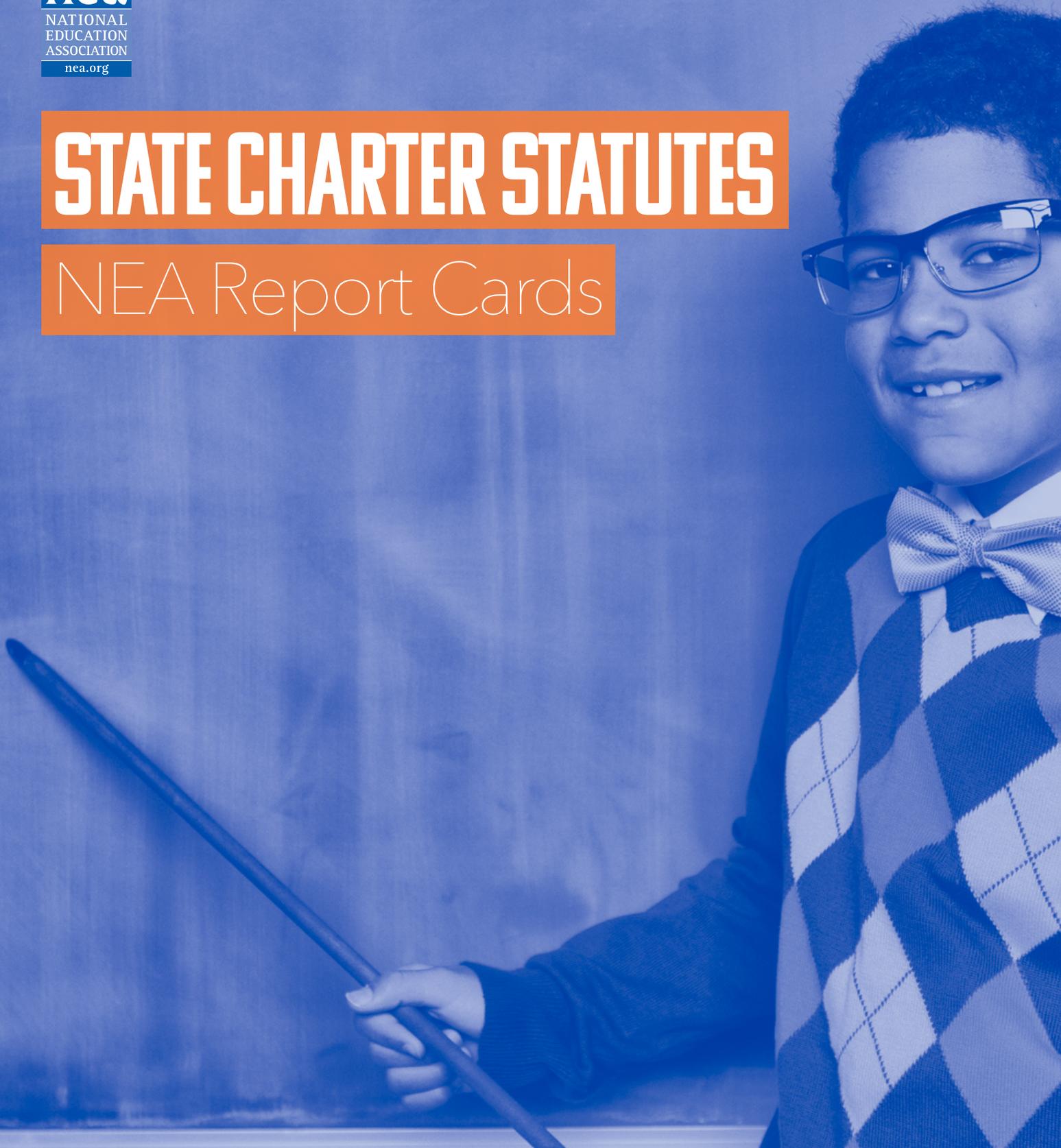




# STATE CHARTER STATUTES

NEA Report Cards



## **NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION**

The National Education Association is the nation's largest professional employee organization, representing 3 million elementary and secondary teachers, higher education faculty, education support professionals, school administrators, retired educators, and students preparing to become teachers.

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NEA believes that public charter schools must meet four key requirements: they must be (1) genuinely public schools in every respect; (2) accountable to the public via open and transparent governance; (3) approved, overseen, and evaluated by local school boards; and (4) providers of high quality education for their students. In 2017, these four key requirements were identified by the elected leaders of NEA's three million members and detailed in the [NEA Policy Statement on Charter Schools](#).

NEA reviewed the charter statutes for each state, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico ("states")<sup>1</sup> and posed the questions on page 3, which emanate directly from the four key requirements set by the Policy Statement. The number of points allocated for a particular question reflects the relative importance of the factor according to the Policy Statement. Affirmative answers were awarded full or partial points, depending on the degree to which the legislation met the Policy Statement requirements.

<sup>1</sup> Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Vermont, and West Virginia do not have charter school laws.

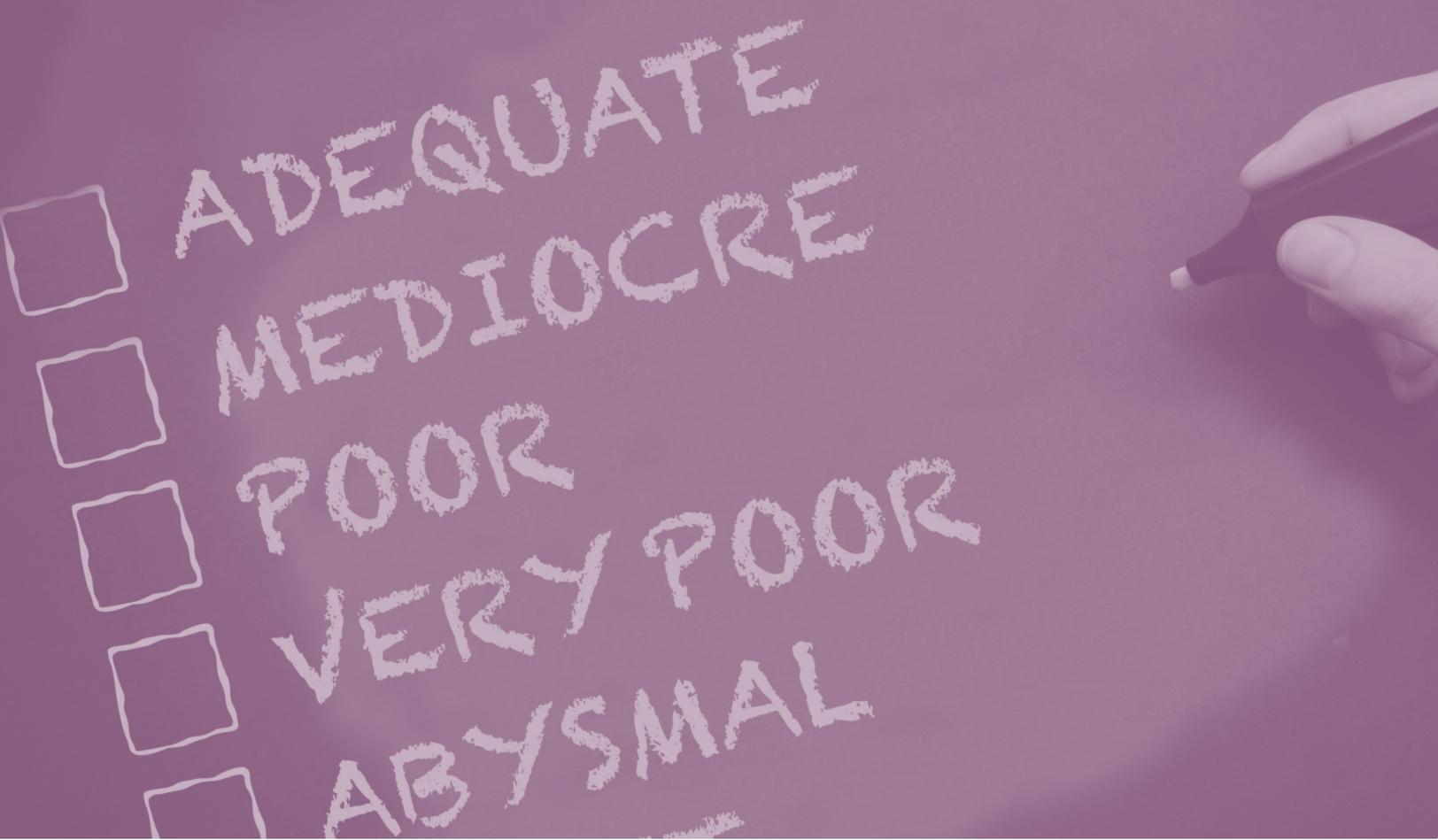


Points were tallied and converted into letter grades using a total of 100 potential points and a traditional A - F scale. Only six state statutes garnered enough points to avoid an “F,” and all of those were “D” grades except for Maryland (“B-”) and Tennessee (“C-”). To better distinguish among the statutes, the large majority of which simply failed to meet NEA’s standards, NEA divided states into sub-groups according to their overall score.<sup>2</sup> By referring to these sub-group ratings, it is possible to better distinguish between, for example, the District of Columbia (“worst” with 20 out of 100 points) and Arkansas (“poor” with 59 out of 100 points), both of which received failing grades. NEA’s comprehensive review of all charter statutes in the country concluded on November 9, 2018. This Report reflects only laws in existence as of that date.

