



Start a School

AN EDUCATION FREEDOM FOUNDATION INITIATIVE

Texas

Charter Schools

Several types of charter schools operate in Texas. Please refer to the charter school section of the [Texas Education Agency](#) (TEA) website for more information, including state-authorized charter schools and district-authorized charter schools.

State-authorized charters include:

- Subchapter D: Open-Enrollment Charters
- Subchapter E: Public College or University Charters
- Subchapter G: Adult Education Charters

District-authorized Subchapter C Charter Schools also operate in Texas, and information can be found on the [TEA Campus Charters](#) page.

You can find more information at the [Texas Public Charter Schools Association](#).

Charter School Applicants

The Division of Charter School Authorizing offers a webinar series called **Navigating the Charter School Application Process**. This two-part series provides valuable insight into the application process for an open-enrollment charter school in Texas. Please note that the **webinars are optional and will not meet attendance requirements** for the Generation 30 Mandatory Application Information Session. The series may include the following topics:

Session 1:

- Comprehensive Application Overview
- Important Timelines and Milestones
- Purpose, Definitions, and Agency Expectations of Charter Schools
- Defining Eligibility and Strong Governance
- Developing and Communicating the Mission and Vision
- [Webinar Recording](#) (YouTube)
- [Application Overview Deck](#) (PDF)

- [Celebrate Dyslexia Deck](#) (PDF)

Session 2

- Charter School State Funding
- Components of the Financial Plan
- Aspects of Charter School Operations and Facilities
- Understanding the Superintendent Role

- [Webinar Recording](#) (YouTube)
- [Application Overview Deck](#) (PDF)
- [Community Engagement Guide](#) (PDF)

All application documents and registration links can be found on the [Charter School Applicants page](#).

Please direct all questions to Texas Education Agency's New School Application Team via email at charterapplication@tea.texas.gov.

Steps to Start a Charter School

The first step in creating a Charter School is to register as a corporation with the [Texas Secretary of State](#). This is usually a non-profit LLC.

Starting a Business in Texas

- [Selecting a Business Structure](#)
- [Business Start-Up Information](#)
- [Nonprofit Organizations](#)
- [Registered Agents](#)
- [Check name availability](#)
- [Name Filing FAQs](#)
- [Business Information for Veterans](#)
- [Educational Materials](#)
- [Guides and Resources](#)
- [Filing & Other General FAQs](#)
- [Formation of Texas Entities FAQs](#)
- [Other Frequently Asked Questions](#)

If you are planning to operate as a non-profit, you will need to obtain your IRS Non-Profit status by submitting [IRS Form 1023](#).

Sample Generation 30 Timeline

Key dates from the Generation 30 application timeline are outlined in the table below.

These will be updated on the Texas website when they determine the next cycle date. Future application periods will be Generation 31, 32, and so on. You can assume that they will be similar in timing.

Review the [Generation 30 Overview](#). The table below indicates the Generation 30 timeline.

This will be similar for following years.

Several types of charter schools operate in the state of Texas. State-authorized charter schools include Open-Enrollment Subchapter D, Subchapter E, and Mission Specific. District-authorized Subchapter C Charter Schools also operate in Texas, and information can be found on our Campus Charters page.

Activity	Dates*
Request for Application Published	September 10, 2024
Information Sessions	September 19 and 26, 2024
Application Submission	December 20, 2024
Completion Check	January 6 - 17, 2025
Remedy Period	January 21 - 24, 2025
Determination Notifications sent to applicants: Removal or advancement to External Review	January 27, 2025 [†]
External Review	January 31 - April 7, 2025

Activity	Dates*
Additional Read Window	April 7 - 11, 2025
Determination Notification sent to applicant: Determination of Advancement to Capacity Interview	April 14, 2025 [†]
Capacity Interviews with Representatives from the Texas Education Agency and State Board of Education	May 7 - 16, 2025
Commissioner Proposes Awards	May 28, 2025
State Board of Education Meeting	June 2025

* On or around date listed

Subchapter D: Open-Enrollment Charters

Subchapter D charters are open-enrollment charter schools operated by an eligible entity as defined in [TEC §12.101](#). The state may grant open-enrollment charters to the following entities:

- An institution of higher education as defined under [TEC, §61.003\(8\)](#);
- A private or independent institution of higher education as defined under [TEC §61.003\(15\)](#);
- An organization that is exempt from taxation under [Section 501\(c\)\(3\)](#), Internal Revenue Code of 1986 [26 U.S.C.S. Section 501(c)(3)]; or
- A governmental entity.

Errata Notice

- [Errata #1 \(Sub D - October 3, 2024\) \(PDF\)](#)
- [Errata #2 \(HPE - October 3, 2024\) \(PDF\)](#)

Application Documents

- [Instruction and Guidance \(PDF\)](#)
- [New Operator Narrative Document \(PDF, please download and open with \[Adobe Acrobat Reader\]\(#\).\)](#)

- [Experienced Operator Narrative](#) (PDF, please download and open with [Adobe Acrobat Reader](#).)

