building Standards Code, and (d) charter school facilities shall comply with subdivision (c).

### **B. Public supervision**

(Cal. Educ. Code § 47615; Cal. Educ. Code § 47612)

Charter schools are part of the public school system, as defined in Article IX of the California Constitution. Charter schools are under the jurisdiction of the public school system and the exclusive control of the officers of the public schools.

### **C. Educational objectives**

(Cal. Educ. Code § 47601)

It is the intent of the legislature to hold the schools established under this part accountable for meeting measurable pupil outcomes and provide the schools with a method to change from rule-based to performance-based accountability systems.

### **D. K–12 Education**

(Cal. Educ. Code § 47612.5)

A charter school may annually offer instructional minutes to pupils in kindergarten to grade 12.

### **E. Nonsectarian** (Cal. Educ. Code § 47605)

A charter school shall be nonsectarian in its programs, admission policies, employment practices, and all other operations.

### **F. Tuition-free** (Cal. Educ. Code § 47605)

A charter school may not charge tuition.

### **G. Federal compliance**

(Cal. Educ. Code § 47605)

Charter schools are not exempt from Federal requirements, including the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015, and any requirements that are a condition of receiving Federal funding.

### **H. Enrollment** (Cal. Educ. Code § 47605)

**Lottery:** If the number of pupils who wish to attend the charter school exceeds the charter school's capacity, attendance shall be determined by a public random drawing.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### **I. Audits** (Cal. Educ. Code § 47605)

Annual, independent financial audits shall be conducted, which shall employ generally accepted accounting principles, and audit exceptions and deficiencies shall be resolved to the satisfaction of the chartering authority.

### **J. Safety requirements**

(Cal. Educ. Code § 47605)

The petition for a charter school must include procedures that the charter school will follow to ensure the health and safety of pupils and staff.

### **K. State compliance**

Not stipulated

### **L. Student performance**

(Cal. Educ. Code § 47607.2)

“Measurements of academic performance” means indicators included in the evaluation rubrics adopted pursuant to section 52064.5 that are based on statewide assessments in the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress system, or any successor system, the English Language Proficiency Assessments for California, or any successor system, and the college and career readiness indicator.

### **M. ECE or postsecondary**

Not stipulated

# Colorado

## Charter Law

### **A. Flexible operation**

*(Colo. Rev. Stat. § 22-30.5-104)*

A charter school may operate free from specified school district policies and free from state rules. A charter school shall be responsible for its own operation including, but not limited to, preparing a budget and contracting for services, facilities, and personnel matters.

### **B. Public supervision**

*(Colo. Rev. Stat. § 22-30.5-104)*

A charter school shall be a public school of the school district that approves its charter application and enters into a charter contract with the charter school. A charter school shall be administered and governed by a governing body in a manner agreed to by the charter school applicant and the chartering local board of education.

### **C. Educational objectives**

*(Colo. Rev. Stat. § 22-30.5-106)*

The charter school application must include the goals, objectives, and student performance standards the proposed charter school expects to achieve, including but not limited to the performance indicators specified in section 22-11-204 and applicable standards and goals specified in Federal law.

### **D. K-12 education**

Not stipulated

### **E. Nonsectarian**

*(Colo. Rev. Stat. § 22-30.5-104)*

A charter school shall be a nonsectarian, nonreligious school which operates within a public school district.

### **F. Tuition-free** *(Colo. Rev. Stat. § 22-30.5-104)*

A charter school shall not charge tuition.

### **G. Federal compliance**

*(Colo. Rev. Stat. § 22-30.5-104)*

A charter school is subject to all Federal and state laws and constitutional provisions prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability, race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, religion, ancestry, or need for special education services. In exercising the enrollment preference plan for children with disabilities, a charter school shall ensure compliance with the obligation to provide a free appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment pursuant to the Federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. sec. 1400 et seq., as amended.

### **H. Enrollment**

**Lottery:** Not stipulated

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### **I. Audit** *(Colo. Rev. Stat. § 22-30.5-104)*

A charter school shall annually complete a governmental audit that complies with the requirements of the department of education.

### **J. Safety requirements**

*(Colo. Rev. Stat. § 22-30.5-106)*

A charter school application must include policies regarding student discipline, expulsion, and suspension that are consistent with the intent and purpose of sections 22-33-106 and 22-33-106.1, provide adequately for the safety of students and staff, and provide a level of due process for students that, at a minimum, complies with the requirements of the Federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. sec. 1400 et seq.

### **K. State compliance**

*(Colo. Rev. Stat. § 22-30.5-104)*

A charter school is subject to all Federal and state laws and constitutional provisions prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability, race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, religion, ancestry, or need for special education services.

### **L. Student performance**

*(Colo. Rev. Stat. § 22-30.5-104)*

The charter school application must include the student performance standards the proposed charter school expects to achieve.

### **M. ECE or postsecondary**

Not stipulated

# Connecticut

## Charter Law

### **A. Flexible operation**

(Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-66aa)

A charter school is a school operated independently of any local or regional board of education in accordance with the terms of its charter.

### **B. Public supervision**

(Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-66aa; Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-66bb)

A charter school is a public school established under a charter. A charter application shall include a description of the school governance and procedures for the establishment of a governing council that is responsible for the oversight of charter school operations.

### **C. Educational objectives**

(Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-66bb)

On and after July 1, 2015, any initial certificate of approval for a charter granted by the state board to a local charter school shall include academic and organizational performance goals, developed by the state board, that set forth the performance indicators, measures and metrics that will be used by the state board to evaluate the local charter school.

### **D. K-12 education**

Not stipulated

### **E. Nonsectarian**

(Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-66aa)

A charter school is a nonsectarian school established under a charter.

### **F. Tuition-free**

Not stipulated

### **G. Federal compliance**

(Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-66dd)

A charter school is subject to all Federal and state laws governing public schools.

### **H. Enrollment** (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-66bb)

**Lottery:** If there is not space available for all students seeking enrollment, the school shall determine enrollment by a lottery.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### **I. Audit** (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-66ll)

Annually, the commissioner of education shall randomly select one state charter school, as defined in subdivision (3) of section 10-66aa, to be subject to a comprehensive financial audit conducted by an independent auditor selected and monitored by the commissioner. Except as provided in subsection (d) of section 10-66ee, the charter school shall be responsible for all costs associated with the audit conducted pursuant to the provisions of this section.

### **J. Safety requirements**

(Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-66bb)

Charter school applications must include the provision of school facilities, pupil transportation, and student health and welfare services.

### **K. State compliance**

(Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-66dd)

Charter schools shall be subject to all Federal and state laws governing public schools

### **L. Student performance**

(Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-66bb)

A charter application shall include a means to assess student performance that includes participation in mastery examinations, pursuant to section 10-14n.

### **M. ECE or postsecondary**

Not stipulated



# Delaware

## Charter Law

### **A. Flexible operation**

(Del. Code tit. 14 § 501; Del. Code tit. 14 § 504; Del. Code tit. 14 § 505)

Charter schools in Delaware shall be free of most state and school district rules and regulations governing public education, as long as they meet the requirements of chapter 5 of title 14. Except as otherwise specified in this chapter and title, a charter school is exempt from all provisions of this title except the provisions of Chapter 31 of this title, and all regulations of any board of education of a reorganized school district, although a charter school may elect to comply with one or more such provisions.

### **B. Public supervision**

(Del. Code tit. 14 § 503)

The board of directors of a charter school shall be deemed public agents authorized by a public school district or the department with the approval of the state board to control the charter school.

### **C. Educational objectives**

(Del. Code tit. 14 § 504A)

Each charter has the power to establish reasonable academic and disciplinary standards specifically related to the missions, goals, and educational objectives for the charter school as set forth in its charter for students to continue enrollment in the charter school.

### **D. K–12 education** (Del. Code tit. 14 § 503)

A charter school is a public school including two or more of grade kindergarten through 12 managed by a board of directors.

### **E. Nonsectarian** (Del. Code tit. 14 § 502)

No private or religiously affiliated school may apply to become a charter school.

### **F. Tuition-free** (Del. Code tit. 14 § 506)

A charter school may not charge tuition or collect fees not permitted to be assessed by other school districts.

### **G. Federal compliance**

(Del. Code tit. 14 § 512)

A charter school must comply with applicable provisions of local, state, and Federal law, including the provisions of Chapter 85 of Title 11.

### **H. Enrollment** (Del. Code tit. 14 § 506)

**Lottery:** A charter school may only restrict student admissions by lottery in the case of over-enrollment.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### **I. Audit** (Del. Code tit. 14 § 513)

On or before December 1, each charter school shall produce an annual report for the school year ending the previous June, which shall include a copy of the school's annual financial audit report.

### **J. Safety requirements**

(Del. Code tit. 14 § 512)

For a charter to be approved, the approving authority must find that the proposed charter demonstrates that the procedures the school plans to follow to assure the health and safety of students, employees, and guests of the school while on school property are adequate and that the charter school will comply with applicable provisions of local, state, and Federal law.

### **K. State compliance** (Del. Code tit. 14 § 512)

A charter school application must comply with applicable provisions of local, state, and Federal law, including the provisions of Chapter 85 of Title 11.

### **L. Student performance**

(Del. Code tit. 14 § 512)

The approving authority must find that the proposed charter demonstrates that the school has set goals for student performance and will utilize satisfactory indicators to determine whether its students meet or exceed such goals and the academic standards set by the state.

### **M. ECE or postsecondary**

Not stipulated

# District of Columbia

## Charter Law

### A. Flexible operation

(D.C. Code § 38-1802.04)

A charter school shall exercise exclusive control over its expenditures, administration, personnel, and instructional methods, within the limitations imposed in this subchapter; and shall be exempt from District of Columbia statutes, policies, rules, and regulations established for the District of Columbia public schools by the superintendent, board of education, mayor, District of Columbia Council, or authority, except as otherwise provided in the school's charter or this subchapter.

### B. Public supervision

(D.C. Code § 38-1800.02; D.C. Code § 38-1802.04)

The term “public charter school” means a publicly funded school in the District of Columbia that is established pursuant to subchapter II of this chapter, and is not a part of the District of Columbia public schools. A public charter school shall be governed by a board of trustees in a manner consistent with the charter granted to the school and the provisions of this subchapter.

### C. Educational objectives

(D.C. Code § 38-1802.04)

A charter school shall report on the extent to which the school is meeting its mission and goals as stated in the petition for the charter school.

### D. K-12 education (D.C. Code § 38-1802.04)

A public charter school shall provide a program of education which shall include one or more of the

following: (a) preschool; (b) prekindergarten; (c) any grade or grades from kindergarten through grade 12; (d) residential education; or (e) adult, community, continuing, and vocational education programs.

### E. Nonsectarian (D.C. Code § 38-1802.04)

A public charter school shall be nonsectarian and shall not be affiliated with a sectarian school or religious institution.

### F. Tuition-free (D.C. Code § 38-1802.04)

A public charter school may not, with respect to any student other than a nonresident student, charge tuition, impose fees, or otherwise require payment for participation in any program, educational offering, or activity.

### G. Federal compliance

(D.C. Code § 38-1802.04)

The Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C. 6101 et seq.), title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq.), title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq.), §504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794), part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1411 et seq.), and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.) shall apply to a public charter school.

### H. Enrollment (D.C. Code § 38-1802.06)

**Lottery:** If there are more applications to enroll in a public charter school from students who are residents of the District of Columbia than there are spaces available, students shall be admitted using a random selection process.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### I. Audit (D.C. Code § 38-1802.04)

A public charter school shall submit an annual report to the eligible chartering authority that approved its charter. The report shall include, for the fiscal year 2005 annual financial audit and subsequent fiscal year annual financial audits, a financial statement audited by an independent certified public accountant or accounting firm, who, notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, shall be selected from an approved list.

### J. Safety requirements

(D.C. Code § 38-1802.04)

A public charter school shall maintain the health and safety of all students attending such school.

### K. State compliance

Not stipulated

### L. Student performance

(D.C. Code § 38-1802.02)

A charter school petition shall include a description of the proposed instructional goals and methods for the proposed school.

### M. ECE or postsecondary

(D.C. Code § 38-1802.04)

A public charter school shall provide a program of education which shall include one or more of the following: (a) preschool; (b) prekindergarten; (c) any grade or grades from kindergarten through grade 12; (d) residential education; or (e) adult, community, continuing, and vocational education programs.

# Florida

## Charter Law

### **A. Flexible operation** (Fla. Stat. § 1002.33)

The charter sponsor may not impose unreasonable rules or regulations that violate the intent of giving charter schools greater flexibility to meet educational goals.

### **B. Public supervision** (Fla. Stat. § 1002.33)

All charter schools in Florida are public schools and shall be part of the state's program of public education. The governing body of the charter school shall exercise continuing oversight over charter school operations.

### **C. Educational objectives**

(Fla. Stat. § 1002.33)

Charter school applications are required to contain goals and objectives for improving student learning and measuring that improvement. These goals and objectives must indicate how much academic improvement students are expected to show each year, how success will be evaluated, and the specific results to be attained through instruction. Charter schools shall complete an online annual accountability report that includes demographic information, student performance data, and financial accountability information.

### **D. K-12 education** (Fla. Stat. § 1002.33)

A charter school may provide instruction to students in kindergarten through grade 12.

### **E. Nonsectarian** (Fla. Stat. § 1002.33)

A charter school shall be nonsectarian in its programs, admission policies, employment practices, and operations.

### **F. Tuition-free** (Fla. Stat. § 1002.33)

A charter school shall not charge tuition or registration fees, except those fees normally charged by other public schools.

### **G. Federal compliance**

(Fla. Stat. § 1002.33)

The governing body of the charter school shall be responsible for promoting and encouraging compliance with applicable laws, rules, contracts, grant agreements, and best practices.

### **H. Enrollment** (Fla. Stat. § 1002.33)

**Lottery:** The charter school shall enroll an eligible student who submits a timely application, unless the number of applications exceeds the capacity of a program, class, grade level, or building. In such case, all applicants shall have an equal chance of being admitted through a random selection process.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### **I. Audit** (Fla. Stat. § 1002.345)

A charter school is subject to an expedited review by the charter sponsor if the charter school fails to provide an audit.

### **J. Safety requirements**

(Fla. Stat. § 1002.33)

A charter school shall meet all applicable state and local health, safety, and civil rights requirements.

### **K. State compliance** (Fla. Stat. § 1002.33)

The governing body of the charter school shall be responsible for promoting and encouraging compliance with applicable laws, rules, contracts, grant agreements, and best practices.

### **L. Student performance**

(Fla. Stat. § 1002.33)

Charter school applications are required to contain goals and objectives for improving student learning and measuring that improvement. Charter schools are subject to the same accountability requirements as other public schools, including reports of student achievement information that links baseline data to the school's performance projections identified in the charter.

### **M. ECE or postsecondary**

Not stipulated



# Georgia

## Charter Law Code; Charter Law Rules and Regulations

### **A. Flexible operation**

(Ga. Code § 20-2-2065)

Except as provided in this article or in a charter, a charter school, or for charter systems, each school within the system shall not be subject to the provisions of this title or any state or local rule, regulation, policy, or procedure relating to schools within an applicable school system regardless of whether such rule, regulation, policy, or procedure is established by the local board, the state board, or the department of education; provided, however, that the state board may establish rules, regulations, policies, or procedures consistent with this article relating to charter schools

### **B. Public supervision** (Ga. Code § 20-2-2062; Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 691-2-.01)

A charter school is a public school and operates under the supervision and direction of a charter school governing board.

### **C. Educational objectives** (Ga. Code § 20-2-2061; Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 691-2-.03)

To increase student achievement through academic and organizational innovation, local school systems are encouraged to utilize the flexibility of a performance-based contract called a charter. The state charter school commission staff shall monitor student performance data for each state charter school to determine the school's progress towards meeting the performance goals outlined in the charter.

### **D. K-12 education**

Not stipulated

### **E. Nonsectarian** (Ga. Code § 20-2-2062)

A charter petitioner does not include home study programs or schools, sectarian schools, religious schools.

### **F. Tuition-free**

Not stipulated

### **G. Federal compliance**

(Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 691-2-.03)

The state charter school staff shall monitor each state charter school for its compliance in the meeting the operating requirements of its charter and law, including Federal laws.

### **H. Enrollment** (Ga. Code § 20-2-2066)

**Lottery:** Except for educationally disadvantaged students who may be provided an increased chance of admission through a weighted lottery if permitted by the school's charter, all such applicants shall have an equal chance of being admitted through a random selection process unless otherwise prohibited by law.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### **I. Audit** (Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 691-2-.03)

The state charter school commission staff shall monitor each state charter school for its compliance in meeting the operating requirements of its charter and law, including financial reporting and audit requirements.

### **J. Safety requirements**

(Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 691-2-.06)

Each state charter school commission must take reasonable steps to ensure the safety and security of students, employees, and visitors, including but not limited to, ensuring the facility is clean and in good repair; remediating any visible safety concerns in a timely manner; and taking steps to protect the campus from potential intrusion.

### **K. State compliance**

(Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 691-2-.03)

The state charter school commission staff shall monitor each state charter school for its compliance in meeting the operating requirements of its charter and law, including state laws.

### **L. Student performance**

(Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 691-2-.03)

The state charter school commission staff shall monitor student performance data for each state charter school to determine the school's progress towards meeting the performance goals outlined in the charter.

### **M. ECE or postsecondary**

Not stipulated

# Guam

## Charter Law

*Called an academy charter school*

### **A. Flexible operation**

*(17 Guam Code § 12107)*

An academy charter school shall exercise exclusive control over its expenditures, administration, personnel, and instructional methods.

An academy charter school shall be exempt from Guam statutes, policies, rules, regulations, and collective bargaining agreements except as provided in the charter or chapter 12.

### **B. Public supervision**

*(17 Guam Code § 12103)*

An academy charter school is a public school. An academy charter is governed by a board of trustees.

### **C. Educational objectives**

*(17 Guam Code § 12105)*

The petition to establish an academy charter school shall include a statement defining the mission and goals of the proposed academy charter school and the manner in which the school will conduct any district-wide assessments. An academy charter school shall submit an annual report that includes the extent to which the school is meeting its mission and goals.

### **D. K–12 education** *(17 Guam Code § 12106)*

The total number of academy charter schools operating on Guam at any one time shall not exceed seven. At least two shall be an elementary school. At least one shall be a middle school. At least one high school. No more than three non-converted public schools shall be authorized.

### **E. Nonsectarian** *(17 Guam Code § 12107)*

An academy charter school shall be nonsectarian and shall not be affiliated with a sectarian school or religious institution.

### **F. Tuition-free** *(17 Guam Code § 12106)*

An academy charter school shall not charge an application fee or tuition.

### **G. Federal compliance**

*(17 Guam Code § 12106)*

An academy charter school shall be subject to all Federal and state laws and constitutional provisions prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability, race creed, color, gender, national origin, religion, ancestry, or need for special education services.

### **H. Enrollment** *(17 Guam Code § 12109)*

**Lottery:** If capacity is insufficient to enroll all students who submit a timely application, the academy charter school shall select students through an equitable selection process, such as a lottery.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### **I. Audit** *(17 Guam Code § 12112)*

The academy charter school shall comply with annual financial reporting requirements, including submission of the audited financial statement.

### **J. Safety requirements**

*(17 Guam Code § 12107)*

An academy charter school shall comply with all Federal and Guam health and safety requirements applicable to public schools.

### **K. State compliance**

*(17 Guam Code § 12106)*

An academy charter school shall be subject to all Federal and state laws and constitutional provisions prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability, race creed, color, gender, national origin, religion, ancestry, or need for special education services.

### **L. Student performance**

*(17 Guam Code § 12105)*

The petition to establish an academy charter school shall include a statement defining the mission and goals of the proposed academy charter school and the manner in which the school will conduct any district-wide assessments. An academy charter school shall submit an annual report that includes student performance, graduation rates, college admission test scores, and college admission rates.

### **M. ECE or postsecondary**

Not stipulated

# Hawai‘i

## Charter Law

### **A. Flexible operation** (Haw. Rev. Stat. § 302D-1)

Charter schools have the flexibility and independent authority to implement alternative frameworks with regard to curriculum, facilities management, instructional approach, virtual education, length of the school day, week, or year, and personnel management.

### **B. Public supervision** (Haw. Rev. Stat. § 302D-1)

Charter school refers to public schools and their respective boards that are holding current charter contracts to operate as charter schools.

### **C. Educational objectives** (Haw. Rev. Stat. § 302D-16)

The performance provisions within the charter contract shall be based on a performance framework that clearly sets forth the academic, financial, organizational, and operational performance indicators, measures, and metrics that will guide the authorizer’s evaluations of each public charter school. The performance framework, as established by the authorizer, shall include indicators, measures, and metrics for, at a minimum: (a) student academic proficiency; (b) student academic growth; and (c) achievement gaps in proficiency and growth between major student subgroups.

### **D. K–12 education** (Haw. Rev. Stat. § 302D-37)

The commission shall adopt the kindergarten entry assessment adopted by the board pursuant to section 302A-1165(a) to assess all charter school students entering kindergarten within the first thirty days of admission into kindergarten.

### **E. Nonsectarian** (Haw. Rev. Stat. § 302D-4)

Nonpublic sectarian or religious organizations and any other charitable organization which in their Federal Internal Revenue Service Form 1023, Part IV, describe activities indicating a religious purpose, are not eligible to apply to become an authorizer under this chapter.

### **F. Tuition-free** (Haw. Rev. Stat. § 302D-28)

No charter school may assess tuition. A charter school may assess and collect special fees and charges from students for co-curricular activities.

### **G. Federal compliance** (Haw. Rev. Stat. § 302D-1)

To be approved, a charter applicant must demonstrate organizational viability that it complies with all applicable Federal, state, and county laws and requirements.

### **H. Enrollment** (Haw. Rev. Stat. § 302D-34)

**Lottery:** A charter school shall select students through a public lottery if capacity is insufficient to enroll all students who have submitted a timely application.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### **I. Audit** (Haw. Rev. Stat. § 302D-32)

Each charter school shall annually complete an independent financial audit that complies with the requirements of its authorizer and the department.

### **J. Safety requirements** (Haw. Rev. Stat. § 302D-1)

To be approved, a charter applicant must demonstrate organizational viability that it complies with all health and safety laws and requirements.

### **K. State compliance** (Haw. Rev. Stat. § 302D-1)

To be approved, a charter applicant must demonstrate organizational viability that it complies with all applicable Federal, state, and county laws and requirements.

### **L. Student performance** (Haw. Rev. Stat. § 302D-16)

The charter school’s performance framework, as established by the authorizer, shall include indicators, measures, and metrics for, at a minimum: (a) student academic proficiency; (b) student academic growth; and (c) achievement gaps in proficiency and growth between major student subgroups.

### **M. ECE or postsecondary** (Haw. Rev. Stat. § 302D-39)

The commission shall have administrative authority over all state-funded early learning programs and private partnership-funded preschool programs in public charter schools except for special education and Title I-funded prekindergarten programs.

# Idaho

## Charter Law

### **A. Flexible operation**

*(Idaho Code § 33-5202; Idaho Code § 33-5204)*

Idaho legislation provides the opportunity for students, parents, teachers, and community members to attend, establish, and maintain public charter schools that operate independently from the existing traditional school district structure but within the existing public school system. A public charter school shall be organized and managed pursuant to the Idaho Nonprofit Corporation Act, chapter 30, title 30, Idaho Code.

### **B. Public supervision**

*(Idaho Code § 33-5204)*

The board of directors of a public charter school shall be deemed public agents authorized to operate and control the public charter school.

### **C. Educational objectives**

*(Idaho Code § 33-5205B)*

Within seventy-five (75) days of approval of a charter application, the authorizer and the charter holder shall negotiate and execute a performance certificate that clearly sets forth the agreed-upon academic and operational performance expectations and measures, consistent with those outlined by the public charter school in its application.

### **D. K-12 education** *(Idaho Code § 33-5207)*

An “attending student” means each student in average daily attendance in kindergarten through grade 12 at such physical charter school facilities where the student is enrolled.

### **E. Nonsectarian** *(Idaho Code § 33-5206)*

A public charter school shall be nonsectarian in its programs, affiliations, admission policies, employment practices, and all other operations.

### **F. Tuition-free** *(Idaho Code § 33-5206)*

A public charter school shall not charge tuition.

### **G. Federal compliance**

*(Idaho Code § 33-5206)*

A public charter school shall not discriminate against any student on any basis prohibited by the Federal or state constitution or any Federal, state or local law. Public charter schools shall comply with the Federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

### **H. Enrollment** *(Idaho Code § 33-5206)*

**Lottery:** Admission procedures, including provision for over-enrollment, shall provide that the initial admission procedures for a public charter school will be determined by lottery or other random method.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### **I. Audit** *(Idaho Code § 33-5210)*

Each public charter school shall comply with the financial reporting requirements of section 33-701 5. through 10., Idaho Code, in the same manner as those requirements are imposed upon school districts.

### **J. Safety requirements**

*(Idaho Code § 33-5210)*

Each public charter school shall comply with laws governing safety, including but not limited to sections 33-122 and 33-130, Idaho Code, and chapter 2, title 33, Idaho Code, and rules promulgated thereunder.

### **K. State compliance**

*(Idaho Code § 33-5206)*

A public charter school shall not discriminate against any student on any basis prohibited by the Federal or state constitution or any Federal, state or local law.

### **L. Student performance**

*(Idaho Code § 33-5205)*

A charter school application must include the educational program, including educational philosophy, student academic proficiency and growth standards, measurement methods, any mission-specific standards that may be unique to the school, and strategies for meeting the needs of specific student populations, including English language learners, at-risk students, and special education or gifted and talented students.

### **M. ECE or postsecondary**

Not stipulated

# Illinois

## Charter Law

### *A. Flexible operation (105 ILCS 5/27A-5)*

A charter school is exempt from all state laws and regulations governing public schools and local school board policies, except for those mentioned in article 27A.

### *B. Public supervision (105 ILCS 5/27A-5)*

A charter school shall be a public school. A charter school shall be administered and governed by its board of directors or other governing body in the manner provided in its charter.

### *C. Educational objectives (105 ILCS 5/27A-7)*

A proposal to establish a charter school shall include the goals, objectives, and pupil performance standards to be achieved by the charter school. A charter school renewal proposal shall contain a report on the progress of the charter school in achieving the goals and objectives of the school.

### *D. K-12 education*

Not stipulated

### *E. Nonsectarian (105 ILCS 5/27A-5)*

A charter school shall be a nonsectarian, nonreligious school.

### *F. Tuition-free (105 ILCS 5/27A-5)*

A charter school shall not charge tuition. A charter school may charge reasonable fees for textbooks, instructional materials, and student activities.

### *G. Federal compliance (105 ILCS 5/27A-4)*

A charter school shall be subject to all Federal and state laws and constitutional provisions prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability, race, creed, color, gender, national origin, religion, ancestry, marital status, or need for special education services.

### *H. Enrollment (105 ILCS 5/27A-4)*

**Lottery:** If there are more applicants for enrollment in a charter school than there are spaces available, successful applicants shall be selected by lottery.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### *I. Audit (105 ILCS 5/27A-5)*

An audit of each charter school's finances shall be conducted annually by an outside, independent contractor retained by the charter school.

### *J. Safety requirements (105 ILCS 5/27A-5)*

A charter school shall comply with all noncurricular health and safety requirements applicable to public schools under the laws of the state of Illinois.

### *K. State compliance (105 ILCS 5/27A-7)*

A charter school shall comply with all provisions of article 27A, the Illinois educational labor relations act, all Federal and state laws and rules applicable to public schools that pertain to special education and the instruction of English learners, and its charter.

### *L. Student performance (105 ILCS 5/27A-7)*

A proposal to establish a charter school shall include a description of the charter school's plan for evaluating pupil performance, the types of assessments that will be used to measure pupil progress towards achievement of the school's pupil performance standards, the timeline for achievement of those standards, and the procedures for taking corrective action in the event that pupil performance at the charter school falls below standards. A charter renewal proposal shall contain a report on the progress of the charter school in pupil performance standards and content standards.

### *M. ECE or postsecondary*

Not stipulated



# Indiana

## Charter Law

### A. Flexible operation

(Ind. Code § 20-24-2-1)

A charter school may be established to allow public schools freedom and flexibility in exchange for exceptional levels of accountability.

### B. Public supervision

(Ind. Code § 20-24-1-4; § 20-24-1-7)

A charter school means a public elementary school or secondary school. An “organizer” means an entity that has an independent board whose members have been elected or selected under the organizer’s application and that has entered into a contract to operate a charter school.

### C. Educational objectives

(Ind. Code § 20-24-4-1)

A charter must include a review by the authorizer of the charter school’s performance, including the progress of the charter school in achieving the academic goals set forth in the charter, at least one time in each five-year period while the charter is in effect. The methods by which the charter school will be held accountable include evidence of progress toward reaching the educational goals, compliance with applicable laws, and financial performance and stability.

### D. K-12 education (Ind. Code § 20-24-1-4)

A charter school means a public elementary school or secondary school.

### E. Nonsectarian (Ind. Code § 20-24-1-4)

A charter school is a public elementary school or secondary school that is nonsectarian and nonreligious.

### F. Tuition-free (Ind. Code § 20-24-8-2)

A charter school may not charge tuition to any student residing within the school corporation’s geographic boundaries. However, a charter school may charge tuition for (a) a preschool program, unless charging tuition for the preschool program is barred under Federal law and (b) a latch key program.

### G. Federal compliance

(Ind. Code § 20-24-2-2; Ind. Code § 20-24-8-3)

A charter school is subject to all federal and state laws and constitutional provisions that prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability, race, color, gender, national origin, religion, and ancestry.

A charter school is accountable to the authorizer for ensuring compliance with applicable Federal and state laws.

### H. Enrollment (Ind. Code § 20-24-5-1)

**Lottery:** If a charter school receives a greater number of applications than there are spaces for students, each timely applicant must be given an equal chance of admission. The organizer must determine which of the applicants will be admitted by random drawing in a public meeting, with each timely applicant limited to one entry in the drawing.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### I. Audit (Ind. Code § 20-24-9-2)

An annual report under this chapter must contain the most recent audits for each authorized school submitted to the authorizer under IC 5-11-1-9.

### J. Safety requirements

(Ind. Code § 20-24-8-5)

Statutes, rules and guidelines regarding health and safety measures apply to charter schools.

### K. State compliance

(Ind. Code § 20-24-2-2; Ind. Code § 20-24-8-3)

A charter school is subject to all federal and state laws and constitutional provisions that prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability, race, color, gender, national origin, religion, and ancestry.

A charter school is accountable to the authorizer for ensuring compliance with applicable Federal and state laws.

### L. Student performance

(Ind. Code § 20-24-4-1)

A charter must include a review by the authorizer of the charter school’s performance, including the progress of the charter school in achieving the academic goals set forth in the charter, at least one time in each five-year period while the charter is in effect. The methods by which the charter school will be held accountable include the statewide assessment program measures; attendance rates; graduation rates; and student academic growth.

### M. ECE or postsecondary

Not stipulated

# Iowa

## Charter Law

### **A. Flexible operation** (*Iowa Code § 256E.7*)

Charter schools shall be exempt from all state statutes and rules and any local rule, regulation, or policy, applicable to a non-charter school, except for those included within chapter 256E.

### **B. Public supervision**

(*Iowa Code § 256E.1; Iowa Code § 256E.7*)

Charter schools shall be part of the state's program of public education. The charter schools governing board has oversight authority over the charter school.

### **C. Educational objectives**

(*Iowa Code § 256E.9*)

A charter school application must include performance provisions within the charter school contract based on a performance framework adopted by the state board that clearly sets for the academic and operational performance indicators, measures, and metrics that will guide the evaluation of the charter school by the state board.

### **D. K-12 education** (*Iowa Code § 256E.1*)

A charter school shall focus on closing gaps in student opportunity and achievement for all students from preschool through postsecondary education.

### **E. Nonsectarian** (*Iowa Code § 256E.7*)

A charter school shall operate as a nonsectarian, nonreligious school.

### **F. Tuition-free** (*Iowa Code § 256E.7*)

A charter school shall be free of tuition and application fees to Iowa resident students between the ages of 5 and 21 years.

### **G. Federal compliance**

(*Iowa Code § 256E.7*)

A charter school shall meet all applicable Federal, state, and local health and safety requirements and laws prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, creed color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, religion, ancestry, or disability.

### **H. Enrollment** (*Iowa Code § 256F.4*)

**Lottery:** A charter school shall enroll an eligible student who submits a timely application unless the number of applications exceeds the capacity of a program, class, grade level, or building. In this case, students must be accepted by lot.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### **I. Audit** (*Iowa Code § 256E.7*)

A charter school shall be subject to the same financial audits, audit procedures, and audit requirements as a school district.

### **J. Safety requirements**

(*Iowa Code § 256E.7*)

A charter school shall meet all applicable Federal, state, and local health and safety requirements.

### **K. State compliance** (*Iowa Code § 256E.7*)

A charter school shall meet all applicable Federal, state, and local health and safety requirements and laws.

### **L. Student performance**

(*Iowa Code § 256E.9*)

A charter school application must include performance provisions within the charter school contract based on a performance framework adopted by the state board that clearly sets for the academic and operational performance indicators, measures, and metrics that will guide the evaluation of the charter school by the state board. The performance framework shall include, but is not limited to, indicators, measures, and metrics for all of the following: students academic proficiency, student academic growth, achievement gaps, attendance, and attrition.

### **M. ECE or postsecondary**

(*Iowa Code § 256E.1; Iowa Code § 256E.7*)

A charter school shall focus on closing gaps in student opportunity and achievement for all students from preschool through postsecondary education. A charter school shall serve Iowa resident students between the ages of 5 and 21 years.

# Kansas

## Charter Law

### *A. Flexible operation*

(Kan. Stat. § 72-4206; Kan. Stat. § 72-4207)

Charter school means a separate and distinct school that operate(s) within a school district structure, but independently from other schools of the district. The board of education of any school district may authorize the establishment of a nonsectarian charter school as a means of providing new opportunities for (a) improved pupil learning; (b) increased learning opportunities for pupils in special areas of emphasis in accord with themes established for charter schools; (c) creative and unconventional instructional techniques and structures; (d) new professional vistas for teachers who operate such schools or who choose to work in them; and (e) freedom from conventional program constraints and mandates.

### *B. Public supervision*

(Kan. Stat. § 72-4206)

It is the intention of article 42 of chapter 72 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated to provide an alternative means within the public school system for ensuring accomplishment of the necessary outcomes of education by offering opportunities for school building or school district employees groups, educational services contractors, and other persons or entities to establish and maintain charter schools that operate within a school district structure, but independently from other schools of the district.

### *C. Educational objectives*

(Kan. Stat. § 72-4208)

The charter must contain, among other elements, a description of the educational program of the school and must be focused on outcomes or results and must participate in the quality performance accreditation process.

### *D. K-12 education*

Not stipulated

### *E. Nonsectarian* (Kan. Stat. § 72-4207)

The board of education of any school district may authorize the establishment of a nonsectarian charter school.

### *F. Tuition-free* (Kan. Stat. § 72-4208)

Charter school pupils may not be charged tuition.

### *G. Federal compliance*

Not stipulated

### *H. Enrollment* (Kan. Stat. § 72-4208)

**Lottery:** The charter must contain the criteria for admission of pupils, including a description of the lottery method to be used if too many pupils seek enrollment in the school.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### *I. Audit* (Kan. Stat. § 72-4208)

The charter must contain the manner in which annual financial audits will be conducted.

### *J. Safety requirements*

Not stipulated

### *K. State compliance*

Not stipulated

### *L. Student performance*

(Kan. Stat. § 72-4208)

The charter must contain an explanation of how pupil performance in achieving the specified outcomes will be measured, evaluated, and reported.

### *M. ECE or postsecondary*

Not stipulated



# Kentucky

## Charter Law

*Kentucky charter law was found unconstitutional at time of publication.*

### A. Flexible operation

(Ky. Rev. Stat. § 160.1590)

“Public charter school” means a public school that has autonomy over decisions, including but not limited to matters concerning finance, personnel, scheduling, curriculum, and instruction.

### B. Public supervision

(Ky. Rev. Stat. § 160.1590)

Kentucky statute defines a charter school as a public charter school that is governed by an independent board of directors.

### C. Educational objectives

(Ky. Rev. Stat. § 160.1590)

A public charter school operates in pursuit of a specific set of educational objectives as defined in its charter contract.

### D. K–12 education

Not stipulated

### E. Nonsectarian (Ky. Rev. Stat. § 160.1592)

A public charter school shall be nonsectarian in its programs, admissions policies, employment practices, partnerships, and all other operations.

### F. Tuition-free (Ky. Rev. Stat. § 160.1592)

A public charter school shall not have entrance requirements or charge tuition or fees. A public charter school may require the payment of fees on the same basis and to the same extent as other public schools.

### G. Federal compliance

(Ky. Rev. Stat. § 160.1592)

A public charter school shall provide programs and services to a student with a disability in accordance with the student’s individualized education program (IEP) and all Federal and state laws, rules, and regulations.

### H. Enrollment (Ky. Rev. Stat. § 160.1590)

**Lottery:** A public charter school admits students on the basis of a random and open lottery if more students apply for admission than can be accommodated.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### I. Audit (Ky. Rev. Stat. § 160.1592)

A charter school shall adhere to all generally accepted accounting principles and adhere to the same financial audits, audit procedures, and audit requirements as are applied to other public schools.

### J. Safety requirements

(Ky. Rev. Stat. § 160.1592)

A public charter school shall adhere to the same health, safety, civil rights, and disability rights requirements as are applied to all public schools and all requirements otherwise identified in Kentucky statute.

### K. State compliance

(Ky. Rev. Stat. § 160.1592)

A public charter school shall provide programs and services to a student with a disability in accordance with the student’s IEP and all Federal and state laws, rules, and regulations.

### L. Student performance

(Ky. Rev. Stat. § 160.1592)

A charter school shall design its education programs to meet or exceed the student performance standards adopted by the Kentucky Board of Education and ensure students’ participation in the required state assessment of student performance.

### M. ECE or postsecondary

Not stipulated

# Louisiana

## Charter Law

### **A. Flexible operation**

*(La. Stat. tit. 17 § 3996)*

A charter school established and operated in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter and its approved charter and the school's officers and employees shall be exempt from all rules and regulations of the state board and those of any local school board that are applicable to public schools and to public school officers and employees, except any state law, rule, or exception listed within section 17.

### **B. Public supervision**

*(La. Stat. tit. 17 § 3973)*

Charter school means an independent public school that provides a program of elementary or secondary education, or both.

### **C. Educational objectives**

*(La. Admin. Code tit. 28 § CXXXIX-1101)*

The Louisiana State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) shall approve a charter school performance compact that will articulate the specific criteria the department of education will use to annually evaluate the academic, financial, and organizational performance of BESE-authorized charter schools. As necessary, the department of education may revise the charter school performance compact, subject to BESE approval of all material changes.

### **D. K-12 education** *(La. Stat. tit. 17 § 3973)*

Charter school means an independent public school that provides a program of elementary or secondary education, or both.

### **E. Nonsectarian** *(La. Stat. tit. 17 § 3991)*

A charter school shall be nonsectarian in its programs, admissions policies, and employment practices.

### **F. Tuition-free** *(La. Stat. tit. 17 § 3991)*

A charter school shall not charge any pupil any tuition or an attendance fee of any kind.

### **G. Federal compliance**

*(La. Stat. tit. 17 § 3996)*

A charter school established and operated in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter shall comply with state and Federal laws and regulations otherwise applicable to public schools with respect to civil rights and individuals with disabilities.

### **H. Enrollment** *(La. Stat. tit. 17 § 3991)*

**Lottery:** If the total number of eligible applicants exceeds the capacity of a program, class, grade level, or school, admission to the program, class, grade level, or school shall be based on an admissions lottery conducted from among the total number of eligible applicants.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### **I. Audit** *(La. Stat. tit. 17 § 3996)*

A charter school shall be subject to appropriate financial audits.

### **J. Safety requirements**

Not stipulated

### **K. State compliance** *(La. Stat. tit. 17 § 3996)*

A charter school established and operated in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter shall comply with state and Federal laws and regulations otherwise applicable to public schools with respect to civil rights and individuals with disabilities. A charter school established and operated in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter shall accordingly recruit, employ, and train teachers, administrators, and other employees without regard to race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. Race, color, religion, sex, and national origin shall not constitute bona fide occupational qualifications.

### **L. Student performance**

*(La. Stat. tit. 17 § 3991)*

Each proposed charter shall contain a requirement that charter schools regularly assess the academic progress of their pupils, including the participation of such pupils in the state testing programs, and share such information with parents.

### **M. ECE or postsecondary**

Not stipulated

# Maine

## Charter Law

### A. Flexible operation

(Me. Stat. tit. 20-A § 2401)

A charter school has autonomy over key decisions, including, but not limited to, decisions concerning finance, personnel, scheduling, curriculum, and instruction.

### B. Public supervision

(Me. Stat. tit. 20-A § 2401)

A charter school means a public school that is governed by a board that is independent of a school administrative unit.

### C. Educational objectives

(Me. Stat. tit. 20-A § 2401; Me. Stat. tit. 20-A § 2409)

A public charter school operates in pursuit of a specific set of educational objectives as defined in its charter contract. The authorizer's performance framework sets forth the academic and operational performance indicators, including student academic proficiency, financial performance and sustainability, and governing board performance and stewardship.

### D. K-12 education

(Me. Stat. tit. 20-A § 2401)

A charter school provides a program of education that includes one or more of the following: preschool, prekindergarten, and any grade or grades from kindergarten to grade 12.

### E. Nonsectarian (Me. Stat. tit. 20-A § 2412)

A charter school may not engage in any religious practices in its educational program, admissions or employment policies or operations.

### F. Tuition-free (Me. Stat. tit. 20-A § 2412)

A charter school may not charge tuition and may only charge such fees as may be imposed by other noncharter public schools in the state.

### G. Federal compliance

(Me. Stat. tit. 20-A § 2412)

A charter school is subject to all Federal laws and authorities, to local law not inconsistent with this chapter and to the charter contract. Charter schools are subject to the same Federal and state laws, regulations, and rules regarding special education as noncharter public schools.

### H. Enrollment (Me. Stat. tit. 20-A § 2404)

**Lottery:** If capacity is insufficient to enroll all students who wish to attend the school, the public charter school shall select students through a random selection process.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### I. Audit (Me. Stat. tit. 20-A § 2412-A)

A charter school shall adhere to generally accepted accounting principles and shall annually engage an external auditor to do an independent audit of the public charter school's finances.

### J. Safety requirements

(Me. Stat. tit. 20-A § 2412)

Charter schools are subject to the same civil rights and health and safety requirements applicable to other noncharter public schools in the state.

### K. State compliance

(Me. Stat. tit. 20-A § 2412)

Charter schools are subject to the same Federal and state laws, regulations and rules regarding special education as noncharter public schools.

### L. Student performance

(Me. Stat. tit. 20-A § 2409)

The authorizer's performance framework sets forth the academic and operational performance indicators, including data elements such as student academic proficiency, student academic growth, and achievement gaps; annual performance targets; data disaggregation; and reports for multiple campuses.

### M. ECE or postsecondary

(Me. Stat. tit. 20-A § 2401)

A charter school provides a program of education that includes one or more of the following: preschool, prekindergarten, and any grade or grades from kindergarten to grade 12.

# Maryland

## Charter Law

### **A. Flexible operation**

(Md. Code Educ. § 9-101)

A public charter school provides an alternative means within the existing public school system in order to provide innovative learning opportunities and creative educational approaches to improve the education of students.

### **B. Public supervision**

(Md. Code Educ. § 9-102)

A public charter school operates under the supervision of the public chartering authority from which its charter is granted.

### **C. Educational objectives**

(Md. Code Educ. § 9-102; Md. Code Educ. § 9-104-1)

A public charter school operates in pursuit of a specific set of educational objectives. A charter school demonstrates to the public chartering authority a history of sound fiscal management and student achievement that exceeds the average in the local school system.

### **D. K-12 education** (Md. Code Educ. § 9-102)

A public charter school provides a program of elementary or secondary education or both.

### **E. Nonsectarian** (Md. Code Educ. § 9-102)

A public charter school is nonsectarian in all its programs, policies, and operations.

### **F. Tuition-free** (Md. Code Educ. § 9-102)

A public charter school is tuition free.

### **G. Federal compliance**

(Md. Code Educ. § 9-102)

A public charter school is subject to Federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination.

### **H. Enrollment** (Md. Code Educ. § 9-102.2)

**Lottery:** A public charter school is open to all students on a space-available basis and admits students on a lottery basis if more students apply than can be accommodated.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### **I. Audit** (Md. Code Educ. § 9-110)

Each county state board shall develop a public charter school policy that includes guidelines and procedures regarding financial, programmatic, or compliance audits of public charter schools.

### **J. Safety requirements**

(Md. Code Educ. § 9-102)

A public charter school is in compliance with all applicable health and safety laws.

### **K. State compliance**

(Md. Code Educ. § 9-102)

A public charter school is subject to Federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination.

### **L. Student performance**

(Md. Code Educ. § 9-107; Md. Code Educ. § 9-104-1)

A public charter school demonstrates to the public chartering authority a history of student achievement that exceeds the average in the local school system in which the public charter school is located on, including statewide assessments and other measures developed by the state board.