NEA’s assessment of charter school laws was limited by necessity to the terms of the statutes themselves. On some occasions, external sources were consulted to resolve ambiguity or when the statute was silent. While this review captures the statutory landscape of charter schools in any given state, it does not attempt to reflect actual compliance by charters or state or local government entities with those laws.

As the states’ report cards sadly show, states have a long way to go to ensure that charter schools actually function to improve public education offerings for students.

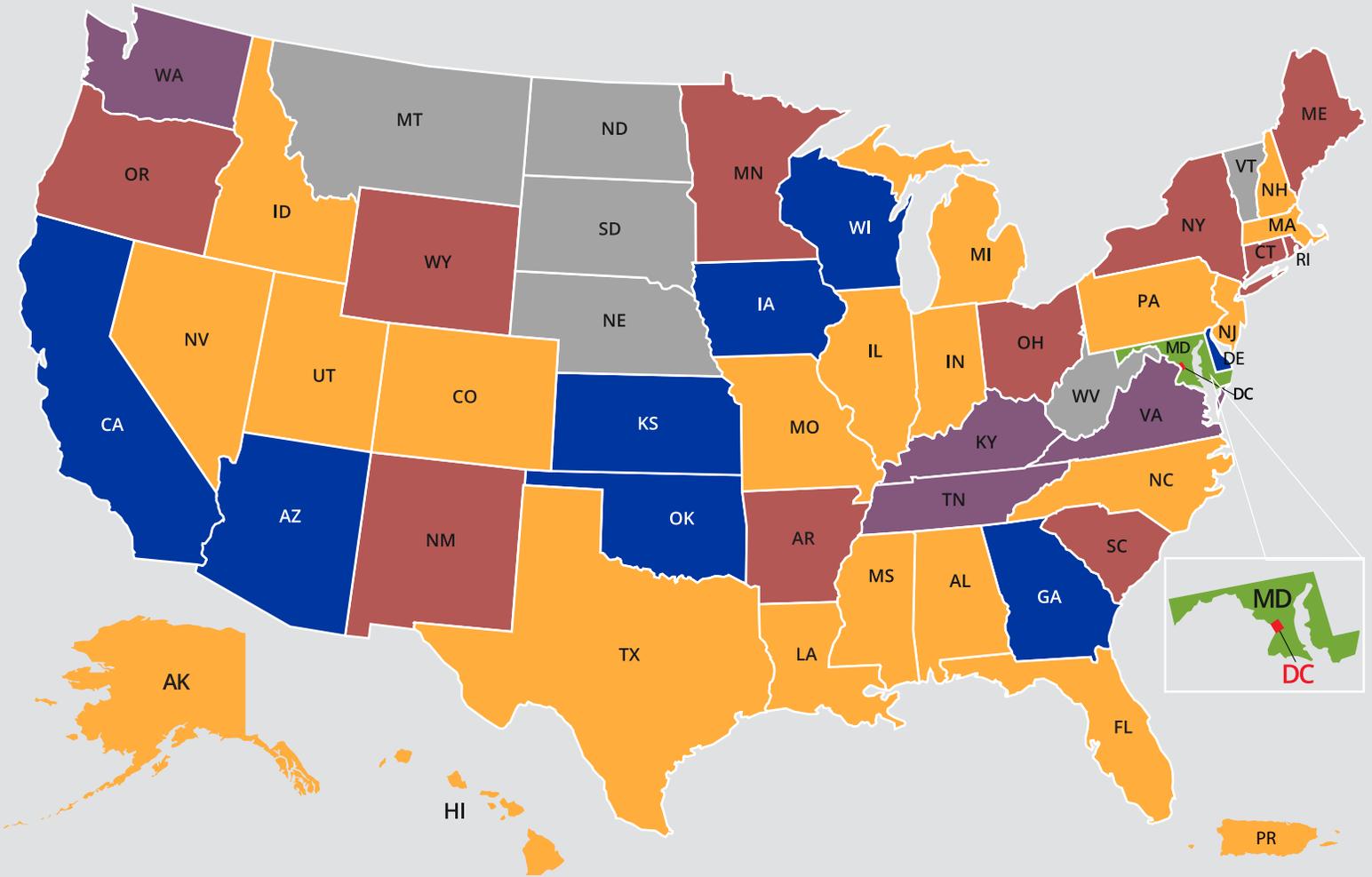
<sup>2</sup>NEA’s sub-groups are labeled as follows, based on states’ points out of a maximum of 100: Excellent (95-100); Good (86-94); Adequate (74-85); Mediocre (63-73); Poor (54-62); Very Poor (44-53); Abysmal (0-43); and, of note, D.C. is Worst by a margin of 15 points, earning a total of only 20 out of 100.



NEA graded each state’s charter law based on the following questions and accompanying points:

	QUESTION	Points
PUBLIC	1. Are for-profit entities excluded from applying to open a charter school?	8
	2. Are for-profit management organizations excluded from contracting with charter schools?	7
ACCOUNTABLE	3. Do Open Meetings Act standards apply to charter schools?	8
	4. Do Public Records Act standards apply to charter schools?	8
	5. Do conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements apply to charter school boards?	7
	6. Are charter schools subject to regular audits?	7
LOCAL	7. Are charter schools only authorized by a single local public agency such as the school district?	13
	8. Is an appeal of a local authorization decision limited to procedural grounds?	6
	9. Must the impact of opening a charter school be assessed prior to authorization?	6
QUALITY	10. Must charter educators be certified?	8
	11. Are virtual charter schools excluded from authorization?	10
	12. Can authorizers be evaluated/sanctioned?	6
	13. Are charter students subject to state assessments?	6
		<b>Total Points: 100</b>

# GRADE AND RATING MAP



ADEQUATE			MEDIocre			POOR			VERY POOR			ABYSMAL			WORST		
Maryland	82	B-	Wyoming	59	F	Puerto Rico	52	F	Missouri	49	F	New Hampshire	44	F			
Tennessee	72	C-	Minnesota	58	F	Utah	52	F	New Jersey	48	F	Kansas	42	F			
Kentucky	68	D+	Connecticut	57	F	Alabama	51	F	North Carolina	48	F	Oklahoma	42	F			
Washington	65	D	Maine	57	F	Colorado	50	F	Illinois	47	F	Iowa	41	F			
Virginia	63	D	New York	57	F	Hawaii	50	F	Nevada	47	F	Wisconsin	41	F			
Rhode Island	61	D-	Ohio	56	F	Indiana	50	F	Texas	47	F	Delaware	40	F			
Arkansas	59	F	South Carolina	54	F	Michigan	50	F	Florida	45	F	Georgia	39	F			
New Mexico	59	F	Idaho	52	F	Pennsylvania	50	F	Alaska	44	F	Arizona	35	F			
Oregon	59	F	Massachusetts	52	F	Mississippi	49	F	Louisiana	44	F	California	35	F			
												District of Columbia	20	F			

Gray square icon: Represents states that do not have charter laws.

# ALABAMA

Grade "F"

Rating "Very Poor"

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are excluded from applying to open a charter. Ala. Code § 16-6F-4(1)	8 of 8
For-profit management organizations are not excluded from contracting with charter school boards. Ala. Code § 16-6F-7(a)(10)	0 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. Ala. Code § 16-6F-9(d)(3)	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. Ala. Code § 16-6F-9(d)(3)	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do apply to charter school boards. Ala. Code § 16-6F-9(a)(9)	7 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. Ala. Code § 16-6F-10(b)(4)(b)	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. Ala. Code § 16-6F-6(a)(1)	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
An assessment of the impact of opening a charter school on school desegregation efforts is required prior to authorization, but other factors not considered. Ala. Code § 16-6F-7(c)(1)	1 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
Charter educators are not required to be certified. Ala. Code § 16-6F-9(e)(1)	0 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. N/A	0 of 10
Authorizers can be evaluated/sanctioned. Ala. Code § 16-6F-6(l)-(m)	6 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. Ala. Code § 16-6F-9(d)(2)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 51 out of 100</b>	

# ALASKA\*

Grade "F"

Rating "Very Poor"

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are not excluded from applying to open a charter. N/A	0 of 8
For-profit management organizations are not excluded from contracting with charter school boards. N/A	0 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. Alaska Stat. § 14.03.255(a); Alaska Admin. Code tit. 4, § 33.115	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. Alaska Stat. § 14.03.255(a); Alaska Admin. Code tit. 4, § 33.115	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do apply to charter school boards. Alaska Stat. §§ 14.03.255(a); 29.20.010	7 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. Alaska Admin. Code tit. 4, § 33.115	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. Alaska Stat. § 14.03.250(c)	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
An assessment of the impact of opening a charter school is not required prior to authorization. N/A	0 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
Charter educators are required to be certified. Alaska Stat. § 14.03.290(5)	8 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. N/A	0 of 10
No provision for authorizers to be evaluated/sanctioned. N/A	0 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. Alaska Stat. § 14.03.255(a)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 44 out of 100</b>	

# ARIZONA

Grade "F"

Rating "Abysmal"

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are not excluded from applying to open a charter. Ariz. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 15-183(B)	0 of 8
For-profit management organizations are not excluded from contracting with charter school boards. Ariz. Op. Att’y Gen. No. I04-006, 2004 WL 1708196 (July 20, 2004)	0 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. Ariz. Op. Att’y Gen. No. I95-10, 1995 WL 870820 (Sept. 15, 1995)	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. Ariz. Op. Att’y Gen. No. I95-10, 1995 WL 870820 (Sept. 15, 1995)	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do not apply to charter school boards. Ariz. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 15-183(E)(5)	0 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. Ariz. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 15-183(E)(6)	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. Ariz. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 15-183(C)	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
An assessment of the impact of opening a charter school is not required prior to authorization. N/A	0 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
Charter educators are not required to be certified. Ariz. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 15-183(E)(5)	0 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. Ariz. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 15-808(A)	0 of 10
Authorizers can be evaluated/sanctioned. Ariz. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 15-183(II)	6 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. Ariz. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 15-183(E)(4)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 35 out of 100</b>	

# ARKANSAS

Grade "F"

Rating "Poor"

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are excluded from applying to open a charter. Ark. Code Ann. § 6-23-103(6)(D)(ii)	8 of 8
For-profit management organizations are not excluded from contracting with charter school boards. N/A	0 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. Ark. Code Ann. § 25-19-103(6)	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. Ark. Op. Att’y Gen. No. 2005-181, 2005 WL 1995935 (Aug. 16, 2005)	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do apply to charter school boards. Ark. Admin. Code 005.08.2-6.11.2.7	7 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. Ark. Code Ann. § 6-23-403	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-23-103(3), 6-23-701	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
An assessment of the impact of opening a charter school on school desegregation efforts is required prior to authorization, but other factors not considered. Ark. Code Ann. § 6-23-106	1 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
Charter educators are required to be certified, but the requirement can be waived. Ark. Code Ann. § 6-23-701(c)	4 of 8
Virtual charter schools are excluded from authorization. Ark. Code Ann. § 6-23-908(c)(1)	10 of 10
No provision for authorizers to be evaluated/sanctioned. N/A	0 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. Ark. Code Ann. § 6-23-404(b)(1)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 59 out of 100</b>	

# CALIFORNIA\*\*

Grade "F"

Rating "Abysmal"

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are excluded from applying to open a charter. 2018 Cal. Legis. Serv. Ch. 291 (A.B. 406) (effective July 1, 2019)	8 of 8
For-profit management organizations are excluded from contracting with charter school boards. 2018 Cal. Legis. Serv. Ch. 291 (A.B. 406) (effective July 1, 2019)	7 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do not apply to charter schools. Cal. Educ. Code § 47610	0 of 8
Public Records Act standards do not apply to charter schools. Cal. Educ. Code § 47610	0 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do not apply to charter school boards. Cal. Educ. Code § 47610	0 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. Cal. Educ. Code § 47604.33	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. Cal. Educ. Code §§ 47605.5, 47605.6, 47605.8	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
A limited description of the racial impact and certain fiscal disclosures is required prior to authorization, but other factors not considered. Cal. Educ. Code § 47605(b)(5)(G), (g)	2 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
Charter educators are required to be certified, but with exceptions, and are not subject to the same sanctions for misassignment as other schools. Cal. Educ. Code § 47605(l)	5 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. Cal. Educ. Code § 47612.5(d)(1); Cal. Code Regs. tit. 5, § 11963.5	0 of 10
No provision for authorizers to be evaluated/sanctioned. N/A	0 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. Cal. Educ. Code §§ 47605(c)(1), 47612.5(a)(3)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 35 out of 100</b>	

# COLORADO

Grade "F"

Rating "Very Poor"

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are excluded from applying to open a charter, except for conversion schools. Colo. Rev. Stat. §§ 22-30.5-105(b), 22-30.5-303(2)(a)	4 of 8
For-profit management organizations are not excluded from contracting with charter school boards. Colo. Rev. Stat. §§ 22-30.5-103(3.5), 22-30.5-104(4)(b), 22-30.5-507(4)(b)	0 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. Colo. Rev. Stat. §§ 22-30.5-104(2)(b), 24-6-402(1)(a)(III)	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. Colo. Rev. Stat. §§ 22-30.5-104(2)(b), 24-72-202(5)	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do apply to charter school boards. Colo. Rev. Stat. §§ 22-30.5-104(2)(b), 24-18-102(5)	7 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. Colo. Rev. Stat. § 22-30.5-104(4)(a)	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. Colo. Rev. Stat. § 22-30.5-504(1)	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
An assessment of the impact of opening a charter school is not required prior to authorization. N/A	0 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
Charter educators are required to be certified, but the requirement can be waived. Colo. Rev. Stat. § 22-30.5-104(6)(a)-(b)	4 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. Colo. Rev. Stat. § 22-30.5-104(8)	0 of 10
Authorizers can be evaluated/sanctioned. Colo. Rev. Stat. § 22-30.5-504(7.5)	6 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. Colo. Rev. Stat. § 22-30.5-104(6)(c)(II)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 50 out of 100</b>	

# CONNECTICUT

Grade "F"

Rating "Poor"

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are excluded from applying to open a charter. Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-66bb(b)	8 of 8
For-profit management organizations are excluded from contracting with charter school boards. Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-66aa(4)	7 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-66kk	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-66aa(1)	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do apply to charter school boards. Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-66oo	7 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-66cc(b)	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-66bb(a)(1), (e)	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
A limited assessment of the racial, ethnic, and economic impact of opening a charter school is required prior to authorization. Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-66bb(c)	2 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
At least half of charter educators are required to be certified, while the other half must have alternative or temporary certification. Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-66dd(b)(2)	4 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. N/A	0 of 10
No provision for authorizers to be evaluated/sanctioned. N/A	0 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-66bb(d)(9)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 57 out of 100</b>	

# DELAWARE

Grade "F"

Rating "Abysmal"

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are not excluded from applying to open a charter. Del. Code Ann. tit. 14, § 502	0 of 8
For-profit management organizations are not excluded from contracting with charter school boards. Del. Code Ann. tit. 14, § 512(14)	0 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. Del. Code Ann. tit. 14, § 503	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. Del. Code Ann. tit. 14, § 503	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do not apply to charter school boards. Del. Code Ann. tit. 14, § 505(a)	0 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. Del. Code Ann. tit. 14, § 513(a)(3)	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. Del. Code Ann. tit. 14, § 511(c)	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
An assessment of the impact of opening a charter school is required prior to authorization. Del. Code Ann. tit. 14, § 511(b)(3); 14-275 Del. Admin. Code § 3.10.1	6 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
At least 65% of charter educators are required to be certified. Del. Code Ann. tit. 14, § 507(c)	5 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. N/A	0 of 10
No provision for authorizers to be evaluated/sanctioned. N/A	0 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. Del. Code Ann. tit. 14, § 512(4)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 40 out of 100</b>	

# DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Grade "F"

Rating "Worst"



<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are not excluded from applying to open a charter. D.C. Code § 38-1800.02(16)	0 of 8
For-profit management organizations are not excluded from contracting with charter school boards. D.C. Code § 38-1800.02(30C)	0 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do not apply to charter schools. D.C. Code § 2-574(3)(C)	0 of 8
Public Records Act standards do not apply to charter schools. D.C. Code § 38-1802.04(c)(3)(B)	0 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do apply to charter school boards. D.C. Code § 38-1802.04(c)(1A)	7 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. D.C. Code § 38-1802.04(c)(11)(B)(ix)	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. D.C. Code § 38-1800.02(17)	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
An assessment of the impact of opening a charter school is not required prior to authorization. N/A	0 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
Charter educators are not required to be certified. D.C. Code § 38-1802.04(c)(3)(B)	0 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. N/A	0 of 10
No provision for authorizers to be evaluated/sanctioned. N/A	0 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. D.C. Code § 38-1802.02(1)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 20 out of 100</b>	

# FLORIDA

Grade "F"

Rating "Very Poor"

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are not excluded from applying to open a charter. Fla. Stat. § 1002.33(3)(a)	0 of 8
For-profit management organizations are not excluded from contracting with charter school boards. Fla. Stat. § 1002.33(20)(a)	0 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. Fla. Stat. § 1002.33(16)(b)(1)	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. Fla. Stat. § 1002.33(16)(b)(2)	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do apply to charter school boards. Fla. Stat. § 1002.33(26)	7 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. Fla. Stat. § 1002.33(9)(g)(2)	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. <sup>3</sup> Fla. Stat. § 1002.33(5)(a)(2)	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
An assessment of the racial impact of opening a charter school is required prior to authorization, but other factors not considered. Fla. Stat. § 1002.33(7)(a)(8)	1 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
Charter educators are required to be certified. Fla. Stat. § 1002.33(12)(f)	8 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. Fla. Stat. § 1002.33(1)	0 of 10
No provision for authorizers to be evaluated/sanctioned. N/A	0 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. Fla. Stat. § 1002.33(7)(a)(4)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 45 out of 100</b>	

<sup>3</sup> Generally, charter schools in Florida must be authorized by the local school board. The only exception is for charter lab schools, which may be authorized by a state university.