High-Performing Entity (Local)

- [Instruction and Guidance](#) (PDF)
- [Narrative Document](#) (Word)
- [Timeline](#)

High-Performing Entity (Out of State)

- [Instruction and Guidance](#) (PDF)
- [Narrative Document](#) (Word)
- [Timeline](#)

Webinars

Information Sessions

- [Webinar Recording](#) (YouTube)
- [Application Overview Deck](#) (PDF)
- [Charter School Law Deck](#) (PDF)
- [Financial Workbook Deck](#) (PDF)
- [CSP Grant Deck](#) (PDF)
- [Special Education Deck](#) (PDF)
- [Emergent Bilingual Deck](#) (PDF)

High-Performing Entity Information Session

- [Webinar Recording](#) (YouTube)
- [Application Overview Deck](#) (PDF)

Support Seminar Resources

- [Webinar Recording](#) (YouTube)
- [Governance Deck](#) (PDF)
- [CSP Deck](#) (PDF)

- [Finance Deck](#) (PDF)

Support Seminar Registration

- [October 9, 2024 - Governance & Community Engagement & FPW Best Practices/CSP](#)
- [October 30, 2024 - Special Populations](#)
- [November 20, 2024 - Curriculum & Instruction](#)
- [December 5, 2024 - Final Steps](#)

Office Hours

- [October 16, 2024 \(9:00 AM – 11:00AM\)](#)
- [November 21, 2024 \(1:00 PM – 3:00 PM\)](#)
- [December 11, 2024 \(9:00 AM – 11:00AM\)](#)

Subchapter E: Public College or University Charters

Subchapter E charters are open-enrollment charter schools operated by an eligible entity as defined in [TEC §12.152](#). The state may grant open-enrollment charters to the following entities:

- a public senior college or university for an open-enrollment charter school to operate on the campus of the public senior college or university or, subject to Subsection (b), at another location in any county in this state; or
- a public junior college for an open-enrollment charter school to operate on the campus of the public junior college or in the same county in which the campus of the public junior college is located.

Application Documents

- [Instruction and Guidance](#) (PDF)
- [New Operator Narrative Document](#) (PDF, please download and open with [Adobe Acrobat Reader](#).)

Webinars

Information Sessions

- [September 19, 2024](#)
- [September 26, 2024](#)

Support Seminar Registration

- [October 9, 2024 - Governance & Community Engagement & FPW Best Practices/CSP](#)
- [October 30, 2024 - Special Populations](#)
- [November 20, 2024 - Curriculum & Instruction](#)
- [December 5, 2024 - Final Steps](#)

Office Hours

- [October 16, 2024 \(9:00 AM – 11:00AM\)](#)
- [November 21, 2024 \(1:00 PM – 3:00 PM\)](#)
- [December 11, 2024 \(9:00 AM – 11:00AM\)](#)

Subchapter G: Adult Education Charters

Subchapter G charters are adult education open-enrollment charter schools operated by an eligible entity as defined in [TEC §12.256](#). The state may grant adult education charters to the following entities:

- a nonprofit entity,
- a school district,
- an entity granted a charter under Subchapter D,
- a general academic teaching institution, public junior college, or public technical institute, as defined by TEC Section 61.003, and;
- the entity, or a member of the entity's executive leadership, has a successful history of providing education services, including industry certifications and job placement services, to adults 18 years of age and older whose educational and training opportunities have been limited by educational disadvantages, disabilities, homelessness, criminal history, or similar marginalizing circumstances.

Resources

Contact Information

Charter Application Team
CharterApplication@tea.texas.gov

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New Schools Specialist
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- [Instructions and Guidance](#)
- [Narrative Document](#)
- Frequently Asked Questions (forthcoming)

Webinars

Information Session (April 29th, June 3rd, August 5th, 2024)

- [April 29 Webinar Registration](#)
- [June 3rd Webinar Registration](#)
- [August 5th Webinar Registration](#)

Statutes and Rules

Statutes

- [TEC § 12.111\(a\)\(5\) prohibit discrimination in admission policy](#)
- [TEC § 12.117 Admission](#)
- [TEC § 12.1173 Common Admission Application Form; Waiting List For Admission](#)
- [TEC § 12.1202 Requirement For Majority Of Members Of Governing Body](#)
- [TEC § 25.002\(c\) Requirements For Enrollment](#)
- [TEC § 37.007\(a\) Expulsion For Serious Offenses](#)
- [TEC § 44.008\(d\) Annual Audit; Report](#)
- [TEC §12.101 Authorization](#)
- [TEC §12.111\(a\)\(5\)\(A\) provide for the exclusion of a student who has a documented history of a criminal offense, a juvenile court adjudication, or discipline problems](#)
- [TEC §12.152 Authorization](#)

State Board of Education Rules

- [Subchapter C. Other Provisions](#)

- [Subchapter A. Open-Enrollment Charter Schools](#)
- [Subchapter B. Home-Rule School District Charters](#)

