

# WASHINGTON STATE CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION RELEASES CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATION FOR SCHOOLS OPENING IN 2019-2020

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## COMMISSION EAGERLY AWAITS PROPOSALS FOR SCHOOL OPENINGS IN FALL 2019

The Washington State Charter School Commission begins its new round of charter school authorizations with the release of the New Charter School Application Friday, September 22, 2017.

The upcoming application cycle seeks proposals for schools opening in Fall 2019. As with previous application cycles, the Commission seeks applicants who wish to embody the Commission’s mission, namely to create “...high quality schools that will significantly improve student outcomes, particularly for at-risk students.” The Commission anticipates a variety of applicants to rise to the challenge and the need, from local startups to experienced national operators. We encourage all interested to apply.

The New Charter School Application release initiates an eight-month process, concluding June 21, 2018 with the Commission’s decision to authorize charter school applicants. Along the way, applicants will submit a Notice of Intent to Apply by December 1, 2017 followed by a full proposal due March 29, 2018. From there, applicants will engage in in-person interviews in early May 2018. The final step includes public forums held in mid-May, allowing applicants to address the community their school is designed to serve, and for community and public input.

The Commission will host four full-day application orientations for those interested in applying; these orientations were extremely well attended last year, and are helpful for those considering applying, even if it is beyond the 2019-2020 school year. The first orientation will be held on Wednesday, September 27, from 8:30 am – 4:30 pm at the Washington Public Utility Districts Association (2<sup>nd</sup> floor: Board Room), 212 Union Avenue SE, Olympia, WA 98501. For more info about these and future learning opportunities, please visit [www.charterschool.wa.gov/applying/](http://www.charterschool.wa.gov/applying/)

## **About Washington State’s Charter School Commission**

Washington State’s Charter School Commission was formed with the mission of creating a rigorous and comprehensive proposal process and to hold charters accountable to high standards of quality. The Commission is an independent state agency that exists to authorize and oversee high quality public charter schools throughout Washington with an emphasis on schools designed to expand opportunities for at-risk students, providing leadership and oversight that is consistent with national principles and standards of charter school authorizers and the provisions of Washington’s charter school law.

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