# GEORGIA

Grade "F"

Rating "Abysmal"

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are not excluded from applying to open a charter. Ga. Code Ann. § 20-2-2062(2)	0 of 8
For-profit management organizations are not excluded from contracting with charter school boards. Ga. Code Ann. § 20-2-2065(b)(1)	0 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. Ga. Code Ann. § 20-2-2072	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. Ga. Code Ann. § 20-2-2072	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do apply to charter school boards. Ga. Code Ann. § 20-2-2065(b)(5)	7 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. Ga. Code Ann. § 20-2-2065(b)(7)	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. Ga. Code Ann. § 20-2-2064.1(b)	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
An assessment of the impact of opening a charter school is not required prior to authorization. N/A	0 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
Charter educators are not required to be certified. Ga. Code Ann. § 20-2-2065(a); Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 505-2-.01(5)	0 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. Ga. Code Ann. § 20-2-2065(b)(1)	0 of 10
Authorizers must be evaluated; no provision for authorizers to be sanctioned. Ga. Code Ann. § 20-2-2063.3(b)(1), (c)	3 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. Ga. Code. Ann. § 20-2-2065(b)(8)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 39 out of 100</b>	

# HAWAII

Grade "F"

Rating "Very Poor"

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are excluded from applying to open a charter. Haw. Rev. Stat. § 302D-13(b)	8 of 8
For-profit management organizations are not excluded from contracting with charter school boards. N/A	0 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. Haw. Rev. Stat. § 302D-12(h)(1)	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do not apply to charter schools. Haw. Rev. Stat. § 302D-25(a)	0 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do apply to charter school boards. Haw. Rev. Stat. §§ 302D-12(i), 302D-25(c)	7 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. Haw. Rev. Stat. § 302D-32	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. Haw. Rev. Stat. § 302D-4	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
An assessment of the impact of opening a charter school is not required prior to authorization. N/A	0 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
Charter educators are required to be certified. Haw. Rev. Stat. § 302A-805	8 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. Haw. Rev. Stat. § 302D-1	0 of 10
Authorizers can be evaluated/sanctioned. Haw. Rev. Stat. § 302D-11(d)	6 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. Haw. Rev. Stat. § 302D-16(a)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 50 out of 100</b>	

# IDAHO

Grade "F"

Rating "Very Poor"

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are excluded from applying to open a charter. Idaho Code Ann. § 33-5205(1)	8 of 8
For-profit management organizations are not excluded from contracting with charter school boards. Idaho Code Ann. § 33-5202A(4)	0 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. Idaho Code Ann. § 33-5204(2)(d)	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. Idaho Code Ann. § 33-5204(2)(e)	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do apply to charter school boards. Idaho Code Ann. § 33-5204(2)(a)-(c)	7 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. Idaho Code Ann. § 33-5206(7)	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. Idaho Code Ann. § 33-5202A(1)	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
An assessment of the impact of opening a charter school is not required prior to authorization. N/A	0 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
Charter educators are required to be certified. Idaho Code Ann. § 33-5210(4)(a)	8 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. Idaho Code Ann. § 33-5205(6)	0 of 10
No provision for authorizers to be evaluated/sanctioned. N/A	0 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. Idaho Code Ann. § 33-5206(13)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 52 out of 100</b>	

# ILLINOIS

Grade "F"

Rating "Very Poor"

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are not excluded from applying to open a charter. 105 Ill. Comp. Stat. 5/27A-7(b)	0 of 8
For-profit management organizations are not excluded from contracting with charter school boards. 105 Ill. Comp. Stat. 5/27A-5(h)	0 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. 105 Ill. Comp. Stat. 5/27A-5(c)	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. 105 Ill. Comp. Stat. 5/27A-5(c)	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do apply to charter school boards. 105 Ill. Comp. Stat. 5/27A-10.5(b)	7 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. 105 Ill. Comp. Stat. 5/27A-5(f)	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. 105 Ill. Comp. Stat. 5/27A-7.5(a), 5/27A-8(f)	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
An assessment of the impact of opening a charter school is not required prior to authorization. N/A	0 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
At least 50–75% of charter educators are required to be certified. 105 Ill. Comp. Stat. 5/27A-10(c-5), (c-10)	5 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. 105 Ill. Comp. Stat. 5/27A-5(b-5)	0 of 10
Authorizers can be evaluated/sanctioned. 105 Ill. Comp. Stat. 5/27A-12	6 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. 105 Ill. Comp. Stat. 5/27A-6(b)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 47 out of 100</b>	

# INDIANA

Grade "F"

Rating "Very Poor"

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are excluded from applying to open a charter. Ind. Code § 20-24-3-2(a)	8 of 8
For-profit management organizations are not excluded from contracting with charter school boards. Ind. Code § 20-24-1-6.1	0 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. Ind. Code §§ 5-14-1.5-2(a)(3)(B); 20-24-4-1(a)(15)	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. Ind. Code §§ 5-14-3-2(q)(3)(B); 20-24-4-1(a)(13)	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do not apply to charter school boards, but applicants must disclose any potential conflicts of interest with the intended management organization or education service provider. Ind. Code §§ 20-24-8-4; 20-24-3-2.5(3)	2 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. Ind. Code § 20-24-8-5(1)	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. Ind. Code § 20-24-1-2.5	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
An assessment of the impact of opening a charter school is not required prior to authorization. N/A	0 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
At least 90% of charter educators are required to either be certified or in the process of being certified. Ind. Code § 20-24-6-5(a)	5 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. Ind. Code § 20-24-7-13(b)	0 of 10
Authorizers can be evaluated/sanctioned. Ind. Code § 20-24-2.2-6(a)	6 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. Ind. Code § 20-24-8-5(17)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 50 out of 100</b>	

# IOWA

Grade "F"

Rating "Abysmal"

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are excluded from applying to open a charter. Iowa Code § 256F.3; Iowa Admin. Code r. 281-68.3	8 of 8
For-profit management organizations are not excluded from contracting with charter school boards. N/A	0 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards apply to charter schools' advisory councils only. Iowa Code § 256F.4(2)(j)	4 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. Iowa Code §§ 256F.4(2)(f), 256F.4(2)(j), 256F.10(1)	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do not apply to charter school boards. Iowa Code § 256F.4(2)	0 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. Iowa Code § 256F.4(2)(f)	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. Iowa Code § 256F.3(6)	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
An assessment of the impact of opening a charter school is not required prior to authorization. N/A	0 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
Charter educators are required to be certified. Iowa Code § 256F.7(1)	8 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. N/A	0 of 10
No provision for authorizers to be evaluated/sanctioned. N/A	0 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. Iowa Code § 256F.5(3)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 41 out of 100</b>	

# KANSAS

Grade "F"

Rating "Abysmal"

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are not excluded from applying to open a charter. Kan. Stat. Ann. § 72-4208(b)	0 of 8
For-profit management organizations are not excluded from contracting with charter school boards. Kan. Stat. Ann. § 72-4206(a)	0 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. Kan. Stat. Ann. § 75-4318(a)	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. Kan. Stat. Ann. § 45-217(f)(1)	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do apply to charter school boards. Kan. Stat. Ann. § 75-4301a(f)	7 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. Kan. Stat. Ann. § 72-4208(c)(9)	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. Kan. Stat. Ann. § 72-4208(f)	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
An assessment of the racial and socio-economic impact of opening a charter school is required prior to authorization, but other factors not considered. Kan. Stat. Ann. § 72-4208(d)(2)	2 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
Charter educators are required to be certified, but waivers are allowed. Kan. Stat. Ann. § 72-4208(h)	4 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. N/A	0 of 10
No provision for authorizers to be evaluated/sanctioned. N/A	0 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. Kan. Stat. Ann. § 72-4208(c)(11)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 42 out of 100</b>	

# KENTUCKY

Grade "D+"

Rating "Mediocre"

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are excluded from applying to open a charter. Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 160.1593(1); 701 Ky. Admin. Regs. 8:020, §§ 4(1)(a)(1), 4(1)(b)(1)	8 of 8
For-profit management organizations are not excluded from contracting with charter school boards. Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 160.1590(8)	0 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 160.1592(3)(k)	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 160.1592(3)(k)	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do apply to charter school boards. Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 160.1592(4), (7)(c)	7 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 160.1592(3)(h)	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. §§ 160.1590(13), 160.1594(9)	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
An assessment of the impact of opening a charter school is not required prior to authorization. N/A	0 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
Charter educators are required to be certified. Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 160.1590(14)	8 of 8
Virtual charter schools are excluded from authorization. Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 160.1591(4)	10 of 10
Authorizers can be evaluated/sanctioned. Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 160.1596(3); 701 Ky. Admin. Regs. 8:020, § 10	6 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 160.1592(3)(e)-(g)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 68 out of 100</b>	

# LOUISIANA

Grade "F"

Rating "Very Poor"

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are excluded from applying to open a charter. La. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 17:3983(A)(1)	8 of 8
For-profit management organizations are not excluded from contracting with charter school boards. La. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 17:3997(A)(1)(b)	0 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. La. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 17:3996(B)(9)	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. La. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 17:3996(B)(10)	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do apply to charter school boards. La. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 17:3996(B)(20)	7 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. La. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 17:3996(F)	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. La. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 17:3983(A)(2)	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
An assessment of the impact of opening a charter school is not required prior to authorization. N/A	0 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
Charter educators are not required to be certified. La. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 17:3991(C)(6)	0 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. La. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 17:4002.2(6)	0 of 10
No provision for authorizers to be evaluated/sanctioned. N/A	0 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. La. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 17:3991(C)(2)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 44 out of 100</b>	

# MAINE

Grade "F"

Rating "Poor"

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are excluded from applying to open a charter. Me. Rev. Stat. tit. 20-A, § 2407(3)	8 of 8
For-profit management organizations are not excluded from contracting with charter school boards. Me. Rev. Stat. tit. 20-A, § 2401(5)	0 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. Me. Rev. Stat. tit. 20-A, § 2412(5)(c)	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. Me. Rev. Stat. tit. 20-A, § 2412(5)(c)	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do apply to charter school boards. Me. Rev. Stat. tit. 20-A, § 2412(5)(c)	7 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. Me. Rev. Stat. tit. 20-A, § 2412-A(1)	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. Me. Rev. Stat. tit. 20-A, § 2405(1)	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
An assessment of the impact of opening a charter school is not required prior to authorization. N/A	0 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
Charter educators are required to be certified, with limited exceptions. Me. Rev. Stat. tit. 20-A, § 2412(6)(B)	7 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. Me. Rev. Stat. tit. 20-A, § 2405(8)(D)	0 of 10
Authorizers can be evaluated/sanctioned. Me. Rev. Stat. tit. 20-A, § 2403(5)	6 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. Me. Rev. Stat. tit. 20-A, § 2412(5)(B)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 57 out of 100</b>	

