

PROCEDURE FOR CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATIONS AND PROPOSALS

This policy is intended to govern the consideration of all applications or charter school proposals submitted to the District for consideration.

Preference shall be given to proposals that demonstrate a high level of local pupil, parental, community, business, and school personnel support; set rigorous levels of expected pupil achievement and demonstrate feasible plans for attaining those levels of achievement; and are designed to enroll and serve a substantial proportion of at-risk children; provided that nothing in the Charter Schools Law shall be construed as intended to limit the establishment of charter schools to those that serve a substantial portion of at-risk children or to in any manner restrict, limit, or discourage the establishment of charter schools that enroll and serve other pupil populations under a nonexclusive, nondiscriminatory admissions policy.

Submission of charter school proposals

All charter school proposals are to be submitted to the Superintendent no later than September 1 of the school year preceding the proposed open date of the proposed charter school. The Superintendent, or designee, shall review the submission for completeness and compliance with the District's rubric criteria for all charter school proposals and compliance with all requirements set forth in the Illinois Charter Schools Law.

Within 30 days, the Superintendent shall send written notification by certified mail to the applicant of any deficiencies in the proposal. The applicant shall correct, amend, or resubmit a new proposal that complies with and conforms to the District's rubric requirements and/or legal requirements for all submissions. Failure to submit proposals which comprehensively address all of the requirements may result in the denial of the proposal.

Board of Education Consideration of Proposal

Within 45 days of receipt of a complete charter school proposal, the school board shall convene a public meeting to obtain information to assist the board in its decision to grant or deny the charter school proposal. The proponent's failure to provide the requested information may result in denial of the proposal.

Within 30 days of the public meeting, the school board shall vote, in a public meeting, to either grant or deny the charter school proposal. Within 7 days of the public meeting, the school board shall file a report with the State Board granting or denying the proposal. If the proposal is denied, the report shall state the reasons for the denial. A copy of the report shall be provided to the charter school proponent via certified mail with return receipt requested.

Notice requirements and procedure

Notice of the public meeting shall be published in a community newspaper published in the school district. If there is no such newspaper, then in a newspaper published in the county and having circulation in the school district.

All notices required by law shall be published not more than 10 days nor less than 5 days before the meeting and shall state that information regarding a charter school proposal will be heard at the meeting. Copies of the notice shall also be posted at appropriate locations in the local school board office.

LEGAL REFERENCE: Illinois Charter Schools Law, 105 ILCS 5/27A
Illinois Charter Schools Law, 105 ILCS 5/27A-7
Illinois Charter Schools Law, 105 ILCS 5/27A-8

ADOPTED: