

Athlos Academy of Reno proposes to open serving 1,220 students in Kindergarten through Eighth Grade. The Applicant intends to maintain the same enrollment and grade configuration for the duration of the six year charter contract.

Academic Plan Overview:

The Applicant provides an overview of the proposed school in applicant coversheet (which can be found on [page 2](#) of the combined PDF of the resubmitted application), the Executive Summary (which can be found beginning on [page 6](#)), and the Meeting the Need Section (which can be found on [page 10](#)). The core academic component of the application, described as the Academic Plan, can be found beginning on [page 18](#) of the combined PDF of the resubmitted charter application.

The Agency's review of the Applicant's responses to each reason for denial in the area of academics and the corresponding changes in the resubmitted application can be found beginning on page 3 of the Athlos Academy of Reno Resubmitted Application Review document. Each reason for denial is identified as an **Area of Concern**. The applicant then provided a narrative response and identified where amended language could be found in the revised and resubmitted application under the heading **Applicant Response**. A discussion of staff's findings related to each Applicant Response and the amended language in the application can be found under the heading **Agency Review**. Any additional proposed conditions can be found under the **Staff Recommendation** heading.

Organizational Plan Overview:

The organizational component of the application, described as the Operations Plan, can be found beginning on [page 109](#) of the combined PDF of the resubmitted charter application.

The school would hire an EMO, Athlos, to provide financial management services and to support the board in the implementation of the academic program. The EMO would also be responsible for employing the school leader and for supporting the board with a variety of other operational and academic activities.

The Agency's review of the Applicant's responses to each reason for denial in the area of academics and the corresponding changes in the resubmitted application can be found beginning on page 35 of the Athlos Academy of Reno Resubmitted Application Review document. Each reason for denial is identified as an **Area of Concern**. The applicant then provided a narrative response and identified where amended language could be found in the revised and resubmitted application under the heading **Applicant Response**. A discussion of staff's findings related to each Applicant Response and the amended language in the application can be found under the heading **Agency Review**. Any additional proposed conditions can be found under the **Staff Recommendation** heading.

Financial Plan Overview:

The financial component of the application, described as the Financial Plan, can be found beginning on [page 161](#) of the combined PDF of the resubmitted charter application. Projected enrollment for FY19 and FY20 is 1,220 students, yielding positive cash flow in each year.

The Agency's review of the Applicant's responses to each reason for denial in the area of academics and the corresponding changes in the resubmitted application can be found beginning on page 60 of the Athlos Academy of Reno Resubmitted Application Review document. Each reason for denial is identified as an **Area of Concern**. The applicant then provided a narrative response and identified where amended language could be found in the revised and resubmitted application under the heading **Applicant Response**. A discussion of staff's findings related to each Applicant Response and the amended language in the application can be found under the heading **Agency Review**. Any additional proposed conditions can be found under the **Staff Recommendation** heading.

Performance History:

The applicant proposes to partner with an educational management organization (EMO), Athlos Academies, and with several affiliate companies for management, curriculum, and facility construction and finance services. It is important to note that while the academic program proposed by the Applicant is currently being implemented in other states by schools that contract with the same educational management organization, the program, as fully implemented in a small number of schools, does not yet have sufficient academic performance data to allow for staff analysis or for the Authority to make findings regarding whether this is a high quality model based on the track record of the management organization. The model remains unproven. However, the Authority is not solely in the business of authorizing the replication of proven models. Consequently, the analysis performed by staff focused on whether the Applicant has demonstrated that it has the capacity to operate a high quality school that meets the Authority's performance expectations in the areas of academics, organization, and finance and whether the academic, organizational, and financial plans are consistent with the hallmarks of high quality charter schools.

Recommendation:

Staff has reviewed the resubmission pursuant to NRS 388A.255(2) and has determined that the deficiencies have either been addressed to the satisfaction of staff or are minor enough that they can be addressed through a conditional approval. Staff recommends that the Authority approve the application with the condition that the Applicant address the remaining concerns to the satisfaction of staff prior to the Chair's execution of the charter contract. Additionally, staff recommends that the Authority delegate to staff the authority to grant the Applicant a one-year extension prior to opening in the event that the Applicant later determines that it is unable to secure sufficient local approvals and commence construction in time for the 2018-19 school year. The Applicant would be required to make such a request of staff by no later than December 31, 2017.