### **M. ECE or postsecondary**

Not stipulated

# Massachusetts

## Charter Law

A **commonwealth charter school** shall be a public school, operated under a charter granted by the board, which operates independently of a school committee and is managed by a board of trustees.

A **Horace Mann charter school** shall be a public school or part of a public school operated under a charter approved by the school committee and the local collective bargaining unit in the district in which the school is located, provided that all charters shall be granted by the board of elementary and secondary education.

### **A. Flexible operation**

(Mass. Gen. Laws Ch. 71 § 89)

Not stipulated

### **B. Public supervision**

(Mass. Gen. Laws Ch. 71 § 89)

**Commonwealth charter school:** A commonwealth charter school shall be a public school. The board of trustees of a commonwealth charter school shall be deemed public agents authorized to supervise and control the charter school.

**Horace Mann charter school:** A Horace Mann charter school shall be a public school or part of a public school, operated and managed by a board of trustees independent of the school committee which approved the school.

### **C. Educational objectives**

(Mass. Gen. Laws Ch. 71 § 89)

When deciding on renewal, the board shall consider progress made in student academic achievement

and whether the school has met its obligations and commitments under the charter.

### **D. K-12 Education**

Not stipulated

### **E. Nonsectarian**

(Mass. Gen. Laws Ch. 71 § 89)

Private and parochial schools shall not be eligible for charter school status.

### **F. Tuition-free** (Mass. Gen. Laws Ch. 71 § 89)

There shall be no tuition charge for students attending charter schools.

### **G. Federal compliance**

(Mass. Gen. Laws Ch. 71 § 89)

A charter school shall operate in accordance with its charter and the provisions of law regulating other public schools. A charter school application must include a statement of equal educational opportunity which shall state that charter schools shall be open to all students, on a space available basis, and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, creed, sex, gender identity, ethnicity, sexual orientation, mental or physical disability, age, ancestry, athletic performance, special need, proficiency in the English language or academic achievement.

### **H. Enrollment** (Mass. Gen. Laws Ch. 71 § 89)

**Lottery:** If the total number of students who are eligible to attend and apply to a charter school and who reside in the city or town in which the charter school is located or are siblings of students already attending said charter school, is greater than the number of spaces available, an admissions lottery,

including all eligible students applying, shall be held to fill all of the spaces in that school from among the students.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### **I. Audit** (Mass. Gen. Laws Ch. 71 § 89)

Each charter school shall keep an accurate account of all its activities and all its receipts and expenditures and shall annually cause an independent audit to be made of its accounts.

### **J. Safety requirements**

(Mass. Gen. Laws Ch. 71 § 89)

A charter school shall comply with all applicable state and Federal health and safety laws and regulations.

### **K. State compliance**

(Mass. Gen. Laws Ch. 71 § 89)

A charter school shall operate in accordance with its charter and the provisions of law regulating other public schools.

### **L. Student performance**

(Mass. Gen. Laws Ch. 71 § 89)

Students in charter schools shall be required to meet the same performance standards, testing, and portfolio requirements set by the board for students in other public schools.

### **M. ECE or postsecondary**

Not stipulated



# Michigan

## Charter Law

*Called public school academies*

### **A. Flexible operation**

*(Mich. Comp. Laws § 380.502)*

A public school academy is not required to comply with sections 170 to 177 of 1931 PA 327, MCL 450.170 to 450.177.

### **B. Public supervision**

*(Mich. Comp. Laws § 380.501)*

A public school academy is a public school under section 2 of article VIII of the state constitution and is subject to the leadership and general supervision of the state board over all public education.

### **C. Educational objectives**

*(Mich. Comp. Laws § 380.502)*

A public school academy must submit with its application a copy of their educational goals, curricula to be offered, and the methods of pupil assessment to be used by the academy.

### **D. K-12 education**

*(Mich. Comp. Laws § 380.504)*

A public school academy may include any grade up to grade 12 or any configuration of those grades, including kindergarten and early childhood education

### **E. Nonsectarian**

*(Mich. Comp. Laws § 380.502)*

To the extent disqualified under the state or Federal constitution, a public school academy must not be organized by a church or other religious organization and must not have any organizational or contractual affiliation with or constitute a church or other religious organization.

### **F. Tuition-free** *(Mich. Comp. Laws § 380.504)*

A public school academy shall not charge tuition.

### **G. Federal compliance**

*(Mich. Comp. Laws § 380.502)*

A public school academy will enter into agreement with their authorizer that they will comply with all state law applicable to public bodies and with Federal law applicable to public bodies or school districts.

### **H. Enrollment** *(Mich. Comp. Laws § 380.504)*

**Lottery:** If there are more applications to enroll in the public school academy than there are spaces available, pupils shall be selected to enroll using a random selection process.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### **I. Audit** *(Mich. Comp. Laws § 380.503)*

The financial audits shall be conducted at least annually by a certified public accountant in accordance with generally accepted governmental auditing principles.

### **J. Safety requirements**

Not stipulated

### **K. State compliance**

*(Mich. Comp. Laws § 380.502)*

A public school academy will enter into agreement with their authorizer that they will comply with all state law applicable to public bodies and with Federal law applicable to public bodies or school districts.

### **L. Student performance**

*(Mich. Comp. Laws § 380.502)*

To the extent applicable, the progress of the pupils in the public school academy must be assessed using both the mathematics and reading portions of the Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress or the Michigan Merit Examination under section 1279g, as applicable.

### **M. ECE or postsecondary**

*(Mich. Comp. Laws § 380.504)*

A public school academy may include early childhood education.

# Minnesota

## Charter Law

### *A. Flexible operation*

(Minn. Stat. § 124E.03)

A charter school is exempt from all statutes and rules applicable to a school, school board, or school district unless a statute or rule is made specifically applicable to a charter school or is included within 124E.

### *B. Public supervision*

(Minn. Stat. § 124E.03)

A charter school is a public school and is part of the state's system of public education. The board of directors is responsible for policy matters related to operating the school, including budgeting, curriculum programming, personnel, and operating procedures.

### *C. Educational objectives*

(Minn. Stat. § 124E.01; Minn. Stat. § 124E.07)

A charter contract must include the criteria, processes, and procedures the authorizer will use to monitor and evaluate the fiscal, operational, and academic performance of the charter school.

### *D. K-12 education* (Minn. Stat. § 124E.06)

A charter school must provide a comprehensive program of instruction for at least one grade or age group from ages five through 18 years. A charter school may provide instruction to people older than 18 years of age.

### *E. Nonsectarian* (Minn. Stat. § 124E.06)

A charter school must be nonsectarian in its programs, admissions policies, employment practices, and all other operations.

### *F. Tuition-free*

(Minn. Stat. § 123B.35; Minn. Stat. § 124E.03)

A charter school must comply with the Minnesota Public School Fee Law, which states that no public school shall charge tuition.

### *G. Federal compliance*

(Minn. Stat. § 124E.03)

Charter schools must follow Federal laws and regulations listed within chapter 124E.03, including those concerning pupils with a disability, civil rights, discrimination, and all others included within the chapter.

### *H. Enrollment* (Minn. Stat. § 124E.11)

**Lottery:** A charter school, including its preschool or prekindergarten program, must enroll an eligible pupil who submits a timely application, unless the number of applications exceeds the capacity of a program, class, grade level, or building. In this case, pupils must be accepted by lot. The charter school must develop and publish, including on its website, a lottery policy and process that it must use when accepting pupils by lot.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### *I. Audit* (Minn. Stat. § 124E.16)

A charter school is subject to the same financial audits, audit procedures, and audit requirements as a district.

### *J. Safety requirements*

(Minn. Stat. § 124E.03)

A charter school shall meet all Federal, state, and local health and safety requirements applicable to school districts.

### *K. State compliance*

(Minn. Stat. § 124E.03)

A charter school must follow all statutes and rules applicable to a charter school.

### *L. Student performance*

(Minn. Stat. § 124E.03)

A school must comply with statewide accountability requirements governing standards and assessments in chapter 120B.

### *M. ECE or postsecondary*

(Minn. Stat. § 124E.06)

A charter school may offer a free or fee-based preschool or prekindergarten that meets high quality early learning instructional program standards aligned with Minnesota's early learning standards for children.

# Mississippi

## Charter Law

### *A. Flexible operation*

(Miss. Code § 37-28-45)

The rules, regulations, policies, and procedures established by the school board for the noncharter public schools that are in the school district in which the charter school is geographically located do not apply to the charter school unless otherwise required under the charter contract or any contract entered into between the charter school governing board and the local school board.

### *B. Public supervision*

(Miss. Code § 37-28-5)

A charter school means a public school that is established and operating under the terms of charter contract between the school's governing board and the authorizer.

### *C. Educational objectives*

(Miss. Code § 37-28-29)

The performance provisions within a charter contract must be based on a performance framework that clearly sets forth the academic and operational performance indicators, measures, and metrics that will guide the authorizer's evaluations of the charter school.

### *D. K-12 education*

Not stipulated

### *E. Nonsectarian* (Miss. Code § 37-28-43)

A charter school may not engage in any sectarian practices in its educational program, admissions or employment policies, or operations.

### *F. Tuition-free* (Miss. Code § 37-28-43)

A charter school may not charge tuition.

### *G. Federal compliance*

(Miss. Code § 37-28-39)

A charter school is subject to all Federal laws and authorities specified in this chapter or agreed upon with the authorizer in the charter contract, where such contracting is consistent with applicable laws, rules, and regulations.

### *H. Enrollment* (Miss. Code § 37-28-23)

**Lottery:** If the number of students applying for admission exceeds the capacity of a program, class, grade level, or building of the charter school, the charter school must admit students on the basis of a lottery.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### *I. Audit* (Miss. Code § 37-28-57)

A charter school shall have its financial records audited annually, at the end of each fiscal year, either by the state auditor or by a certified public accountant approved by the state auditor. However, a certified public accountant may not be selected to perform the annual audit of a charter school if that accountant previously has audited the charter school for more than three consecutive years.

### *J. Safety requirements*

(Miss. Code § 37-28-45)

Charter schools are subject to the same civil rights and health and safety requirements applicable to noncharter public schools in the state.

### *K. State compliance*

(Miss. Code § 37-28-45)

A charter school is not subject to any rule, regulation, policy, or procedure adopted by the state board of education or the state department of education unless otherwise required by the authorizer or in the charter contract or included within chapter 28.

### *L. Student performance*

(Miss. Code § 37-28-25)

The charter application must include the school's plan for using internal external assessments to measure and report student progress on the performance framework developed by the authorizer.

### *M. ECE or postsecondary*

Not stipulated



# Missouri

## Charter Law

### **A. Flexible operation**

*(Mo. Rev. Stat. § 160.405)*

Except as provided in this section, a charter school shall be exempt from all laws and rules relating to schools, governing boards, and school districts.

### **B. Public supervision**

*(Mo. Rev. Stat. § 160.400; Mo. Rev. Stat. § 160.405)*

A charter school is an independent public school. A charter school shall provide a description of the charter school's organizational structure and bylaws of the governing board, which will be responsible for the policy, financial management, and operational decisions of the charter school.

### **C. Educational objectives**

*(Mo. Rev. Stat. § 160.405)*

The charter shall include a legally binding performance contract that describes the obligations and responsibilities of the school and the sponsor as described within this chapter.

### **D. K-12 education** *(Mo. Rev. Stat. § 160.405)*

A charter school shall provide a comprehensive program of instruction for at least one grade or age group from early childhood through grade 12.

### **E. Nonsectarian** *(Mo. Rev. Stat. § 160.405)*

A charter school shall be nonsectarian in its programs, admission policies, employment practices, and all other operations.

### **F. Tuition-free** *(Mo. Rev. Stat. § 160.415)*

A charter school shall not charge tuition or impose fees that a school district is prohibited from charging or imposing, except that a charter school may receive tuition payments from a district in the same or an adjoining county for nonresident students who transfer to an approved charter school.

### **G. Federal compliance**

*(Mo. Rev. Stat. § 160.405)*

A charter school shall comply with all applicable Federal and state laws and regulations regarding students with disabilities.

### **H. Enrollment** *(Mo. Rev. Stat. § 160.410)*

**Lottery:** If capacity is insufficient to enroll all pupils who submit a timely application, the charter school shall have an admissions process that assures all applicants of an equal chance of gaining admission.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### **I. Audit** *(Mo. Rev. Stat. § 160.405)*

A charter school shall be financially accountable, use practices consistent with the Missouri financial accounting manual, provide for an annual audit by a certified public accountant, and publish audit reports and annual financial reports.

### **J. Safety requirements**

*(Mo. Rev. Stat. § 160.405)*

A charter school shall comply with laws and regulations of the state, county, or city relating to health, safety, and state minimum educational standards, as specified by the state board of education, including the requirements relating to student discipline.

### **K. State compliance**

*(Mo. Rev. Stat. § 160.405)*

A charter school shall comply with laws and regulations of the state, county, or city relating to health, safety, and state minimum educational standards, as specified by the state board of education, including the requirements relating to student discipline.

### **L. Student performance**

*(Mo. Rev. Stat. § 160.405)*

A charter application shall contain a description of the charter school's pupil performance standards and academic performance standards. The charter school program shall be designed to enable each pupil to achieve such standards and shall contain a complete set of indicators, measures, metrics, and targets for academic program performance, including specific goals on graduation rates and standardized test performance and academic growth.

### **M. ECE or postsecondary**

*(Mo. Rev. Stat. § 160.405)*

A charter school shall provide a comprehensive program of instruction for at least one grade or age group from early childhood through grade 12.

# Montana

## Community Choice School Charter Law; Public Charter School Charter Law

*Montana has two types of charter schools: Public charter schools and community choice schools.*

### **A. Flexible operation** (Mont. Code § 20-11-103; Mont. Code § 20-11-119; Mont. Code § 20-6-811)

**Community choice schools:** A community choice school has autonomy over decisions, including but not limited to, matters concerning finance, board governance, personnel, scheduling, curriculum, and instruction. A choice school is not subject to the provisions of Title 20 or any state or local rule, regulation, policy, or procedure relating to traditional public schools within an applicable traditional local school district.

**Public charter schools:** A public charter school is subject to all Federal laws and authorities as provided in part 8. A public charter school is subject to the provisions of Title 20 and any state or local rule, regulation, policy, or procedure relating to noncharter public schools within the located school district.

### **B. Public supervision**

(Mont. Code § 20-11-103; Mont. Code § 20-11-103)

Public charter schools and community choice schools must be public schools and must be governed by a governing board.

### **C. Educational objectives**

(Mont. Code § 20-6-809)

The performance provisions within the charter contract must be based on a performance framework that clearly sets forth the academic and operational performance indicators, measures, and metrics that will guide the board of public education's evaluations of each public charter school. The performance framework must include indicators, measures, and metrics for student academic proficiency, financial performance and sustainability, and governing board performance and stewardship, including compliance with all applicable laws, regulations, and terms of the charter contract.

### **D. K–12 education**

(Mont. Code § 20-11-103; Mont. Code § 20-6-803)

Public charter schools and community choice schools may provide a program of education that may include any or all grades from kindergarten through grade twelve and vocational education programs.