Commissioner of Education Rules

Subchapter AA. Commissioner's Rules Concerning Open-Enrollment Charter Schools

1. General Provisions

- §100.1001. Definitions.
- §100.1002. Application and Selection Procedures and Criteria.
- §100.1003. Application to Dropout Recovery Charters.
- §100.1004. Application to Public Senior College or University Charters and Public Junior College Charters.
- §100.1005. Notification of Charter Application.
- §100.1006. Optional Open-Enrollment Charter Provisions for Contracting and Purchasing.
- §100.1007. Annual Report on Open-Enrollment Charter Governance.
- §100.1010. Performance Frameworks.
- §100.1013. Filing of Documents.
- §100.1015. Applicants for an Open-Enrollment Charter, Public Senior College or University Charter, or Public Junior College Charter.
- §100.1017. Application of Law and Rules to Public Senior College or University Charters and Public Junior College Charters.
- §100.1019. Application to Adult High School Charters.

Division 2. Commissioner Action and Intervention

- §100.1021. Revocation and Modification of Governance of an Open-Enrollment Charter.
- §100.1022. Standards to Revoke and Modify the Governance of an Open-Enrollment Charter.
- §100.1023. Intervention Based on Charter Violations.
- §100.1025. Intervention Based on Health, Safety, or Welfare of Students.
- §100.1026. Management of Charter Campus(es) Following Revocation, Surrender, or Expiration.
- §100.1027. Accountability Ratings and Sanctions.
- §100.1029. Agency Audits, Monitoring, and Investigations.
- §100.1031. Renewal of an Open-Enrollment Charter.
- §100.1032. Standards for Discretionary Renewal.
- §100.1033. Charter Amendment.
- §100.1035. Compliance Records on Nepotism, Conflicts of Interest, and Restrictions on Serving.

Division 3. Charter School Funding and Financial Operations

- §100.1041. State Funding.
- §100.1043. Status and Use of State Funds; Depository Contract.
- §100.1045. Investment of State Funds.
- §100.1047. Accounting for State and Federal Funds.

- §100.1049. Disclosure of Campaign Contributions.
- §100.1050. Disclosure of Financial Information.
- §100.1051. Audit by Commissioner; Records in the Possession of a Management Company.
- §100.1052. Final Audit Upon Revocation, Surrender, or Closure of an Open-Enrollment Charter.

Division 4. Property of Open-Enrollment Charter Schools

- §100.1063. Use of Public Property by a Charter Holder.
- §100.1065. Property Acquired with State Funds Received Before September 1, 2001-Special Rules.
- §100.1067. Possession and Control of the Public Property of a Former Charter Holder.
- §100.1069. Rights and Duties Not Affected.
- §100.1071. Real Property Held in Trust.
- §100.1073. Improvements to Real Property.

Division 5. Charter School Governance

- §100.1101. Delegation of Powers and Duties.
- §100.1102. Training for Members of Governing Bodies of Charter Holder and School.
- §100.1103. Training for Chief Executive and Central Administrative Officers.
- §100.1104. Training for Campus Administrative Officers.
- §100.1105. Training for Business Managers.
- §100.1106. Exemption for Participation in a Shared Services Cooperative.
- §100.1107. Course Providers.
- §100.1108. Record of Compliance and Disclosure of Non-compliance.
- §100.1111. Applicability of Nepotism Provisions; Exception for Acceptable Performance.
- §100.1112. General Nepotism Provisions.
- §100.1113. Relationships By Consanguinity or By Affinity.
- §100.1114. Nepotism Prohibitions.
- §100.1115. Nepotism Exceptions.
- §100.1116. Enforcement of Nepotism Prohibitions.
- §100.1131. Conflicts of Interest and Board Member Compensation; Exception.
- §100.1132. General Conflict of Interest Provisions.
- §100.1133. Conflicts Requiring Affidavit and Abstention From Voting.
- §100.1134. Conflicts Requiring Separate Vote on Budget.
- §100.1135. Acting as Surety and other Conflicts; Criminal Penalties.
- §100.1151. Criminal History; Restrictions on Serving.
- §100.1153. Substantial Interest in Management Company; Restrictions on Serving.
- §100.1155. Procedures for Prohibiting a Management Contract.
- §100.1157. Loan from Management Company Prohibited.
- §100.1159. Public Records Maintained by Management Company; Contract Provision.

Division 6. Charter School Operations

- §100.1201. Voluntary Participation in State Programs.
- §100.1203. Records Management.
- §100.1205. Procurement of Professional Services.

- §100.1207. Student Admission.
- §100.1209. Municipal Ordinances.
- §100.1211. Students.
- §100.1212. Personnel.
- §100.1213. Failure to Operate.
- §100.1215. Instructional Facilities.
- §100.1217. Eligible Entity; Change in Status or Revocation.

Resources

Charter School Support Unit

You can also review the resources found on the [Charter Support Unit \(CSU\)](#) website. This resource contains helpful information on the following:

- Planning and Launching
- Boards and Governance
- School Operations
- Professional Development
- One-on-one Consultations
- Facilities Planning
- Board Governance Program

[Open Government Resources for Governmental Bodies](#)

[Open Meetings Handbook](#)