

# New Charter School Application and Rubric Revisions

December 12, 2025



# Overview

## Outcomes

- Review the SPCSA's statutory authority and requirements for application review and approval.
- Understand the proposed changes to the application and rubric.
- Consider approval of application and rubric for 2026 cycle.

## Agenda

- 1) Statutory Authority and Requirements
- 2) Overview of Revisions
- 3) Recommendation



# Statutory Authority and Requirements

## [NRS 388A.223](#)—Duties and Powers

- Each sponsor of a charter school shall carry out the following duties and powers.
  - Evaluation applications to form charter schools.
  - Approving applications to form charter schools that the sponsor determines are high quality, meet the identified educational needs of pupils and will serve to promote the diversity of public educational choices in this State;
  - Declining to approve application to form charter schools that do not satisfy the requirements of NRS 388A.249.
- Each sponsor of a charter school shall develop policies and practices that are consistent with state laws and regulations governing charter schools, including
  - The procedure and criteria for evaluation charter school applications in accordance with [NRS 388A.249](#).

## [NRS 388A.249](#)—Submission of application; review of application; criteria for approval

- The sponsor of a charter school may approve an application to form a charter school only if
  - The application complies with this chapter and the regulations;
  - The application is complete in accordance with the policies and practices of the sponsor;
  - The applicant has demonstrated competence in accordance with the criteria for approval prescribed by the sponsor pursuant to [NRS 388A.223](#) that will likely result in a successful opening and operation of the charter school;
  - Based on the most recent SPCSA Needs Assessment, the proposed charter school will address one or more of the needs; and
  - It has reviewed sufficient input from the public.

# Procedure and Criteria for Soliciting and Evaluating Charter School Applications



## Procedure

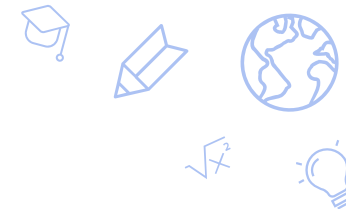
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- Timelines and procedures pursuant to [NAC 388A.260](#) (as amended by [R043-21](#))
  - Deadline (good cause exemption)
  - Notice of intent and contents
  - Application form
  - Completeness check
  - Withdrawal
  - Review conducted by panel
  - Recommendation to Authority
  - Board consideration

## Criteria

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- New Charter School Application Rubric, aligned to the Application Form.



# Application Sections

Cover Sheet	Meeting the Need	Academic Plan	Operations Plan	Financial Plan	Addendum*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• General Information</li><li>• Applicant Team Information</li><li>• Pending Applications &amp; Schools</li><li>• Planned Enrollment</li><li>• Proposed Location</li><li>• CMOs and EMOs*</li><li>• Application preparation</li><li>• Applicant Certification</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Missing and Vision</li><li>• Targeted Plan</li><li>• Parent &amp; Community Involvement</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Transformational Change</li><li>• Curriculum &amp; Instructional Design</li><li>• Promotion &amp; Graduation Requirements</li><li>• Driving for Results</li><li>• At Risk Students &amp; Special Populations</li><li>• Professional Development</li><li>• School Culture</li><li>• Student Discipline</li><li>• School Calendar &amp; Schedule</li><li>• Dual Credit Partnerships^</li><li>• Programs of Distance Education~</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Board Governance</li><li>• Leadership Team</li><li>• Staffing Plan</li><li>• Human Resources</li><li>• Student Recruitment &amp; Enrollment</li><li>• Incubation Year Development</li><li>• Services</li><li>• Facilities</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Narrative</li><li>• Budget</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Past Performance*</li><li>• Scale Strategy*</li><li>• Network Capacity*</li><li>• School Management Contracts*</li><li>• CMOs Applying for Sponsorship Directly**</li></ul>

\*Required for Committee to Form Applicants that propose to contract with a CMO or EMO, or CMO Applicants

\*\*Required for CMO Applicants

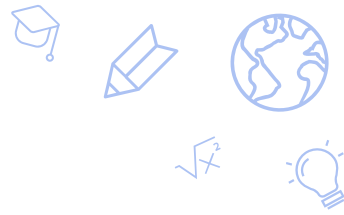
^Required for applicants proposing a high school program

~Required for applicants proposing to offer distance education



# Overview of Revisions

- Clarified Committee to Form (CTF) requirements on the Cover Sheet.
- Removed, consolidated, and clarified questions in the following subsections:
  - 3.1 Transformational Change
  - 3.2 Curriculum and Instructional Design
  - 3.4 Driving for Results
  - 3.7 School Culture
  - 4.1 Board Governance
  - 4.2 Leadership Team
  - 4.4 Human Resources
  - 4.7 Services
- Rewrote and added questions in the Financial Plan section regarding the consideration and description of the efficient use of public money.
- Reformatted and clarified expectations for the budget narrative and Financial Plan Workbook (FPW). The final version of the FPW is still in development and should be available by February 15.
- Removed School Leader Evaluation Tool and Teacher Evaluation Tool from list of required attachments, though the application narrative still requires the identification of the tools.



# Recommendation

Proposed Motion: Approve the New Charter School Application and Rubric effective for the 2026 application cycle. Approve SPCSA staff to add information from and a link to the 2026 Academic and Demographic Needs Assessment once approved.

# Thank you!

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