### **E. Nonsectarian**

(Mont. Code § 20-11-119; Mont. Code § 20-6-811)

Public charter schools and community choice schools may not engage in any sectarian practices in its educational program, admissions policies, employment policies or practices, or operations.

### **F. Tuition-free**

(Mont. Code § 20-11-124; Mont. Code § 20-6-812)

Public charter schools and community choice schools may not charge tuition and fees.

### **G. Federal compliance**

(Mont. Code § 20-11-119; Mont. Code § 20-6-811)

**Community choice schools:** A community choice school is subject to all Federal laws and authorities as provided in this part or arranged by charter contract with the authorizer consistent with applicable laws, rules, and regulations.

**Public charter schools:** A public charter school is subject to all Federal laws and authorities as provided in state law or arranged by charter contract with the board of public education consistent with applicable laws, rules, and regulations.

### **H. Enrollment**

(Mont. Code § 20-11-103; Mont. Code § 20-6-808)

**Lottery:** If capacity is insufficient to enroll all students who wish to attend the community choice or public charter school, the choice school shall select students through a lottery.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### **I. Audit**

(Mont. Code § 20-11-111; Mont. Code § 20-6-805)

The public charter school and community choice school proposal must include a description of the proposed school's financial plan and policies, including financial controls and audit requirements.

### **J. Safety requirements**

(Mont. Code § 20-11-119; Mont. Code § 20-6-811)

Public charter schools and community choice schools are subject to the same Federal civil rights, health, and safety requirements applicable to other public schools in the state except as otherwise specifically provided in this part.

# Montana *(continued)*

## Community Choice School Charter Law; Public Charter School Charter Law

### *K. State compliance*

*(Mont. Code § 20-11-117; Mont. Code § 20-6-809)*

**Community choice schools:** Community choice schools' performance framework must include compliance with all applicable laws, regulations, and terms of the charter contract.

**Public charter schools:** Each public charter school shall set annual performance targets designed to help each school meet applicable Federal, state, and board of public education expectations, including compliance with all applicable laws, regulations, and terms of the charter contract.

### *L. Student performance*

*(Mont. Code § 20-6-809)*

The performance framework must include indicators, measures, and metrics for student academic proficiency, student academic growth, achievement gaps in both proficiency and growth between major student subgroups, attendance, recurrent enrollment from year to year, and postsecondary readiness.

### *M. ECE or postsecondary*

Not stipulated

# Nevada

## Charter Law

### A. Flexible operation

Not stipulated

### B. Public supervision

(Nev. Rev. Stat. § 388A.320)

The governing body of a charter school is a public body. It is given reasonable and necessary powers to attain the end for which the charter school is established.

### C. Educational objectives

(Nev. Rev. Stat. § 388A.273)

Each sponsor of a charter school shall adopt a performance framework and incorporate the performance framework into the charter contract and include performance indicators, measures, and metrics for academics, finances, and organization.

### D. K-12 education

Not stipulated

### E. Nonsectarian

(Nev. Rev. Stat. § 388A.366)

A charter school shall remain nonsectarian, including, without limitation, in its educational programs, policies for admission, and employment practices.

### F. Tuition-free (Nev. Rev. Stat. § 388A.366)

A charter school shall refrain from charging tuition or fees, except for tuition or fees that the board of trustees of a school district is authorized to charge.

### G. Federal compliance

(Nev. Rev. Stat. § 388A.366)

A charter school shall comply with all laws and regulations relating to discrimination and civil rights.

### H. Enrollment (Nev. Rev. Stat. § 388A.453)

**Lottery:** If more pupils who are eligible for enrollment apply for enrollment in the charter school than the number of spaces which are available, the charter school shall determine which applicants to enroll on the basis of a lottery system.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### I. Audit (Nev. Rev. Stat. § 388A.110)

Charter schools are required to undergo performance audits and financial audits of charter schools on an annual basis.

### J. Safety requirements

(Nev. Rev. Stat. § 388A.270)

The charter contract must include any pre-opening conditions which the sponsor has determined are necessary for the charter school to satisfy before the commencement of operation to ensure that the charter school meets all building, health, safety, insurance, and other legal requirements.

### K. State compliance

(Nev. Rev. Stat. § 388A.366)

A charter school shall comply with all laws and regulations relating to discrimination and civil rights.

### L. Student performance

(Nev. Rev. Stat. § 388A.273)

The performance framework academic indicators address (a) the achievement and proficiency of pupils enrolled in the charter school, including the progress of pupils from year-to-year based upon the model to measure the achievement of pupils adopted by the department, (b) disparities in the academic achievement and proficiency of pupils enrolled at the charter school, and (c) if the charter school enrolls pupils at the high school grade level, the rate of graduation of those pupils and the preparation of those pupils in postsecondary educational institutions and in career and workforce readiness.

### M. ECE or postsecondary

Not stipulated

# New Hampshire

## Charter Law

### **A. Flexible operation**

(N.H. Rev. Stat. § 194-B:3)

Except as otherwise provided in law, chartered public schools shall be fully exempt from state laws and rules which otherwise apply to public or nonpublic schools, or local school boards, or districts. Chartered public schools shall have all the rights and privileges of other public schools.

### **B. Public supervision**

(N.H. Rev. Stat. § 194-B:2; N.H. Rev. Stat. § 194-B:3)

Charter schools are considered chartered public schools. A chartered public school's board of trustees shall have full authority to determine the chartered public school's organization, methods, and goals.

### **C. Educational objectives**

(N.H. Rev. Stat. § 194-B:3)

A charter application must contain the educational mission for the applicant, and the academic and other learning goals and objectives.

The charter contract between the charter school and the local school board shall contain the methods for the assessment of pupils.

### **D. K-12 education**

Not stipulated

### **E. Nonsectarian** (N.H. Rev. Stat. § 194-B:7)

Charter schools shall have a secular purpose.

### **F. Tuition-free** (N.H. Rev. Stat. § 194-B:11)

There shall be no tuition charge to the families of students who attend charter schools.

### **G. Federal compliance**

(N.H. Rev. Stat. § 194-B:8)

A chartered public school shall not discriminate nor violate individual civil rights in any manner prohibited by law. A chartered public school shall not discriminate against any child with a disability. A chartered public school shall provide due process in accordance with state and Federal laws and rules.

### **H. Enrollment** (N.H. Rev. Stat. § 194-B:9)

**Lottery:** If the number of otherwise eligible applicants to a particular chartered public school exceeds that school's maximum published enrollment, that school shall use lottery selection as a basis for admission.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### **I. Audit** (N.H. Rev. Stat. § 194-B:10)

A chartered public school shall provide, at its own expense, an annual financial audit and report to the state board and the school board complying with any current format and content requirements imposed by the school.

### **J. Safety requirements**

(N.H. Rev. Stat. § 194-B:8)

A chartered public school shall comply with all applicable state and Federal health and safety laws, rules, and regulations.

### **K. State compliance**

(N.H. Rev. Stat. § 194-B:8)

A chartered public school shall not discriminate nor violate individual civil rights in any manner prohibited by law. A chartered public school shall not discriminate against any child with a disability. A chartered public school shall provide due process in accordance with state and Federal laws and rules.

### **L. Student performance**

(N.H. Rev. Stat. § 194-B:3)

The proposed application must contain the academic and other learning goals and objectives, achievement tests to be used to measure pupil academic and other goal achievement. The charter contract between the charter school and the local school board shall contain the methods for the assessment of pupils.

### **M. ECE or postsecondary**

Not stipulated



# New Jersey

## Charter Law

### **A. Flexible operation**

(N.J. Stat. § 18A:36A-11)

The commissioner may exempt the school from state regulations concerning public schools, except those pertaining to assessment, testing, civil rights, and student health and safety, if the board of trustees satisfactorily demonstrates to the commissioner that the exemption will advance the educational goals and objectives of the school.

### **B. Public supervision**

(N.J. Stat. § 18A:36A-3; N.J. Stat. § 18A:36A-14)

A charter school shall be a public school. The board of trustees of a charter school shall have the authority to decide matters related to the operations of the school including budgeting, curriculum, and operating procedures, subject to the school's charter.

### **C. Educational objectives**

(N.J. Stat. § 18A:36A-5)

The application for a charter school shall include the educational goals of the school, the curriculum to be offered, and the methods of assessing whether students are meeting educational goals.

### **D. K-12 education**

Not stipulated

### **E. Nonsectarian**

Not stipulated

### **F. Tuition-free** (N.J. Stat. § 18A:36A-12)

There shall be no tuition charge to the families of students who attend charter schools.

### **G. Federal compliance**

(N.J. Stat. § 18A:36A-11)

A charter school shall comply with applicable state and Federal anti-discrimination statutes.

### **H. Enrollment** (N.J. Stat. § 18A:36A-8)

**Lottery:** If there are more applications to enroll in the charter school than there are spaces available, the charter school shall select students to attend using a random selection process.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### **I. Audit**

Not stipulated

### **J. Safety requirements**

(N.J. Stat. § 18A:36A-11)

The commissioner may exempt the school from state regulations concerning public schools, except those pertaining to assessment, testing, civil rights, and student health and safety, if the board of trustees satisfactorily demonstrates to the commissioner that the exemption will advance the educational goals and objectives of the school.

### **K. State compliance**

(N.J. Stat. § 18A:36A-11)

A charter school shall operate in accordance with its charter and the provisions of law and regulation which govern other public schools; except that, upon the request of the board of trustees of a charter school, the commissioner may exempt the school from state regulations concerning public schools, except those pertaining to assessment, testing, civil rights, and student health and safety, if the board of trustees satisfactorily demonstrates to the commissioner that the exemption will advance the educational goals and objectives of the school. A charter school shall comply with the provisions of chapter 46 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes concerning the provision of services to students with disabilities; except that the fiscal responsibility for any student currently enrolled in or determined to require a private day or residential school shall remain with the district of residence.

### **L. Student performance**

(N.J. Stat. § 18A:36A-5)

The application for a charter school shall include the educational goals of the school, the curriculum to be offered, and the methods of assessing whether students are meeting educational goals.

### **M. ECE or postsecondary**

Not stipulated

# New Mexico

## Charter Law: Section 22; Charter Law: Title 6

### *A. Flexible operation (N.M. Stat. § 22-8B-5)*

A state-chartered charter school is exempt from school district requirements. For locally chartered charter schools, the local school board may waive only locally imposed school district requirements.

### *B. Public supervision (N.M. Stat. § 22-8B-2)*

Charter school means a conversion or startup charter school authorized by a chartering authority to operate as a public school.

### *C. Educational objectives (N.M. Code R. § 6.80.4.9)*

A charter school application shall contain the goals, objectives, and student performance outcomes to be achieved by the charter school.

### *D. K-12 education*

Not stipulated

### *E. Nonsectarian (N.M. Stat. § 22-8B-4)*

A charter school shall be a nonsectarian, nonreligious, and non-home-based public school.

### *F. Tuition-free (N.M. Stat. § 22-8B-4)*

Except as otherwise provided in the public school code, a charter school shall not charge tuition or have admission requirements.

### *G. Federal compliance (N.M. Stat. § 22-8B-4)*

A charter school shall be subject to all Federal and state laws and constitutional provisions prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability, physical or mental handicap, serious medical condition, race, creed, color, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, spousal affiliation, national origin, religion, ancestry or need for special education services and shall not allow for the imposition of discipline, discrimination or disparate treatment against a student based on the student's race, religion or culture or because of the student's use of protective hairstyles or cultural or religious headdresses. A charter school shall comply with all applicable state and Federal laws and rules related to providing special education services.

### *H. Enrollment (N.M. Stat. § 22-8B-4.1)*

**Lottery:** A start-up school or conversion charter school may either enroll students on a first-come, first-served basis or through a lottery selection process if the total number of applicants exceeds the number of spaces available at the school.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### *I. Audit (N.M. Stat. § 22-13-1)*

Each school district and charter school shall have an annual audit that shall be completed and submitted to the state auditor by the date specified in rules of the state auditor.

### *J. Safety requirements (N.M. Stat. § 22-8B-4)*

A charter school shall comply with all state and Federal health and safety requirements applicable to public schools, including those health and safety codes relating to educational building occupancy.

### *K. State compliance (N.M. Stat. § 22-8B-4)*

A charter school shall be subject to all Federal and state laws and constitutional provisions prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability, physical or mental handicap, serious medical condition, race, creed, color, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, spousal affiliation, national origin, religion, ancestry or need for special education services and shall not allow for the imposition of discipline, discrimination or disparate treatment against a student based on the student's race, religion or culture or because of the student's use of protective hairstyles or cultural or religious headdresses. A charter school shall comply with all applicable state and Federal laws and rules related to providing special education services.

### *L. Student performance (N.M. Code R. § 6.80.4.9)*

A charter school application shall contain a description of the charter school's plan for evaluating student performance, the types of assessments that will be used to measure student progress toward achievement of the state's standards, and the school's student performance standards, the timeline for achievement of the standards, and the procedures for taking corrective action in the event that student performance falls below the standards.

### *M. ECE or postsecondary*

Not stipulated

# New York

## Charter Law

### *A. Flexible operation*

*(N.Y. Educ. Law § 2853)*

A charter school shall be deemed an independent and autonomous public school.

### *B. Public supervision*

*(N.Y. Educ. Law § 2853)*

A charter school shall be deemed an independent and autonomous public school. The board of trustees of the charter school shall have final authority for policy and operational decisions of the school.

### *C. Educational objectives*

*(N.Y. Educ. Law § 2851; N.Y. Educ. Law § 2857)*

The application to establish a charter school shall include a description of student achievement goals for the school's educational program. Each charter school shall submit to the charter entity and to the board of regents an annual report that includes measures of the comparative academic and fiscal performance of the school, discussion of the progress made towards achievement of the goals set forth in the charter, and a certified financial statement.

### *D. K-12 education (N.Y. Educ. Law § 2854)*

A charter school shall serve one or more of the grades one through twelve.

### *E. Nonsectarian (N.Y. Educ. Law § 2854)*

A charter school shall be nonsectarian in its programs, admission policies, employment practices, and all other operations.

### *F. Tuition-free (N.Y. Educ. Law § 2854)*

A charter school shall not charge tuition or fees. A charter school may require the payment of fees on the same basis and to the same extent as other public schools.

### *G. Federal compliance*

Not stipulated

### *H. Enrollment (N.Y. Educ. Law § 2854)*

**Lottery:** If the number of applications exceeds the capacity of the grade level or building, students shall be accepted from among applicants by a random selection process. The commissioner shall establish regulations to require that the random selection process be performed in a transparent and equitable manner and to require that the time and place of the random selection process be publicized in a manner consistent with the requirements of the public officers law and be open to the public.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### *I. Audit (N.Y. Educ. Law § 2854)*

A charter school shall be subject to the financial audits, the audit procedures, and the audit requirements set forth in the charter, and shall be subject to audits of the comptroller of the city school district of the city of New York for charter schools located in New York City, and to the audits of the comptroller of the State of New York for charter schools located in the rest of the state, at his or her discretion, with respect to the school's financial operations.

### *J. Safety requirements*

*(N.Y. Educ. Law § 2854)*

A charter school shall meet the same health and safety, civil rights, and student assessment requirements applicable to other public schools, except as otherwise specifically provided in article 56.

### *K. State compliance*

*(N.Y. Educ. Law § 2854)*

Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, to the extent that any provision of article 56 is inconsistent with any other state or local law, rule or regulation, the provisions of this article shall govern and be controlling.