# MARYLAND

Grade "B-"

Rating "Adequate"

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are excluded from applying to open a charter. Md. Code Ann., Educ. § 9-104(a)(2)	8 of 8
For-profit management organizations are not excluded from contracting with charter school boards. N/A	0 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. Md. Code Ann., Educ. § 9-106(a)	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. Md. Code Ann., Educ. § 9-106(a)	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do apply to charter school boards. Md. Code Ann., Educ. § 9-106(a)	7 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. Md. Code Ann., Educ. § 9-106(d)(1)	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. Md. Code Ann., Educ. §§ 9-103; 9-104(a)(1)	13 of 13
An appeal of a local authorization decision is limited to procedural grounds. Md. Code Regs. 13A.01.05.05(A)	6 of 6
An assessment of the impact of opening a charter school is not required prior to authorization, but authorizers must inform the operators of the school of the capacity needed to fulfill the school's responsibilities related to children with disabilities. Md. Code. Ann., Educ. § 9-107(c)	1 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
Charter educators are required to be certified. Md. Code Ann., Educ. § 9-105	8 of 8
Virtual charter schools are excluded from authorization. Md. Code Ann., Educ. § 9-104(a)(4)(iv)	10 of 10
No provision for authorizers to be evaluated/sanctioned. N/A	0 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. Md. Code Ann., Educ. § 9-106(d)(2)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 82 out of 100</b>	

# MASSACHUSETTS

Grade "F"

Rating "Very Poor"

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are excluded from applying to open a charter. Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 71, § 89(d)	8 of 8
For-profit management organizations are not excluded from contracting with charter school boards. Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 71, § 89(e)(ix)	0 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 71, § 89(s)	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 71, § 89(s)	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do apply to charter school boards. Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 71, § 89(u)	7 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 71, § 89(jj)	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 71, § 89(c)	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
An assessment of the impact of opening a charter school is not required prior to authorization. N/A	0 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
Charter educators are required to be certified. Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 71, § 89(ii)	8 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 71, § 94	0 of 10
No provision for authorizers to be evaluated/sanctioned. N/A	0 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 71, § 89(v)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 52 out of 100</b>	

# MICHIGAN

Grade "F"

Rating "Very Poor"

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are not excluded from applying to open a charter. Mich. Comp. Laws § 380.502(3)	0 of 8
For-profit management organizations are not excluded from contracting with charter school boards. Mich. Comp. Laws § 380.503c(2)(b)	0 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. Mich. Comp. Laws § 380.503(7)(a)	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. Mich. Comp. Laws § 380.503(7)(b)	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do apply to charter school boards. Mich. Comp. Laws § 380.503(6)(j)	7 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. Mich. Comp. Laws § 380.503(6)(g)	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. Mich. Comp. Laws §§ 380.501(2)(a), 380.502(2)	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
A limited assessment of the impact of opening a charter school is required prior to authorization. Mich. Comp. Laws § 380.503(1)	1 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
Charter educators are required to be certified, with limited exceptions for schools authorized by a state university or community college. Mich. Comp. Laws § 380.505	7 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. Mich. Comp. Laws § 380.553a(1)	0 of 10
Authorizers can be evaluated/sanctioned. Mich. Comp. Laws § 380.502(5)	6 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. Mich. Comp. Laws § 380.503(7)(f)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 50 out of 100</b>	

# MINNESOTA

Grade "F"

Rating "Poor"

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are excluded from applying to open a charter. Minn. Stat. § 124E.06(2)(a)	8 of 8
For-profit management organizations are not excluded from contracting with charter school boards. Minn. Stat. § 124E.07(3)(b)	0 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. Minn. Stat. § 124E.03(5a)	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. Minn. Stat. § 124E.03(5)	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do apply to charter school boards. Minn. Stat. § 124E.14(a)	7 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. Minn. Stat. § 124E.16	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. Minn. Stat. § 124E.05(1)	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
An assessment of the impact of opening a charter school is not required prior to authorization. N/A	0 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
Charter educators are required to be certified. Minn. Stat. § 124E.12(1)	8 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. Minn. Stat. § 124E.03(7)(a)	0 of 10
Authorizers can be evaluated/sanctioned. Minn. Stat. § 124E.05(6)	6 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. Minn. Stat. § 124E.03(2)(b)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 58 out of 100</b>	

# MISSISSIPPI

Grade "F"

Rating "Very Poor"

PUBLIC	Points
For-profit entities are not excluded from applying to open a charter. Miss. Code Ann. § 37-28-5(a)	0 of 8
For-profit management organizations are excluded from contracting with charter school boards. Miss. Code Ann. § 37-28-39(2)	7 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. Miss. Code Ann. § 37-28-45(6)(a)	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. Miss. Code Ann. § 37-28-45(6)(b)	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do apply to charter school boards. Miss. Code Ann. §§ 37-28-7(8), 37-28-59(3)	7 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. Miss. Code Ann. § 37-28-57(2)	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. Miss. Code Ann. § 37-28-7(1)	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
An assessment of the impact of opening a charter school is not required prior to authorization. N/A	0 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
At least 75% of charter educators are required to be certified. Miss. Code Ann. § 37-28-47(1)(a)	6 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. N/A	0 of 10
No provision for authorizers to be evaluated/sanctioned. N/A	0 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. Miss. Code Ann. § 37-28-45(2), (6)(x)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 49 out of 100</b>	

# MISSOURI

Grade "F"

Rating "Very Poor"

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are not excluded from applying to open a charter. Mo. Rev. Stat. § 160.405(1)	0 of 8
For-profit management organizations are not excluded from contracting with charter school boards. Mo. Rev. Stat. § 160.415(6)	0 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. Mo. Rev. Stat. § 160.405(13)	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. Mo. Rev. Stat. § 160.405(13)	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do apply to charter school boards. Mo. Rev. Stat. § 160.400(15)	7 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. Mo. Rev. Stat. § 160.405(4)(4)	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. Mo. Rev. Stat. § 160.400(3)	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
An assessment of the impact of opening a charter school is not required prior to authorization. N/A	0 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
At least 80% of charter educators are required to be certified, and noncertified educators must be supervised by certified educators. Mo. Rev. Stat. § 160.420(2)	7 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. N/A	0 of 10
Authorizers can be evaluated/sanctioned. Mo. Rev. Stat. § 160.400(17)	6 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. Mo. Rev. Stat. § 160.405(4)(2)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 49 out of 100</b>	

# NEVADA

Grade "F"

Rating "Very Poor"

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are excluded from applying to open a charter. Nev. Rev. Stat. § 388A.240	8 of 8
For-profit management organizations are not excluded from contracting with charter school boards. Nev. Rev. Stat. § 388A.030	0 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. Nev. Rev. Stat. § 388A.366(1)(e)	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do not apply to charter schools. Nev. Rev. Stat. § 239.005(5)	0 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do apply to charter school boards. Nev. Rev. Stat. § 388A.246(20)	7 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. Nev. Rev. Stat. § 388A.105(8)(a)	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. Nev. Rev. Stat. § 388A.220	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
An assessment of the impact of opening a charter school is not required prior to authorization. N/A	0 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
At least 50–70% of charter educators are required to be certified. Nev. Rev. Stat. § 388A.518(1)	5 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. N/A	0 of 10
Authorizers can be evaluated/sanctioned. Nev. Rev. Stat. § 388A.223(3); Nev. Admin. Code § 386.225	6 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. Nev. Rev. Stat. § 388A.366(1)(g)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 47 out of 100</b>	

# NEW HAMPSHIRE

Grade "F"

Rating "Very Poor"

PUBLIC	Points
For-profit entities are excluded from applying to open a charter. N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 194-B:3(V)	8 of 8
For-profit management organizations are not excluded from contracting with charter school boards. N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 194-B:5(VII)	0 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 194-B:5(VI)	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 91-A:1-a(VI)(d)	8 of 8
Some conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements apply to charter school boards. N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 194-B:5(VII)	3 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 194-B:10(II), (III)	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 194-B:3-a	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
An assessment of the impact of opening a charter school is not required prior to authorization. N/A	0 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
At least 50% of charter educators are required to be certified. N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 194-B:14(IV)	4 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 194-B:11(I)(a), (b)	0 of 10
No provision for authorizers to be evaluated/sanctioned. N/A	0 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 194-B:8(V)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 44 out of 100</b>	

# NEW JERSEY

Grade "F"

Rating "Very Poor"

PUBLIC	Points
For-profit entities are not excluded from applying to open a charter. N.J. Stat. Ann. § 18A:36A-4(a)	0 of 8
For-profit management organizations are not excluded from contracting with charter school boards. N.J. Stat. Ann. § 18A:36A-6(e)	0 of 7
ACCOUNTABLE	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. N.J. Stat. Ann. § 18A:36A-6	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. N.J. Stat. Ann. § 18A:36A-11(a)	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do apply to charter school boards. N.J. Stat. Ann. § 18A:12-23.1	7 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. N.J. Stat. Ann. § 18A:36A-5(l)	7 of 7
LOCAL	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. N.J. Stat. Ann. § 18A:36A-4(c)	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
An assessment of the fiscal and racial impact of opening a charter school is required prior to authorization, but other factors not considered. <i>In re Proposed Quest Acad. Charter Sch. of Montclair Founders Grp.</i> , 80 A.3d 1120, 1124 (N.J. 2013) (citing N.J. Const. art. I, ¶ 5; N.J. Const. art. VIII, § 4, ¶ 1)	4 of 6
QUALITY	
Charter educators are required to be certified. N.J. Stat. Ann. § 18A:36A-14(c)	8 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. N/A	0 of 10
No provision for authorizers to be evaluated/sanctioned. N/A	0 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. N.J. Stat. Ann. § 18A:36A-5(d)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 48 out of 100</b>	

