

NEW CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATION UPDATES

April 1, 2020

Updates to the New Charter School Application

Substantive changes to the New Charter School Application and Evaluation Rubric include:

- Promoting inclusionary language by reframing “special populations” as “diverse learners” and amending language throughout the application to be more inclusive.
- Requesting a description of a “day in the life” of multiple students to illustrate how schools will meet the unique needs of different student populations.
- Clarifying expectations around curriculum development, particularly for applicants proposing complex models.
- Using several other high-quality authorizers’ applications as exemplars, Section 10: Supports for Diverse Learners and At-Risk Students, was streamlined and additional criteria was included.
- Revising Section 21: Staffing Plans, Hiring, Management, and Evaluation in response to lessons learned from recent school closures.
- Additional information requested about charter management organizations or operators with multiple schools.

Other changes consisted of:

- Clarifying the administrative elements and expectations of the application process and submission.
- Eliminating duplications/redundancies in the information requested in the application.
- Eliminating typos and grammatical errors.