### *L. Student performance*

*(N.Y. Educ. Law § 2854; N.Y. Educ. Law § 2857)*

A charter school shall design its educational programs to meet or exceed the student performance standards adopted by the board of regents and the student performance standards contained in the charter. Students attending charter school shall be required to take regents examinations to the same extent such examinations are required of other public school students. The annual report shall include academic performance measures including graduation rates, dropout rates, and student performance on standardized tests.

### *M. ECE or postsecondary*

Not stipulated



# North Carolina

## Charter Law

### **A. Flexible operation**

(N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-218)

The purpose of article 14A is to authorize a system of charter schools to provide opportunities for teachers, parents, pupils, and community members to establish and maintain schools that operate independently of existing schools.

### **B. Public supervision**

(N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-218.15)

A charter school shall be a public school, operated by a private nonprofit corporation with a board of directors, who shall decide matters related to the operation of the school, including budgeting, curriculum, and operating procedures.

### **C. Educational objectives**

(N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-218.110)

The state board of education shall review and evaluate charter schools on the current and projected impact on the delivery of services by the public schools, student academic performance, best practices resulting from charter school operations, and other information as appropriate.

### **D. K-12 education**

Not stipulated

### **E. Nonsectarian**

(N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-218.50)

A charter school shall be nonsectarian in its programs, admission policies, employment practices, and all other operations. A charter school shall not be affiliated with a nonpublic sectarian school or a religious institution.

### **F. Tuition-free** (N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-218.50)

A charter school shall not charge tuition or fees except as follows:

(a) A charter school may charge any fees that are charged by the local administrative unit in which the charter school is located. (b) A charter school, upon approval by the board of directors of the charter school, may establish fees for extracurricular activities, except those fees shall not exceed the fees for the same extracurricular activities charged by a local school administrative unit in which 40 percent or more of the students enrolled in the charter school reside.

### **G. Federal compliance**

(N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-218.50)

The state board shall withhold or reduce distribution of funds to a charter school if they violate a state statute or Federal law.

### **H. Enrollment** (N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-218.45)

**Lottery:** During each period of enrollment, the charter school shall enroll an eligible student who submits a timely application, unless the number of applications exceeds the capacity of a program, class, grade level, or building. In this case, students shall be accepted by lot.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### **I. Audit** (N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-218.30)

The charter school is subject to the financial audits, the audit procedures, and the audit requirements adopted by the state board of education for charter schools.

### **J. Safety requirements**

(N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-218.75)

A charter school shall meet the same health and safety requirements required of a local school administrative unit.

### **K. State compliance**

(N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-218.50)

The state board shall withhold or reduce distribution of funds to a charter school if they violate a state statute or Federal law.

### **L. Student performance**

(N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-218.110)

The state board of education shall review and evaluate charter schools on student academic progress as measured against the academic year immediately preceding the first academic year of the school's operations.

### **M. ECE or postsecondary**

(N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-218.115)

A charter school may apply to a local contracting agency to participate in the North Carolina prekindergarten program as a local program site offering families a high-quality prekindergarten experience.

# North Dakota

## Charter Law

### A. Flexible operation

(Senate Bill No. 2241, 2025, pp. 1, 2)

A public charter school is not subject to a state or local law, rule, regulation, policy, or procedure related to education. A public charter school may decide matters related to budgeting, curriculum, and operating procedures, subject to the school's charter performance agreement.

### B. Public supervision

(Senate Bill No. 2241, 2025, p. 1)

A public charter school is a public school under the control of a governing board, the members of which are elected or selected pursuant to the school's charter performance agreement.

### C. Educational objectives

(Senate Bill No. 2241, 2025, pp. 1, 6)

A public charter school is established by a charter performance agreement between the governing board and the superintendent of public instruction. The charter performance agreement shall include (a) academic, operational, and fiscal performance expectations and measures by which the charter school will be judged and (b) a description of the standards and processes under which the superintendent of public instruction will oversee and monitor the public charter school.

### D. K–12 education

(Senate Bill No. 2241, 2025, p. 2)

A public charter school provides a program of education that includes one or more grade levels from kindergarten through grade 12.

### E. Nonsectarian

(Senate Bill No. 2241, 2025, p. 2)

A public charter school may not engage in religious practices in its educational program, admissions, employment, policies, or operations.

### F. Tuition-free (Senate Bill No. 2241, 2025, p. 2)

A public charter school may not charge tuition or fees for any services provided for students, except fees for field trips, clubs, organizations, and athletic participation.

### G. Federal compliance

(Senate Bill No. 2241, 2025, p. 2)

A public charter school is subject to Federal laws and authorities related to education.

### H. Enrollment

(Senate Bill No. 2241, 2025, p. 3)

**Lottery:** A public charter school shall determine admission by a lottery if initial capacity is insufficient to enroll all students who timely submit an application. The selection process must take place in a public setting. An applicant must have a fair opportunity to be selected in the lottery. The lottery must be randomized and conducted competently, transparently, and impartially.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### I. Audit (Senate Bill No. 2241, 2025, p. 9)

A public charter school shall engage a qualified certified public accountant or public accountant to independently audit the public charter school's finances once every six months. The public charter school shall submit the audit to the superintendent of public instruction.

### J. Safety requirements

Not stipulated

### K. State compliance

(Senate Bill No. 2241, 2025, pp. 2, 8)

A public charter school provides a program of education that meets or exceeds state performance standards, instructional hours, and graduation requirements. A public charter school shall provide services to students in public charter schools as required by Federal, state, and local law and the charter performance agreement.

### L. Student performance

(Senate Bill No. 2241, 2025, p. 6)

If an application is approved, the superintendent of public instruction and the governing board of the public charter school shall execute a charter performance agreement that includes (a) indicators related to student academic proficiency, student academic growth, attendance, recurrent enrollment, readiness for success upon graduation, financial performance, governance performance, and family and community engagement and (b) annual performance targets to support the public charter school's compliance with Federal and state requirements.

### M. ECE or postsecondary

Not stipulated

# Ohio

## Charter Law

*Called community schools*

### **A. Flexible operation**

*(Ohio Rev. Code § 3314.04)*

Except as otherwise specified in chapter 3314 and in the contract between a community school and a sponsor, such school is exempt from all state laws and rules pertaining to schools, school districts, and boards of education, except those laws and rules that grant certain rights to parents.

### **B. Public supervision**

*(Ohio Rev. Code § 3314.02)*

A community school is a public school and will be under the direction of a governing authority of at least five individuals.

### **C. Educational objectives**

*(Ohio Rev. Code § 3314.03)*

Each community school contract shall specify the performance standards, including but not limited to, all applicable report card measures set forth in 3302.03 or 3314.017 of the Revised Code, by which the success of the school will be evaluated by the sponsor.

### **D. K–12 education**

*(Ohio Admin. Code § 3301.35-09)*

A community school may be established to serve at least three grade levels between kindergarten through 12th grade.

### **E. Nonsectarian** *(Ohio Rev. Code § 3314.03)*

A community school will be nonsectarian in its programs, admission policies, employment practices, and all other operations, and will not be operated by a sectarian school or religious institution.

### **F. Tuition-free** *(Ohio Rev. Code § 3314.06)*

No community school shall charge tuition for the enrollment of any student who is a resident of this state. A community school may charge tuition for the enrollment of any student who is not a resident of this state.

### **G. Federal compliance**

*(Ohio Rev. Code § 3314.03)*

Community schools shall comply with all state and Federal laws and regulations that apply to public schools.

### **H. Enrollment** *(Ohio Rev. Code § 3314.06)*

**Lottery:** If the number of applicants exceeds the capacity restrictions of the school, students shall be admitted by lot from all those submitting applications, except preference shall be given to students attending the school the previous year and to students who reside in the district in which the school is located.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### **I. Audit** *(Ohio Rev. Code § 3314.03)*

Community schools are required to undergo annual financial audits by the auditor of the state.

### **J. Safety requirements**

Not stipulated

### **K. State compliance**

*(Ohio Rev. Code § 3314.03)*

Community schools shall comply with all state and Federal laws and regulations that apply to public schools.

### **L. Student performance**

*(Ohio Rev. Code § 3302.01)*

Community schools receive an annual performance index score calculated using student performance on state achievement assessments.

### **M. ECE or postsecondary**

Not stipulated

# Oklahoma

## Charter Law

### **A. Flexible operation**

*(Okla. Stat. tit. 70 § 3-136)*

Except as provided for in the Oklahoma Charter Schools Act, a charter school and virtual charter school shall be exempt from all statutes and rules relating to schools, boards of education, and school districts.

### **B. Public supervision**

*(Okla. Stat. tit. 70 § 3-132 and 70 § 3-136)*

A charter school or virtual charter school is considered a public school and shall provide for a governing board for the school which shall be responsible for the policies and operational decisions of the charter school.

### **C. Educational objectives**

*(Okla. Stat. tit. 70 § 3-136)*

A charter school or virtual charter school contract shall include performance provisions based on a performance framework that clearly sets forth the academic and operational performance indicators that shall be used by charter school and virtual charter school sponsors to evaluate their respective schools.

### **D. K-12 education** *(Okla. Stat. tit. 70 § 3-136)*

A charter school or virtual charter school may provide a comprehensive program of instruction for a prekindergarten program, a kindergarten program, or any grade between grades 1 and 12.

### **E. Nonsectarian** *(Okla. Stat. tit. 70 § 3-136)*

A charter school or virtual charter school shall be nonsectarian in its programs, admission policies, employment practices, and all other operations.

### **F. Tuition-free** *(Okla. Stat. tit. 70 § 3-136)*

A charter school or virtual charter school shall be as equally free and open to all students as traditional public schools and shall not charge tuition or fees.

### **G. Federal compliance**

*(Okla. Stat. tit. 70 § 3-136)*

A charter school or virtual charter school shall comply with all Federal regulations and state and local rules and statutes relating to health, safety, civil rights, and insurance.

### **H. Enrollment** *(Okla. Stat. tit. 70 § 3-140)*

**Lottery:** If capacity is insufficient to enroll all eligible students, the charter school shall select students through a lottery selection process.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### **I. Audit** *(Okla. Stat. tit. 70 § 3-136)*

A charter school or virtual charter school shall be subject to the same reporting requirements, financial audits, audit procedures, and audit requirements as a school district. The state department of education or state auditor and inspector may conduct financial, program, or compliance audits.

### **J. Safety requirements**

*(Okla. Stat. tit. 70 § 3-136)*

A charter school or virtual charter school shall comply with all Federal regulations and state and local rules and statutes relating to health, safety, civil rights, and insurance.

### **K. State compliance**

*(Okla. Stat. tit. 70 § 3-136)*

A charter school or virtual charter school shall comply with all Federal regulations and state and local rules and statutes relating to health, safety, civil rights, and insurance.

### **L. Student performance**

*(Okla. Stat. tit. 70 § 3-136)*

A charter school or virtual charter school shall participate in the testing as required by the Oklahoma School Testing Program Act and the reporting of test results as is required of a school district.

### **M. ECE or postsecondary**

*(Okla. Stat. tit. 70 § 3-136)*

A charter school or virtual charter school may provide a comprehensive program of instruction for a prekindergarten program, a kindergarten program, or any grade between grades 1 and 12.

# Oregon

## Charter Law

### *A. Flexible operation (ORS § 338.115)*

Statutes and rules that apply only to school district boards, school districts, or other public schools do not apply to public charter schools.

### *B. Public supervision (ORS § 338.005)*

A charter school is defined as a “public charter school” and will have a governance structure that complies with the laws for nonprofit organizations.

### *C. Educational objectives (Or. Admin. R. 581-026-0100)*

A proposal for a charter shall establish the performance standards under which the public charter school will be evaluated, using objective and verifiable measures of student achievement as the primary measure of school quality.

### *D. K-12 education (ORS § 338.005)*

A public charter school means an elementary or secondary school offering a comprehensive instructional program.

### *E. Nonsectarian (ORS § 338.115)*

A public charter school may not violate the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment to the United States Constitution or Article I, section 5, of the Oregon Constitution, or be religion based.

### *F. Tuition-free (ORS § 339.141)*

Tuition is prohibited for the regular school program of public charter schools.

### *G. Federal compliance (ORS § 338.115)*

The laws and regulations included within section 338.115 apply to charter schools, including Federal law.

### *H. Enrollment (ORS § 338.125)*

**Lottery:** If the number of applications from students exceeds the capacity of a program, class, grade level or building, the public charter school shall select students through an equitable lottery selection process.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### *I. Audit (Or. Admin. R. 581-026-0210)*

A public charter school shall have an annual audit of the accounts of the public charter school prepared in accordance with the Municipal Audit Law.

### *J. Safety requirements (ORS § 338.115)*

A public charter school shall follow health and safety statutes and rules.

### *K. State compliance (ORS § 338.115)*

The laws and regulations included within section 338.115 apply to charter schools.

### *L. Student performance (Or. Admin. R. 581-026-0100)*

A proposal for a charter shall use objective and verifiable measures of student achievement as the primary measure of school quality.

### *M. ECE or postsecondary*

Not stipulated



# Pennsylvania

## Charter Law

### **A. Flexible operation**

(24 Pa. Stat. § 17-1715-A)

Except as otherwise provided in this article, a charter school is exempt from statutory requirements established in this act, from regulations of the state board and the standards of the secretary not specifically applicable to charter schools. Charter schools are not exempt from statutes applicable to public schools other than this act.

### **B. Public supervision**

(24 Pa. Stat. § 17-1724-A; 24 Pa. Stat. § 17-1716-A)

The charter school shall be considered a public school as defined in 24 PA.C.S. § 8102. The board of trustees of a charter school may decide matters related to the operation of the school, including, but not limited to, budgeting, curriculum, and operating procedures, subject to the school's charter.

### **C. Educational objectives**

Not stipulated

### **D. K-12 education**

Not stipulated

### **E. Nonsectarian** (24 Pa. Stat. § 17-1715-A)

A charter school shall be nonsectarian in all operations. A charter school shall not provide any religious instruction, nor shall it display religious objects and symbols on the premises of the charter school.

### **F. Tuition-free** (24 Pa. Stat. § 17-1725-A)

There shall be no tuition charge for a resident or nonresident student attending a charter school.

### **G. Federal compliance**

(24 Pa. Stat. § 17-1732-A)

The secretary shall have the authority and the responsibility to ensure that charter schools comply with Federal laws and regulations governing children with disabilities. The secretary shall promulgate regulations to implement this provision.

### **H. Enrollment** (24 Pa. Stat. § 17-1723-A)

**Lottery:** If more students apply to the charter school than the number of attendance slots available in the school, then students must be selected on a random basis from a pool of qualified applicants meeting the established eligibility criteria.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### **I. Audit** (24 Pa. Stat. § 2-218)

An annual financial report shall be submitted to the secretary of education by each school district, charter school, cyber charter school, and area career and technical school not later than the 31st day of October.

### **J. Safety requirements**

Not stipulated

### **K. State compliance**

(24 Pa. Stat. § 17-1732-A)

Charter schools shall be subject to all state provisions included within 24 Pa. Stat. § 17-1732-A.