# NEW MEXICO

Grade "F"

Rating "Poor"

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are excluded from applying to open a charter. N.M. Stat. Ann. § 22-8B-6(F)	8 of 8
For-profit management organizations are excluded from contracting with charter school boards. N.M. Stat. Ann. § 22-8B-4(R)	7 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. N.M. Stat. Ann. § 22-8B-5(C), (D)	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. N.M. Stat. Ann. § 22-8B-5(C), (D)	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do apply to charter school boards. N.M. Stat. Ann. § 22-8B-5.2	7 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. N.M. Stat. Ann. § 22-8B-4(C)(1)	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. N.M. Stat. Ann. § 22-8B-6(C)	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
An assessment of the impact of opening a charter school is not required prior to authorization. N/A	0 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
Charter educators are required to be certified. N.M. Stat. Ann. § 22-8B-10(a)	8 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. N.M. Stat. Ann. § 22-30-2(E)	0 of 10
No provision for authorizers to be evaluated/sanctioned. N/A	0 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. N.M. Stat. Ann. § 22-8B-4(M)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 59 out of 100</b>	

# NEW YORK

Grade "F"

Rating "Poor"

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are now excluded from applying to open a charter, but for-profit schools in existence prior to 2016 are allowed to remain open. N.Y. Educ. Law § 2851(1)	7 of 8
For-profit management organizations are now excluded from contracting with charter school boards, but the prohibition is not retroactive. N.Y. Educ. Law § 2851(1)	6 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. N.Y. Educ. Law § 2854(1)(e)	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. N.Y. Educ. Law § 2854(1)(e)	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do apply to charter school boards. N.Y. Educ. Law § 2854(1)(f)	7 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. N.Y. Educ. Law § 2854(1)(c)	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. N.Y. Educ. Law § 2851(3)	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
An assessment of the programmatic and fiscal impact of opening a charter school is required prior to authorization, but other factors not considered. N.Y. Educ. Law § 2851(2)(q)	3 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
Approximately 70% of charter educators are required to be certified. N.Y. Educ. Law § 2854(3)(a-1)	5 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. N/A	0 of 10
No provision for authorizers to be evaluated/sanctioned. N/A	0 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. N.Y. Educ. Law § 2854(1)(b), (d)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 57 out of 100</b>	

# NORTH CAROLINA

Grade "F"

Rating "Very Poor"

PUBLIC	Points
For-profit entities are excluded from applying to open a charter. N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-218.1(a)	8 of 8
For-profit management organizations are not excluded from contracting with charter school boards. N.C. Op. Att’y Gen., 1998 WL 205281 (Feb. 12, 1998)	0 of 7
ACCOUNTABLE	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-218.25	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-218.25	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do apply to charter school boards. N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-218.15(b)	7 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-218.30(a)	7 of 7
LOCAL	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-218.5	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
An assessment of the impact of opening a charter school is not required prior to authorization. N/A	0 of 6
QUALITY	
At least 50% of charter educators are required to be certified. N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-218.90(a)(1)	4 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. N/A	0 of 10
No provision for authorizers to be evaluated/sanctioned. N/A	0 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-218.85(a)(3)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 48 out of 100</b>	

# OHIO

Grade "F"

Rating "Poor"

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are excluded from applying to open a charter. Ohio Admin. Code 3301-102-02(I)	8 of 8
For-profit management organizations are not excluded from contracting with charter school boards. Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3314.02(A)(8)	0 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3314.03(A)(11)(d)	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3314.03(A)(11)(d)	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do apply to charter school boards. Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3314.03(A)(11)(e)	7 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3314.042	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3314.02(C)(1)	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
An assessment of the racial impact of opening a charter school is required prior to authorization, but other factors not considered. Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3314.03(A)(7)	1 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
Charter educators are required to be certified. Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3314.03(A)(10)	8 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3314.013	0 of 10
Authorizers can be evaluated/sanctioned. Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3314.015(C)	6 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments, but charter schools can apply for a waiver to use an alternative assessment system. Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3302.15(A)	3 of 6

**Total points: 56 out of 100**

# OKLAHOMA

Grade "F"

Rating "Abysmal"

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are not excluded from applying to open a charter. Okla. Stat. tit. 70, § 3-134(C)	0 of 8
For-profit management organizations are not excluded from contracting with charter school boards. N/A	0 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. Okla. Stat. tit. 70, § 3-136(A)(16)	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. Okla. Stat. tit. 70, § 3-136(A)(16)	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do apply to charter school boards. Okla. Stat. tit. 70, § 3-136(A)(17)	7 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. Okla. Stat. tit. 70, § 3-136(A)(6)	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. Okla. Stat. tit. 70, § 3-132(A)	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
An assessment of the impact of opening a charter school is not required prior to authorization. N/A	0 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
Charter educators are not required to be certified. Okla. Stat. tit. 70, § 3-136(A)(5)	0 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. Okla. Stat. tit. 70, § 3-145.1	0 of 10
Authorizers can be evaluated/sanctioned. Okla. Stat. tit. 70, § 3-137(G)(8)	6 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. Okla. Stat. tit. 70, § 3-136(A)(4)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 42 out of 100</b>	

# OREGON

Grade "F"

Rating "Poor"

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are not excluded from applying to open a charter. Or. Rev. Stat. § 338.005(1)	0 of 8
For-profit management organizations are not excluded from contracting with charter school boards. Or. Op. Att’y Gen. No. 8273, 2000 WL 1464721 (Sept. 13, 2000)	0 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. Or. Rev. Stat. § 338.115(1)(d)	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. Or. Rev. Stat. § 338.115(1)(c)	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do apply to charter school boards. Or. Rev. Stat. § 338.115(1)(y)	7 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. Or. Rev. Stat. § 338.095(3)	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. Or. Rev. Stat. § 338.035(4)	13 of 13
An appeal of a local authorization decision is not limited to procedural grounds. Or. Rev. Stat. § 338.075(2)(a)	0 of 6
An assessment of the impact of opening a charter school is required prior to authorization. Or. Rev. Stat. § 338.055(3)(f)	6 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
At least 50% of charter educators are required to be certified. Or. Rev. Stat. § 338.135(7)(b), (c)	4 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. Or. Rev. Stat. § 338.035(1)(b)	0 of 10
No provision for authorizers to be evaluated/sanctioned. N/A	0 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. Or. Rev. Stat. § 338.115(1)(L)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 59 out of 100</b>	

# PENNSYLVANIA

Grade "F"

Rating "Very Poor"

PUBLIC	Points
For-profit entities are excluded from applying to open a charter. 24 Pa. Stat. Ann. § 17-1703-A	8 of 8
For-profit management organizations are not excluded from contracting with charter school boards. N/A	0 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. 24 Pa. Stat. Ann. § 17-1716-A(c)	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. <i>Zager v. Chester Cmty. Charter Sch.</i> , 934 A.2d 1227 (Pa. 2007)	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do apply to charter school boards. 24 Pa. Stat. Ann. § 17-1715-A(12)	7 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. 24 Pa. Stat. Ann. § 17-1719-A(9)	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. <sup>4</sup> 24 Pa. Stat. Ann. § 17-1745-A(d)	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
An assessment of the impact of opening a charter school is not required prior to authorization. N/A	0 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
At least 75% of charter educators are required to be certified. 24 Pa. Stat. Ann. § 17-1724-A(a)	6 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. 24 Pa. Stat. Ann. § 17-1745-A	0 of 10
No provision for authorizers to be evaluated/sanctioned. N/A	0 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. 24 Pa. Stat. Ann. § 17-1715-A(8)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 50 out of 100</b>	

<sup>4</sup> Generally, charter schools in Pennsylvania must be authorized by the local school board. The only exception is for virtual charter schools, which must be authorized by the state department of education.

# PUERTO RICO

Grade "F"

Rating "Very Poor"

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are excluded from applying to open a charter. 2018 P.R. Laws Act 85 (H.B. 1441) § 13.05(a)	8 of 8
For-profit management organizations are not excluded from contracting with charter school boards. 2018 P.R. Laws Act 85 (H.B. 1441) § 13.02(i)	0 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. 2018 P.R. Laws Act 85 (H.B. 1441) § 13.03(b), (c)	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. 2018 P.R. Laws Act 85 (H.B. 1441) § 13.03(b), (c)	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do apply to charter school boards. 2018 P.R. Laws Act 85 (H.B. 1441) § 13.03(d), (e), (f)	7 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. 2018 P.R. Laws Act 85 (H.B. 1441) § 13.07(a)(12)	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. 2018 P.R. Laws Act 85 (H.B. 1441) § 1.03(5)	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
An assessment of the impact of opening a charter school is not required prior to authorization. N/A	0 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
Charter educators are required to be certified. 2018 P.R. Laws Act 85 (H.B. 1441) § 13.08(d)	8 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. 2018 P.R. Laws Act 85 (H.B. 1441) § 13.04(b)(5)	0 of 10
No provision for authorizers to be evaluated/sanctioned. N/A	0 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. 2018 P.R. Laws Act 85 (H.B. 1441) § 13.02(b)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 52 out of 100</b>	

# RHODE ISLAND

Grade "D-"

Rating "Poor"



