

Charter School Application

Process **Revised 9/01/24**

An applicant shall submit a letter of intent at least **(90) ninety days** before submitting an application to the board of trustees or area commission from which it is seeking sponsorship and a copy to the South Carolina Department of Education.



Application is submitted to charter sponsor and a copy to the SCDE Charter Schools Office. **Applications are due on February 1, 2025.** The sponsor shall rule on the application for a charter school in a public hearing, upon reasonable public notice, within **(90) ninety days** after receiving the application. The sponsor may request clarifying or additional information from the applicant during the review. **(90) ninety days**

The applicant shall notify the local delegation of a county in which a proposed charter school is to be located upon submission of a charter school application and also shall provide a copy of the charter school application upon request by a member of the local delegation.



The sponsor approves the charter school application. (A local school board may appeal a decision of the SCPCSD based upon adverse impact as defined by SBE Regulation 43-601)



APPROVED CHARTER SCHOOL USES THE FOLLOWING YEAR TO PREPARE FOR OPENING

Before a charter school may open, the State Department of Education shall verify the accuracy of the financial data for the school within **(45) forty-five days** after approval.

EXAMPLE: A Charter School submits application on February 1, 2025 and receives approval from the sponsor. The Charter School would be in “planning” during the 2025-2026 school year and would open during the 2026-2027 school year.



The sponsor denies the application and provides a written explanation of the reason(s). **(10) ten days**



A final decision of the sponsor may be appealed by any party to the Administrative Law Court as provided in Sections 1-23-380(B) and 1-23-600(D).



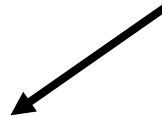
Applicant appeals to ALC **(45) forty-five days**
ALC hears the appeal. (TBD)
ALC issues a final written order. (TBD)



ALC reverses sponsor’s decision



ALC affirms sponsor’s board decision. **School not approved. Application process ended.**



“TBD” is listed with certain parts of the ALC process because the time frame is determined by ALC rules for submission of documents and ALC case load.