### **L. Student performance**

(24 Pa. Stat. § 17-1715-A)

A charter school shall participate in the Pennsylvania State Assessment System as provided for in 22 Pa. Code Ch. 5 (relating to curriculum), or subsequent regulations promulgated to replace 22 Pa. Code Ch. 5, in the manner in which the school district in which the charter school is located is scheduled to participate.

### **M. ECE or postsecondary**

Not stipulated



# Puerto Rico

## Charter Law

(in Spanish, 3 L.P.R.A. § 9813)

*Called “escuela alianza” or partnership school*

### **A. Flexible operation** (3 L.P.R.A. § 9813a(b))

A partnership school shall have autonomy over its decisions including, but not limited to, finances, personnel, schedule, curriculum, and instruction matters.

### **B. Public supervision**

(3 L.P.R.A. § 9813a (a) and (f))

A partnership school is a nonprofit nonsectarian public school that shall operate under the supervision of the secretary.

### **C. Educational objectives**

(3 L.P.R.A. § 9813f(a)(3) and (4))

The charter shall include provisions on performance within a performance framework that clearly sets forth the indicators, measures, and metrics for academic and operating performance that shall govern the secretary’s evaluation of every school authorized by the charter.

### **D. K-12 education** (3 L.P.R.A. § 9813)

A partnership school is a newly created public elementary school and/or high school that is operated and administrated by a certified educational entity authorized by the secretary; or an existing public elementary school and/or high school whose operation and administration is transferred to a certified educational entity authorized by the secretary, pursuant to the granting of a charter.

### **E. Nonsectarian** (3 L.P.R.A. § 9813a(a))

A partnership school is a nonprofit nonsectarian public school.

### **F. Tuition-free** (3 L.P.R.A. § 9813a(i))

Except as provided in the laws of Puerto Rico, partnership schools may not charge any enrollment fees or expenditures.

### **G. Federal compliance**

(3 L.P.R.A. § 9813a (c))

A partnership school shall be subject to all of the Federal laws and the laws of the government of Puerto Rico, as well as to all constitutional provisions prohibiting discrimination, including against the population of persons with disabilities.

### **H. Enrollment** (3 L.P.R.A. § 9813a (e))

**Lottery:** When there is a lack of capacity to enroll all of the students interested in attending a partnership school, the school may select students through a lottery conducted in accordance with the rules established by the authorizer.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### **I. Audit** (3 L.P.R.A. § 9813f (a)(12))

Every charter granted by the authorizer shall require that the financial statements of the certified educational entity be audited annually by an independent certified public accountant.

### **J. Safety requirements**

(3 L.P.R.A. § 9813a (g))

The partnership school shall comply with all of the provisions of the charter and of this chapter and shall be subject to the same demands regarding the protection of the civil rights, the health, and the safety in the public schools of Puerto Rico, except as otherwise provided in this chapter.

### **K. State compliance** (3 L.P.R.A. § 9813a(c))

A partnership school shall be subject to all of the Federal laws and the laws of the government of Puerto Rico.

### **L. Student performance**

(3 L.P.R.A. § 9813a(b))

The curriculum shall be subject to compliance with the regulations promulgated by the secretary for such purposes and the learning standards and shall be required to use general assessment methods such as the “pruebas Medicion y evaluación para la transformación educativa (META).”

### **M. ECE or postsecondary**

Not stipulated

# Rhode Island

## Charter Law

*There are three types of charter schools in Rhode Island: (a) district charters, (b) independent charters, and (c) mayoral academies; all are considered “charter public schools.”*

### **A. Flexible operation**

*(R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-77.2-2; R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-77.3-2; R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-77.4-2)*

The charter application shall identify with particularity the state statutes, state regulations, and school district rules from which variances are sought in order to facilitate operation of the charter public school.

### **B. Public supervision** *(R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-77-3.1; R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-77.2-2; R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-77-3-2; R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-77.4-2)*

A charter public school shall be deemed to be a public school acting under state law. The proposed charter will include a plan for the governance, administration, and operation of the charter public school, including the manner in which the governing board of the school will be chosen.

### **C. Educational objectives**

*(R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-77.2-2; R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-77.3-2; R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-77.4-2)*

The proposed charter shall describe a plan for education, including the mission, objective, method of providing a basic education, measurable student academic goals that the charter public school will meet, and process for improving student learning and fulfilling the charter and state and national educational goals and standards.

### **D. K–12 education**

*(R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-77-6.1)*

A charter public school may include any grade up to grade twelve (12) or any configuration of those grades, including kindergarten and prekindergarten.

### **E. Nonsectarian** *(R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-77-3.1)*

No private or parochial schools shall be eligible for charter public school status, nor shall a charter public school be affiliated in any way with a sectarian school or religious institution.

### **F. Tuition-free** *(R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-77-6.1)*

No student tuition or mandatory fees may be charged by any charter public school.

### **G. Federal compliance**

*(R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-77-3.1)*

All students and prospective students of a charter public school shall be deemed to be public school students, having all the same rights under Federal and Rhode Island law as students and prospective students at a non-chartered public school.

### **H. Enrollment** *(R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-77.2-1; R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-77.3-1; R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-77.4-1)*

**Lottery:** If the total number of students who are eligible to attend and apply to a charter public school is greater than the number of spaces available, the charter school shall conduct a lottery to determine which students shall be admitted.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### **I. Audit** *(R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-77.2-2; R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-77.3-2; R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-77.4-2)*

The proposed charter shall undergo an annual audit of the financial and administrative operations of the charter public school.

### **J. Safety requirements**

*(R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-77.2-2; R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-77.3-2; R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-77.4-2)*

The proposed charter shall explain the procedures that will be followed to ensure the health and safety of pupils and staff.

### **K. State compliance**

*(R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-77-3.1)*

All students and prospective students of a charter public school shall be deemed to be public school students, having all the same rights under Federal and Rhode Island law as students and prospective students at a non-chartered public school.

### **L. Student performance**

*(R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-77.2-2; R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-77.3-2; R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-77.4-2)*

The proposed charter shall indicate performance criteria that will be used to measure student learning and to comply with the charter, state, and national educational goals and standards.

### **M. ECE or postsecondary**

*(R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-77-6.1)*

If specified in its charter, a charter public school may also operate an adult education program, adult high school completion program, or general education development testing preparation program.

# South Carolina

## Charter Law

### *A. Flexible operation (S.C. Code § 59-40-50)*

Except as otherwise provided in chapter 40, a charter school is exempt from all provisions of law and regulations applicable to a public school, a school board, or a district.

### *B. Public supervision (S.C. Code § 59-40-40)*

A charter school is considered a public school. A charter school must be administered and governed by a governing body in a manner agreed to by the charter school applicant and sponsor.

### *C. Educational objectives (S.C. Code § 59-40-40; S.C. Code § 59-40-60)*

A charter school contract outlines the performance expectations. The charter school application must include the goals, objectives, and academic performance standards to be achieved by the charter school.

### *D. K-12 education*

Not stipulated

### *E. Nonsectarian (S.C. Code § 59-40-40)*

A charter school means a public, nonreligious, nonhome based, nonprofit corporation forming a school that operates by sponsorship.

### *F. Tuition-free (S.C. Code § 59-40-40)*

A charter school may not charge tuition or other charges, except as permitted by the sponsor and is comparable to the charges of the local school district in which the charter school is located.

### *G. Federal compliance (S.C. Code § 59-40-40)*

A charter school is subject to all Federal and state laws and constitutional provisions prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability, race, creed, color, gender, national origin, religion, ancestry, or need for special education services.

### *H. Enrollment (S.C. Code § 59-40-50)*

**Lottery:** If the number of applications exceeds the capacity of a program, class, grade level, or building, students must be accepted by lot.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### *I. Audit (S.C. Code § 59-40-50)*

A charter school must adhere to the same financial audits, audit procedures, and audit requirements as are applied to public schools.

### *J. Safety requirements (S.C. Code § 59-40-50)*

A charter school must adhere to the same health, safety, civil rights, and disability rights requirements as are applied to public schools operating in the same school district or the local school district in which the charter school is located.

### *K. State compliance (S.C. Code § 59-40-40)*

A charter school is subject to all Federal and state laws and constitutional provisions prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability, race, creed, color, gender, national origin, religion, ancestry, or need for special education services.

### *L. Student performance (S.C. Code § 59-40-60)*

The charter application must include a description of the charter school's plan for evaluating pupil achievement and progress toward accomplishment of the school's achievement standards in addition to state assessments, the timeline for meeting these standards, and the procedures for taking corrective action if that pupil achievement falls below the standards.

### *M. ECE or postsecondary*

Not stipulated

# Tennessee

## Charter Law

### **A. Flexible operation**

*(Tenn. Code § 49-13-111)*

A public charter school may apply to either the authorizer or to the commissioner of education for a waiver of any state board rule or statute that inhibits or hinders the proposed public charter school's ability to meet the school's goals or comply with the school's mission statement.

### **B. Public supervision**

*(Tenn. Code § 49-13-106; Tenn. Code § 49-13-111)*

Public charter schools are part of the state program of public education. Public charter schools shall operate with control of instruction vested in the governing body of the public charter school.

### **C. Educational objectives**

*(Tenn. Code § 49-13-107; Tenn. Code § 49-13-111)*

A charter school application shall include a statement defining the mission and goals of the proposed charter school, including the proposed charter school's academic focus. A public charter school shall meet the performance standards and requirements adopted by the state board of education for public schools.

### **D. K-12 education**

Not stipulated

### **E. Nonsectarian** *(Tenn. Code § 49-13-111)*

A public charter school shall operate as a public, nonsectarian, nonreligious public school.

### **F. Tuition-free** *(Tenn. Code § 49-13-106)*

A public charter school shall not charge registration fees, enrollment fees, or tuition.

### **G. Federal compliance**

*(Tenn. Code § 49-13-111)*

A public charter school shall be subject to all Federal and state laws and constitutional provisions prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability, race, creed, color, national origin, religion, ancestry or need for special education services. A public charter school may not violate or be used to subvert any state or Federal court orders in place in the local school district.

### **H. Enrollment** *(Tenn. Code § 49-13-113)*

**Lottery:** If the number of applications exceeds the capacity of a program, class, grade level, or building, the charter school shall select students through a lottery.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### **I. Audit** *(Tenn. Code § 49-13-127)*

The governing body of the charter school shall cause an annual audit to be made of the accounts and records of their school. The audits may be prepared by certified public accountants or by the department of audit.

### **J. Safety requirements**

*(Tenn. Code § 49-13-111)*

A public charter school shall comply with all applicable health and safety standards, regulations, and laws of the United States and this state.

### **K. State compliance**

*(Tenn. Code § 49-13-111)*

A public charter school shall be subject to all Federal and state laws and constitutional provisions prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability, race, creed, color, national origin, religion, ancestry or need for special education services. A public charter school may not violate or be used to subvert any state or Federal court orders in place in the local school district.

### **L. Student performance**

*(Tenn. Code § 49-13-107)*

A charter school application shall include a plan for evaluating student academic achievement at the proposed public charter school and the procedures for remedial action that will be used by the school when the academic achievement of a student falls below acceptable standards.

### **M. ECE or postsecondary**

Not stipulated

# Texas

## Charter Law

*There are three types of charter schools in Texas: (a) home-rule district charters, (b) campus or campus program charters, and (c) open-enrollment charters.*

### A. Flexible operation

(Tex. Educ. Code § 12.054)

Home-rule district charters: Home-rule district charters are exempt from the instructional and academic rules and policies of the board of trustees from which the campus or program is specifically exempted in the charter.

**Campus or campus program charters:** Not stipulated

**Open-enrollment charters:** Not stipulated

### B. Public supervision

All three types of charter schools: Not stipulated

### C. Educational objectives

(Tex. Educ. Code § 12.111; Tex. Educ. Code § 12.059; Tex. Educ. Code § 12.016)

**Home-rule district charters:** Each home-rule school district charter must describe the educational program to be offered and provide that continuation of the charter is contingent on acceptable student performance on assessment instruments.

**Campus or campus program charters:** Each campus or campus program charter must describe the educational program to be offered and provide that continuation of the charter is contingent on satisfactory student performance.

**Open-enrollment charters:** Each open-enrollment

charter must specify the academic, operational, and financial performance expectations by which a school operating under the charter will be evaluated, which must include applicable elements of the performance frameworks. The commissioner shall develop and by rule adopt performance frameworks that establish standards by which to measure the performance of an open-enrollment charter school.

### D. K–12 education (Tex. Educ. Code § 12.102)

**Home-rule district charters:** Not stipulated

**Campus or campus program charters:** Not stipulated

Open-enrollment charters: An open-enrollment charter school shall provide instruction to students at one or more elementary or secondary grade levels as provided by the charter.

### E. Nonsectarian

All three types of charter schools: Not stipulated

### F. Tuition-free (Tex. Educ. Code § 12.108)

**Home-rule district charters:** Not stipulated

**Campus or campus program charters:** Not stipulated

Open-enrollment charters: An open-enrollment charter school may not charge tuition. The governing body of an open-enrollment charter school may require a student to pay any fee that the board of trustees of a school district may charge.

### G. Federal compliance

(Tex. Educ. Code § 12.012; Tex. Educ. Code § 12.055; Tex. Educ. Code § 12.103)

All three types of charter schools are subject to Federal and state laws and rules governing school districts.

### H. Enrollment (Tex. Educ. Code § 12.117)

**Home-rule district charters:** Not stipulated

**Campus or campus program charters:** Not stipulated

Open-enrollment charters: Lottery: Upon receipt of more applications than available seats, an open-enrollment charter shall fill the remaining seats by lottery.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### I. Audit (Tex. Educ. Code § 12.016; Tex. Educ. Code § 12.059; Tex. Educ. Code § 12.111)

All three types of charter schools must specify the manner in which an annual audit of financial and programmatic operations of the campus or programs is to be conducted.

### J. Safety requirements

(Tex. Educ. Code § 12.013; Tex. Educ. Code § 12.056; Tex. Educ. Code § 12.104)

All three types of charter schools are subject to the safe schools provisions in Tex. Educ. Code subtitle G.



# Texas (continued)

## Charter Law

*There are three types of charter schools in Texas: (a) home-rule district charters, (b) campus or campus program charters, and (c) open-enrollment charters.*

### **K. State compliance**

*(Tex. Educ. Code § 12.012; Tex. Educ. Code § 12.055; Tex. Educ. Code § 12.103)*

All three types of charter schools are subject to Federal and state laws and rules governing school districts.

**L. Student performance** *(Tex. Educ. Code § 12.016; Tex. Educ. Code § 12.056; Tex. Educ. Code § 12.058; Tex. Educ. Code § 12.104)*

All three types of charter schools are subject to the requirements in Tex. Educ. Code Chapter 39, Subchapter B, Assessment of Academic Skills.

### **M. ECE or postsecondary**

*(Tex. Educ. Code § 12.255)*

**Home-rule district charters:** Not stipulated

**Campus or campus program charters:** Not stipulated

**Open-enrollment charters:** An open-enrollment charter may be granted to provide an adult education program for career and technical education courses that can lead to an industry certification.



# Utah

## Charter Law

### *A. Flexible operation*

*(Utah Code § 53G-5-406)*

State board rules governing school libraries, required administrative and supervisory services and required expenditures for instructional supplies do not apply to a charter school. Provisions of the public education code requiring independent evaluation of instructional materials, use of activity disclosure statements, fiscal procedures of school districts, establishment of a school community council, and annual presentations on adoption do not apply to a charter school.