<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are excluded from applying to open a charter. R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-77-2.1(1)-(3)	8 of 8
For-profit management organizations are excluded from contracting with charter school boards. R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-77-3.1(d)	7 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-77-6.1(e)	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. R.I. Op. Att’y Gen. No. 06-37, 2006 WL 4573877 (Sept. 8, 2006)	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do apply to charter school boards. R.I. Gen. Laws §§ 16-77.2-7(19)-(20), 16-77.3-7(19)-(20), 16-77.4-7(17)-(18)	7 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-77-3.1(f)	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-77.2-3(f)	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
An assessment of the fiscal and programmatic impact of opening an independent charter school or mayoral academy is required prior to authorization. R.I. Gen. Laws §§ 16-77.3-3(f), 16-77.4-3(f)	2 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
Charter educators are required to be certified. R.I. Gen. Laws §§ 16-77.2-7(4), 16-77.3-7(4), 16-77.4-7(4)	8 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. N/A	0 of 10
No provision for authorizers to be evaluated/sanctioned. N/A	0 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. R.I. Gen. Laws §§ 16-77.2-7(13), 16-77.3-7(13), 16-77.4-7(11)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 61 out of 100</b>	

# SOUTH CAROLINA

Grade "F"

Rating "Poor"

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are excluded from applying to open a charter. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-40-40(3)	8 of 8
For-profit management organizations are not excluded from contracting with charter school boards. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-40-60(F)(8)	0 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do not apply to charter schools. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-40-50(A)	0 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-40-50(B)(10)	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do apply to charter school boards. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-40-50(B)(11)	7 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-40-50(B)(3)	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-40-40(4)	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
An assessment of the racial impact of opening a charter school is required prior to authorization, but other factors not considered. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-40-60(F)(9)	1 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
At least 75-90% of charter educators are required to be certified. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-40-50(B)(5)	7 of 8
Virtual charter schools are excluded from authorization. <sup>5</sup> S.C. Code Ann. § 59-40-65(C)	10 of 10
No provision for authorizers to be evaluated/sanctioned. N/A	0 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-40-60(F)(6)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 54 out of 100</b>	

<sup>5</sup> Charter schools can provide up to 75% of their instruction through a virtual instruction program.

# TENNESSEE

Grade "C-"

Rating "Mediocre"

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are excluded from applying to open a charter. Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-13-104(12)	8 of 8
For-profit management organizations are excluded from contracting with charter school boards. Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-13-104(4)	7 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 49-13-111(h), 49-13-138(a)	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-13-140	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do apply to charter school boards. Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-13-111(g)	7 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-13-111(j)	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-13-104(5)	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
An assessment of the fiscal impact of opening a charter school is required prior to authorization, but other factors not considered. Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-13-108(b), (e)	3 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
Charter educators are required to be certified. Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-13-111(i)	8 of 8
Virtual charter schools are excluded from authorization. Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-13-106(c)(2)	10 of 10
No provision for authorizers to be evaluated/sanctioned. N/A	0 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-13-111(a)(5)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 72 out of 100</b>	

# TEXAS

Grade "F"

Rating "Very Poor"

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are excluded from applying to open a charter. Tex. Educ. Code Ann. § 12.101(a)	8 of 8
For-profit management organizations are not excluded from contracting with charter school boards. Tex. Educ. Code Ann. § 12.1012(4)	0 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. Tex. Educ. Code Ann. §§ 12.012(a), 12.057(a), 12.1051(a)	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. Tex. Educ. Code Ann. §§ 12.012(a), 12.057(a), 12.1051(a)	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do apply to charter school boards. Tex. Educ. Code Ann. § 12.1054	7 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. Tex. Educ. Code Ann. §§ 12.016(7), 12.059(7), 12.111(11)	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. Tex. Educ. Code Ann. § 12.101	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
An assessment of the fiscal impact of opening a charter school is required prior to authorization, but other factors not considered. Tex. Educ. Code Ann. § 12.110(d)(3)(C)	3 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
Charter educators are not required to be certified. Tex. Educ. Code Ann. § 12.129(a)	0 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. Tex. Educ. Code Ann. § 30A.001(7)(A)	0 of 10
No provision for authorizers to be evaluated/sanctioned. N/A	0 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. Tex. Educ. Code Ann. §§ 12.013(b)(3)(P), 12.056(b)(2)(I), 12.104(b)(2)(L)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 47 out of 100</b>	

# UTAH

Grade "F"

Rating "Very Poor"

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are excluded from applying to open a charter. Utah Code Ann. § 53G-5-302(1)(a)	8 of 8
For-profit management organizations are not excluded from contracting with charter school boards. Utah Code Ann. § 53G-5-305(2)(a)(ii)	0 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. Utah Code Ann. § 53G-5-405(5)(a)	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. Utah Code Ann. § 53G-5-405(5)(b)	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do apply to charter school boards. Utah Code Ann. § 53G-5-409	7 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. Utah Code Ann. § 53G-5-404(4)	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. Utah Code Ann. § 53G-5-205(1)	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
An assessment of the impact of opening a charter school is not required prior to authorization. Utah Code Ann. § 53G-5-304(1)(g)	0 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
Charter educators are required to be certified. Utah Code Ann. § 53G-5-407(4)(a)	8 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. Utah Code Ann. § 53F-4-504(1)	0 of 10
No provision for authorizers to be evaluated/sanctioned. N/A	0 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. Utah Code Ann. § 53E-4-302(1)(c)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 52 out of 100</b>	

# VIRGINIA

Grade "D"

Rating "Mediocre"

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are not excluded from applying to open a charter. Va. Code Ann. § 22.1-212.8(A)	0 of 8
For-profit management organizations are not excluded from contracting with charter school boards. Va. Code Ann. § 22.1-212.6(C)	0 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. Va. Code Ann. §§ 22.1-212.6:1(D), 2.2-3707(A)	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. Va. Code Ann. §§ 22.1-212.6:1(D), 2.2-3704	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do apply to charter school boards. Va. Code Ann. § 22.1-212.8(B)(33)	7 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. Va. Code Ann. § 22.1-212.8(B)(26)	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. Va. Code Ann. §§ 22.1-212.9(C), 22.1-212.10(E)	13 of 13
A local authorization decision is not appealable. Va. Code Ann. § 22.1-212.10(D)	6 of 6
An assessment of the impact of opening a charter school is not required prior to authorization. N/A	0 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
Charter educators are required to be certified. Va. Code Ann. § 22.1-212.13	8 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. N/A	0 of 10
No provision for authorizers to be evaluated/sanctioned. N/A	0 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. Va. Code Ann. § 22.1-212.6:1(C)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 63 out of 100</b>	

# WASHINGTON

Grade "D"

Rating "Mediocre"

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are excluded from applying to open a charter. Wash. Rev. Code § 28A.710.010(1)	8 of 8
For-profit management organizations are excluded from contracting with charter school boards. Wash. Rev. Code § 28A.710.030(1)(c)	7 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. Wash. Rev. Code § 28A.710.040(2)(i)	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. Wash. Rev. Code § 28A.710.040(2)(i)	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do apply to charter school boards. Wash. Rev. Code § 28A.710.130(3)(c)	7 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. Wash. Rev. Code § 28A.710.040(2)(f)	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. Wash. Rev. Code § 28A.710.080	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
An assessment of the impact of opening a charter school is not required prior to authorization. N/A	0 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
Charter educators are required to be certified. Wash. Rev. Code §§ 28A.710.040(2)(d); 28A.150.203(7)	8 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. N/A	0 of 10
Authorizers can be evaluated/sanctioned. Wash. Rev. Code § 28A.710.120	6 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. Wash. Rev. Code § 28A.710.040(2)(b)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 65 out of 100</b>	

# WISCONSIN

Grade "F"

Rating "Abysmal"

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are not excluded from applying to open a charter. Wis. Stat. § 118.40(7)(am)(3)	0 of 8
For-profit management organizations are not excluded from contracting with charter school boards. Wis. Stat. § 118.40(4)(d)(3)	0 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. Wis. Stat. § 118.40(7)(b)	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. Wis. Stat. § 118.40(7)(b)	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do not apply to charter school boards. N/A	0 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. Wis. Stat. § 118.40(1m)(b)(11)	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are not authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. Wis. Stat. § 118.40(1), (2r)(b)(1), (2x)(b)(1), (3m)	0 of 13
Limitations on appeal of a local authorization decision not applicable. N/A	0 of 6
An assessment of the fiscal and racial impact of opening a charter school is required prior to authorization, but other factors not considered. Wisc. Stat. § 118.40(1m)(b)(9), (2)(a)	4 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
Charter educators are required to be certified. Wis. Stat. § 118.40(2r)(d)(1), (2x)(d)(1)	8 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. Wis. Stat. § 118.40(8)	0 of 10
No provision for authorizers to be evaluated/sanctioned. N/A	0 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. Wis. Stat. § 118.40(2r)(d)(2), (2x)(d)(2)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 41 out of 100</b>	

# WYOMING

Grade "F"

Rating "Poor"

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>Points</b>
For-profit entities are not excluded from applying to open a charter. <sup>6</sup> Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 21-3-306(a)	0 of 8
For-profit management organizations are not excluded from contracting with charter school boards. Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 21-3-304(j)	0 of 7
<b>ACCOUNTABLE</b>	
Open Meetings Act standards do apply to charter schools. Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 21-3-304(b), (e)	8 of 8
Public Records Act standards do apply to charter schools. Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 21-3-304(b), (e)	8 of 8
Conflict-of-interest and ethics requirements do apply to charter school boards. Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 21-3-304(b), (e)	7 of 7
Charter schools are subject to regular audits. Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 21-3-307(a)(viii)	7 of 7
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Charter schools are authorized only by a single local public agency such as the school district. Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 21-3-308(a)	13 of 13
An appeal of a local authorization decision is not limited to procedural grounds. Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 21-3-310(b)(iv)	0 of 6
A limited assessment of the fiscal impact of opening a charter school is required prior to authorization. Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 21-3-308(c)	2 of 6
<b>QUALITY</b>	
Charter educators are required to be certified. Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 21-3-308(h)	8 of 8
Virtual charter schools are not excluded from authorization. N/A	0 of 10
No provision for authorizers to be evaluated/sanctioned. N/A	0 of 6
Charter students are subject to state assessments. Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 21-3-308(g)	6 of 6
<b>Total points: 59 out of 100</b>	

<sup>6</sup> Wyoming's law is ambiguous with respect to this criterion. It states that "[a]ny person may apply" to open a charter school. "Person" is not defined in the charter law. Because "person" could include for-profit entities, Wyoming received zero points for this criterion.

