

For Immediate Release:

August 18, 2017

Contact:

Alyce McNeil

Alyce.McNeil@k12.wa.us

Joshua Halsey

Joshua.Halsey@k12.wa.us

Office: (360) 725-5511

NEW CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO OPEN IN WA STATE

The first day of school for middle-school aged students will happen in two new charter public schools. [Rainier Valley Leadership Academy](#) in Seattle will welcome an inaugural group of 6th graders, while [Summit Atlas](#) in West Seattle will open its doors for 6th and 9th grade students.

“This is an exciting occasion for charter school families,” said Joshua Halsey, Executive Director of Washington’s Charter School Commission, who has authorization and oversight of Washington Charter Public Schools. “These two schools will be great assets in their communities as they foster innovation and academic excellence.”

Collectively, these two schools will accommodate 310 students initially, and at full capacity in all grade levels will accommodate up to 1850 by 2020. With these openings, Washington currently has 9 charter public schools, and more than 2000 students attending Commission-authorized charter public schools. To explore a charter public school for your child, go to the [Commission website](#) to locate and contact a charter public school near you.

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.

###