### *B. Public supervision*

*(Utah Code § 53G-5-401)*

Charter schools are governed by independent boards and considered to be public schools within the state's public education system.

### *C. Educational objectives*

*(Utah Code § 53G-5-104)*

The purpose of the state's charter schools is to establish new educational models and new forms of accountability that emphasize unique performance measures and innovative measurement tools to measure education outcomes.

### *D. K-12 education*

Not stipulated

### *E. Nonsectarian*

*(Utah Code § 53G-5-401; Utah Code § 53G-5-404)*

A parochial school is not eligible for charter school status. A charter school shall be nonsectarian in the charter school's programs, admission policies, employment practices, and operations.

### *F. Tuition-free* *(Utah Code § 53G-5-404)*

A charter school may not charge tuition or fees, except those fees normally charged by other public schools.

### *G. Federal compliance*

*(Utah Code § 53G-5-404)*

A charter school shall meet all applicable Federal, state, and local health, safety, and civil rights requirements. A charter school shall comply with Federal and state law governing use of public education funds, including restricted funds, and making annual financial audit reports under this section.

### *H. Enrollment* *(Utah Code § 53G-6-502)*

**Lottery:** If the number of applications exceeds the capacity of a program, class, grade level, or the charter school, the charter school shall select students on a random basis. A charter school may weigh the charter school's lottery to give a slightly better chance of admission to educationally disadvantaged students.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### *I. Audit* *(Utah Code § 53G-5-404)*

A charter school shall make the same annual reports required of other public schools under this public education code, including an annual financial audit report described in section 53G-4-404.

### *J. Safety requirements*

*(Utah Code § 53G-5-404)*

A charter school shall meet all applicable Federal, state, and local health, safety, and civil rights requirements.

### *K. State compliance*

*(Utah Code § 53G-5-404)*

A charter school shall meet all applicable Federal, state, and local health, safety, and civil rights requirements. A charter school shall comply with Federal and state law governing use of public education funds, including restricted funds, and making annual financial audit reports under this section.

### *L. Student performance*

Not stipulated

### *M. ECE or postsecondary*

Not stipulated

# Virginia

## Charter Law

### **A. Flexible operation**

(Va. Code § 22.1-212.6)

Pursuant to a charter contract, a public charter school may operate free from specified school division policies and state regulations, and, as public schools, shall be subject to the requirements of the standards of quality, including the standards of learning and the standards of accreditation.

### **B. Public supervision**

(Va. Code § 22.1-212.5; Va. Code § 22.1-212.6)

“Public charter school” means a public, nonreligious, or non-home-based alternative school located within a public school division. A public charter school shall be administered and managed by a management committee, composed of parents of students enrolled in the school, teachers and administrators working in the school, and representatives of any community sponsors, in a manner agreed to by the public charter school applicant and the local school board.

### **C. Educational objectives**

(Va. Code § 22.1-212.7)

The academic and operational performance expectations and measures in the charter contract shall be based on a performance framework that clearly sets forth the academic and operational performance indicators, measures, and metrics that will guide the local school board's evaluations of each public charter school.

### **D. K-12 education**

Not stipulated

### **E. Nonsectarian** (Va. Code § 22.1-212.6:1)

No public charter school shall engage in any sectarian practices in its educational program, admissions or employment policies, or operations.

### **F. Tuition-free** (Va. Code § 22.1-212.6)

A public charter school shall not charge tuition.

### **G. Federal compliance**

(Va. Code § 22.1-212.6:1)

Public charter schools are subject to all Federal laws and authorities as set forth in this article and the charter contract with the local school board.

### **H. Enrollment** (Va. Code § 22.1-212.6)

**Lottery:** Enrollment shall be through a lottery process on a space available basis. In the case of the conversion of an existing public school, students who attend the school and the siblings of such students shall be given the opportunity to enroll in advance of the lottery process.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### **I. Audit** (Va. Code § 22.1-212.8)

A public charter school application is required to include a description of the public charter school's financial plan and policies, including financial controls and audit requirements.

### **J. Safety requirements**

(Va. Code § 22.1-212.6:1)

Public charter schools are subject to the same civil rights, health, and safety requirements applicable to other public schools in the commonwealth, except as otherwise provided in this article.

### **K. State compliance**

Not stipulated

### **L. Student performance**

(Va. Code § 22.1-212.6.1)

Public charter schools are subject to the student assessment and accountability requirements applicable to other public schools in the commonwealth.

### **M. ECE or postsecondary**

Not stipulated

# Washington

## Charter Law

### A. Flexible operation

(Wash. Rev. Code § 28A.710.020)

A charter school is operated separately from the common school system as an alternative to traditional common schools.

### B. Public supervision (Wash. Rev. Code § 28A.710.010; Wash. Rev. Code § 28A.710.040)

“Charter school” or “charter public school” means a public school that is established in accordance with this chapter, governed by a charter school board, and operated according to the terms of a charter contract executed under this chapter.

### C. Educational objectives

(Wash. Rev. Code § 28A.710.040;

Wash. Rev. Code § 28A.710.170)

A charter school is subject to the performance improvement goals adopted by the state board of education.

### D. K-12 education

(Wash. Rev. Code § 28A.710.020)

A charter school may offer any program or course of study that any other public school may offer, including one or more of grades kindergarten through 12.

### E. Nonsectarian

(Wash. Rev. Code § 28A.710.040)

A charter school may not engage in any sectarian practices in its educational program, admissions or employment policies, or operations.

### F. Tuition-free

(Wash. Rev. Code § 28A.710.020)

A charter school is open to all children free of charge and by choice.

### G. Federal compliance

(Wash. Rev. Code § 28A.710.020)

A charter school functions as a local education agency under applicable Federal laws and regulations and is responsible for meeting the requirements of local education agencies and public schools under those Federal laws and regulations, including but not limited to compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (20 U.S.C. § 1401 et seq.), the Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act (20 U.S.C. § 1232g), the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act of 1987 (42 U.S.C. § 11431 et seq.), and the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (20 U.S.C. § 6301 et seq.).

### H. Enrollment

(Wash. Rev. Code § 28A.710.050)

**Lottery:** If capacity is insufficient to enroll all students who apply to a charter school, the charter school must grant an enrollment preference to siblings of enrolled students, with any remaining enrollments allocated through a lottery.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### I. Audit (Wash. Rev. Code § 28A.710.030; Wash. Rev. Code § 28A.710.040)

A charter school board must adhere to generally accepted accounting principles and be subject to financial examinations and audits as determined by the state auditor, including annual audits for legal and fiscal compliance.

### J. Safety requirements

(Wash. Rev. Code § 28A.710.040)

A charter school must comply with local, state, and Federal health; safety; parents’ rights; civil rights; and nondiscrimination laws applicable to school districts and to the same extent as school districts, including but not limited to chapter 28A.642 RCW (discrimination prohibition), chapter 28A.640 RCW (sexual equality), chapter 28A.180 RCW (transitional bilingual instruction program), and chapter 28A.155 RCW (special education).

### K. State compliance

(Wash. Rev. Code § 28A.710.040)

Charter schools must comply with all state statutes and rules made applicable to the charter school in the school’s charter contract. Charter schools and are subject to the specific state statutes and rules identified in subsection (2) of this section.

### L. Student performance

(Wash. Rev. Code § 28A.710.040)

A charter school must participate in the statewide student assessment system as developed under RCW 28A.655.070.

### M. ECE or postsecondary

Not stipulated

# West Virginia

## Charter Law

### **A. Flexible operation**

(W. Va. Code § 18-5G-3)

A public charter school has autonomy over key decisions, including, but not limited to, decisions concerning finance, personnel, scheduling, curriculum, and instruction.

### **B. Public supervision**

(W. Va. Code § 18-5G-7)

A public charter school shall be administered by a governing board accountable to the authorizer as set forth in the charter contract.

### **C. Educational objectives**

(W. Va. Code § 18-5G-3; W. Va. Code § 18-5G-9)

A public charter school operates in pursuit of a specific set of educational objectives as defined in its charter contract, including provisions relating to the performance of the public charter school such as the academic and operational performance indicators, measures, and metrics to be used by the authorizer to evaluate the public charter school.

### **D. K-12 education** (W. Va. Code § 18-5G-3)

A public charter school provides a program of public education that includes prekindergarten and any grade or grades from kindergarten to grade 12.

### **E. Nonsectarian** (W. Va. Code § 18-5G-3)

Public charter schools are not affiliated with or espouse any specific religious denomination, organization, sect, or belief and do not promote or engage in any religious practices in their educational program, admissions, employment policies, or operations.

### **F. Tuition-free** (W. Va. Code § 18-5G-3)

Public charter schools do not charge tuition and may only charge such fees as may be imposed by noncharter public schools in this state.

### **G. Federal compliance**

(W. Va. Code § 18-5G-3)

Public charter schools are subject to all Federal laws and authorities applicable to noncharter public schools in this state.

### **H. Enrollment** (W. Va. Code § 18-5G-11)

**Lottery:** If the applicants exceed the enrollment capacity of the program, class, grade level or building of a public charter school, the public charter school shall select students for enrollment by a random selection lottery.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### **I. Audit** (W. Va. Code § 18-5G-3)

A public charter school shall annually engage an external auditor to perform an independent audit of the school's finances and shall submit the audit to its authorizer and to the state superintendent of schools.

### **J. Safety requirements**

(W. Va. Code § 18-5G-3)

A public charter school is subject to the same immunization requirements applicable to noncharter public schools and the same student transportation safety laws applicable to public schools when transportation is provided.

### **K. State compliance** (W. Va. Code § 18-5G-8)

An application to establish a public charter school must include the public charter school's plan for compliance with all applicable Federal and state laws and regulations.

### **L. Student performance**

(W. Va. Code § 18-5G-9)

The charter contract shall include provisions relating to the performance of the public charter school. At a minimum, the performance provisions shall include indicators, measures, and metrics for student academic proficiency; student academic growth; achievement gaps in both student proficiency and student growth between student subgroups, including race, sex, socioeconomic status, and areas of exceptionality; student attendance; student suspensions; student withdrawals; and recurrent enrollment from year to year.

### **M. ECE or postsecondary**

(W. Va. Code § 18-5G-3)

A public charter school provides a program of public education that includes prekindergarten and any associated post-secondary embedded credit, dual credit, advanced placement, internship, and industry or workforce credential programs that the public charter school chooses to incorporate into its programs.

# Wisconsin

## Charter Law

### **A. Flexible operation** (*Wis. Stat. § 118.40*)

The school board of the school district in which a charter school is located shall determine whether or not the charter school is an instrumentality of the school district. If the school board determines that the charter school is an instrumentality of the school district, the school board shall employ all personnel for the charter school. If the school board determines that the charter school is not an instrumentality of the school district, the school board may not employ any personnel for the charter school.

### **B. Public supervision** (*Wis. Stat. § 118.40*)

Each charter school shall be governed by a governing board that is a party to the contract with the authorizing entity.

### **C. Educational objectives**

(*Wis. Stat. § 118.40*)

The charter school governing board will adhere to specified annual academic and operational performance standards developed in accordance with the performance framework of the entity with which it is contracting. Annually, the authorizer will produce a report on the academic and financial performance of the charter school.

### **D. K–12 education**

Not stipulated

### **E. Nonsectarian** (*Wis. Stat. § 118.40*)

A charter school governing board must be nonsectarian in its programs, admissions policies, employment practices, and all other operations.

### **F. Tuition-free**

(*Wis. Stat. § 118.40; Wis. Stat. § 121.83*)

A charter school governing board may not charge tuition unless the pupil is a nonresident of the state and attends a virtual charter school within the state.

### **G. Federal compliance**

(*Wis. Stat. § 118.40*)

A charter school governing board may not discriminate in admission or deny participation in any program or activity on the basis of a person's sex, race, religion, national origin, ancestry, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability.

### **H. Enrollment** (*Wis. Stat. § 118.40*)

**Lottery:** A charter contract shall require that if the capacity of the charter school is insufficient to accept all pupils who apply, the charter school shall accept pupils at random.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### **I. Audit** (*Wis. Stat. § 118.40*)

A charter petition shall include the manner in which annual audits of the financial and programmatic operations of the school will be performed.

### **J. Safety requirements**

(*Wis. Stat. § 118.40*)

A charter petition shall include the procedures that the school will follow to ensure the health and safety of the pupils.

### **K. State compliance**

Not stipulated

### **L. Student performance**

(*Wis. Stat. § 118.30*)

The operator of a charter school shall adopt pupil academic standards in mathematics, science, reading and writing, geography and history.

### **M. ECE or postsecondary**

Not stipulated



# Wyoming

## Charter Law

### **A. Flexible operation**

(Wyo. Stat. § 21-3-304)

The charter school shall be accountable to its authorizer for purposes of ensuring compliance with applicable laws and charter provisions and the requirements of the state constitution. A charter school may operate free from specified school district policies and state regulations.

### **B. Public supervision**

(Wyo. Stat. § 21-3-304)

A charter school shall be a public school which operates within a public school district. A charter school shall be administered and governed by a governing body in a manner agreed to by the charter contract.

### **C. Educational objectives**

(Wyo. Stat. § 21-3-305)

A charter contract shall provide for a review by the authorizer of the charter school's performance, identifying the methods by which the charter school will be held accountable for achieving the educational mission and goals of the charter school, including evidence of adequate performance and of progress toward reaching the educational goals set forth by the charter school.

### **D. K-12 education**

Not stipulated

### **E. Nonsectarian** (Wyo. Stat. § 21-3-304)

A charter school shall be a nonsectarian, nonreligious, non-home-based school which operates within a public school district.

### **F. Tuition-free** (Wyo. Stat. § 21-3-304)

Tuition shall not be charged by a charter school to any student in grades kindergarten through twelve (12).

### **G. Federal compliance**

(Wyo. Stat. § 21-3-304)

A charter school shall be subject to all Federal and state laws and constitutional provisions prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability, race, creed, color, gender, national origin, religion, ancestry, or need for special education services.

### **H. Enrollment** (Wyo. Stat. § 21-3-307)

**Lottery:** If the number of applicants for enrollment exceeds the available seats, the charter school shall, subject to W.S. 21-3-304(c), hold a blind lottery to determine enrollment.

**Automatic enrollment:** Not stipulated

### **I. Audit** (Wyo. Stat. § 21-3-307)

The charter contract will include the manner in which an annual audit of the financial and programmatic operations of the school, including any services provided by the authorizer, is to be conducted.

### **J. Safety requirements**

(Wyo. Stat. § 21-3-304)

A charter school must abide by any civil rights, health, or safety requirements applicable to other public schools in the state.

### **K. State compliance**

(Wyo. Stat. § 21-3-304)

A charter school shall be subject to all Federal and state laws and constitutional provisions prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability, race, creed, color, gender, national origin, religion, ancestry, or need for special education services.

### **L. Student performance**

(Wyo. Stat. § 21-3-304; Wyo. Stat. § 21-3-305)

The student assessment and accountability requirements applicable to other public schools include: (a) assessment measures, including the statewide assessment system measures; (b) attendance rates; (c) graduation rates, if applicable; and (d) statewide education accountability system measures.

### **M. ECE or postsecondary**

Not stipulated