# ENDNOTES

## **\*ALASKA**

This Report evaluates solely state legislation. It does not reflect how that legislation is implemented. Alaska's charter statute is silent on many of the factors evaluated in this Report. Such silence did not garner points for the statute, but it has allowed for favorable implementation. Our affiliate reports that no charter schools in Alaska are operated by for-profit entities and all charter schools are part of their local district, rather than acting as separate employers. Thus, all charter educators have a voice at work through their NEA-Alaska local union. Charter authorization decisions are, as a matter of practice, made locally. These realities on the ground line up with the requirements of the Policy Statement, but are not reflected in Alaska's grade. Where Alaska is strong in statute, as it is on charter accountability, the statute received full credit.

## **\*\*CALIFORNIA**

Research for this Report concluded on November 9, 2018. However, a notable piece of California legislation has since passed. Senate Bill 126, signed into law on March 5, 2019, requires charter schools to comply with California's open meetings law, Open Records Act, and the conflict of interest provisions of California's Political Reform Act. The law will take effect January 1, 2020.

# NEA POLICY STATEMENT ON CHARTER SCHOOLS

*Adopted by the 2017 Representative Assembly July 4, 2017*

## Introduction

Charter schools were initially promoted by educators who sought to innovate within the local public school system to better meet the needs of their students. Over the last quarter of a century, charter schools have grown dramatically to include large numbers of charters that are privately managed, largely unaccountable, and not transparent as to their operations or performance. The explosive growth of charters has been driven, in part, by deliberate and wellfunded efforts to ensure that charters are exempt from the basic safeguards and standards that apply to public schools, which mirror efforts to privatize other public institutions for profit.

Charters have grown the most in school districts that were already struggling to meet students' needs due to longstanding, systemic and ingrained patterns of institutional neglect, racial and ethnic segregation, inequitable school funding, and disparities in staff, programs and services. The result has been the creation of separate, largely unaccountable, privately managed charter school systems in those districts that undermine support and funding of local public schools. Such separate and unequal education systems are disproportionately located in, and harm, students and communities of color by depriving both of the high quality public education system that should be their right.

As educators we believe that "public education is the cornerstone of our social, economic, and political structure," NEA Resolution A-1, the very "foundation of good citizenship," and the fundamental prerequisite to every child's future success. *Brown v. Bd. of Ed. of Topeka, Shawnee Cty., Kan.*, 347 U.S. 483, 493 (1954). The growth of separate and unequal systems of charter schools that are not subject to the same basic safeguards and standards that apply to public schools threatens our students and our public education system. The purpose of this policy statement is to make plain NEA's opposition to the failed experiment of largely unaccountable privately managed charter schools while clarifying NEA's continued support for those public charter schools that are authorized and held accountable by local democratically elected school boards or their equivalent.

**I. NEA supports public charter schools that are authorized and held accountable by public school districts.** Charter schools serve students and the public interest when they are authorized and held accountable by the same democratically accountable local entity that authorizes other alternative school models in a public school district such as magnet, community, educator-led or other specialized schools. Such charters should be authorized only if they meet the substantive standards set forth in (a) below, and are authorized and held accountable

through a democratically controlled procedure as detailed in (b) below.

**a.** Public charter schools should be authorized by a public school district only if the charter is both necessary to meet the needs of students in the district and will meet those needs in a manner that improves the local public school system. Public charters, like all public schools, must provide students with a free, accessible, non-sectarian, quality education that is delivered subject to the same basic safeguards and standards as every other public school, namely, in compliance with: i) open meetings and public records laws; ii) prohibitions against for-profit operation or profiteering as enforced by conflict of interest, financial disclosure and auditing requirements; and iii) the same civil rights, including federal and state laws and protections for students with disabilities, employment, health, labor, safety, staff qualification and certification requirements as other public schools. When a charter is authorized in a public school district that has an existing collective bargaining agreement with its employees, the authorizer will ensure that the employees will be covered by a collective bargaining agreement. Those basic safeguards and standards protect public education as a public good that is not to be commodified for profit.

In addition, charter schools may be authorized or expanded only after a district has assessed the impact of the proposed charter school on local public school

resources, programs and services, including the district's operating and capital expenses, appropriate facility availability, the likelihood that the charter will prompt cutbacks or closures in local public schools, and consideration of whether other improvements in either educational program or school management (ranging from reduced class sizes to community or magnet schools) would better serve the district's needs. The district must also consider the impact of the charter on the racial, ethnic and socio-economic composition of schools and neighborhoods and on equitable access to quality services for all district students, including students with special needs and English language learners. The impact analysis must be independent, developed with community input, and be written and publicly available.

**b.** Public charter schools should only be authorized by the same local, democratically accountable entity that oversees all district schools such as a locally elected school board or, if there is no school board, a community-based charter authorizer accountable to the local community.

Maintaining local democratic control over decisions as to whether to authorize charters at all, and if so, under what conditions, safeguards community engagement in local public schools. A single local authorizing entity also ensures comprehensive consideration of whether each option, and the mix of options offered in a district, meets the needs of students and the com-

munity as a whole given the resources and facilities in the district. A single entity also permits effective integrated oversight of all schools, including charter schools, and a central mechanism for identifying and sharing successful innovations throughout local public schools.

The overall goal of the authorization and review process must be to improve the education offered to all students. That goal cannot be accomplished with a diffuse authorization system, comprised of multiple different entities, with differing partial views of the students served by a district and the overall scope of its educational offerings.

The local authorizer also must ensure that parents are provided with the same information about charters that is provided to parents about other district schools, as well as information about any significant respects in which the charter departs from district norms in its operations including the actual charter of the school.

The state's role in charter authorization and oversight should be limited to ensuring that local school districts only authorize charters that meet the criteria in (a) above and do so by way of a procedure that complies with (b). To that end, the state should both monitor the performance of districts as charter authorizers and hold districts accountable for providing effective oversight and reporting regarding the quality, finances and performance of any charters authorized by the district. In addition, the state must

provide adequate resources and training to support high quality district charter authorization practices and compliance work, and to share best authorization practices across a state. States should entertain appeals from approvals or denials of charters only on the narrow grounds that the local process for approving a charter was not properly followed or that the approval or denial of a charter was arbitrary or illegal.

c. Unless both the basic safeguards and process detailed above are met, no charter school should be authorized and NEA will support state and local moratoriums on further charter authorizations in the school district.

**II. NEA opposes as a failed and damaging experiment unaccountable privately managed charters.** Charters that do not comply with the basic safeguards and standards detailed above and that are not authorized by the local school board (or its equivalent) necessarily undermine local public schools and harm the public education system.

The theory that charter competition will improve public schools has been conclusively refuted. Charters have a substantial track record that has been assessed in numerous research studies. Those studies document that charters, on average, do no better than public schools in terms of student learning, growth or development. And those charters that do perform better are not incorporated into district-wide school improvement efforts.

In fact, at their worst, charters inflict significant harms on both students and communities. Of the charter schools that opened in 2000, a full fifth had closed within five years of opening and a full third had closed by 2010. Because the very opening of charters often prompts cutbacks and/or closures in local public schools, these alarmingly high charter closure rates subject students and communities to cycles of damaging disruption. Such disruption can leave students stranded mid-year. Even closures that occur at the year's end disrupt students' education and unmoors communities that previously had been anchored by the local public school.

Charters that are not subject to the basic safeguards and standards detailed above also open up the local public schools to profiteers. Such charters operate without any effective oversight, draining public school resources and thereby further harming local public schools and the students and communities they serve.

Finally, one particular form of unaccountable privately managed charters deserves specific discussion. Fully virtual or online charter schools cannot, by their nature, provide students with a well-rounded, complete educational experience, including optimal kinesthetic, physical, social and emotional development. Accordingly, they should not be authorized as charter schools.

### **III. Organizing Communities for Quality Public Education**

NEA stands for our students wherever they are educated. Relegating students and communities to unaccountable privately managed schools that do not comply with the basic

safeguards and standards detailed above has created separate systems of charters that are inherently unequal. To counter the threat to public education of such charters, NEA supports both communities organizing for quality public education and educators working together to improve charter schools.

**a.** NEA supports communities that are working to hold charters accountable whether that work takes the form of state legislative initiatives, local school board resolutions and actions, or efforts to raise local awareness of the need for charters to comply with the basic safeguards and standards detailed above. NEA also will support state and local efforts to preserve public school funding and services by eliminating such funding and services from unaccountable privately managed charters that do not comply with those basic safeguards and standards.

**b.** NEA believes that all educators deserve the right to collective voice and representation, and that an organized workforce is a better guardian of quality standards for students and educators alike. For that reason, state affiliates that seek to organize charter schools may continue to seek NEA's assistance in those organizing efforts.

