

Brevard Public Schools Charter Technical Assistance Meeting

Frequently Asked Questions

6-16-11

Does the budget require a 5% contingency? Is there a best practice threshold for the % of total revenue as a contingency plan?

There is no requirement for the charter application budget to have a 5% contingency. The District believes it is “best practice” to maintain a 3% reserve.

Should the curriculum portion contain NGSSS, common core, or EOC?

It should be evident from reading the application that the applicant is knowledgeable of the various standards that will impact the delivery of instruction. The applicant should address how it will transition to the new standards and align the curriculum to ensure student academic progress.

Will the Technical Assistance Papers (TAP) regarding course code changes be sent to the charter applicants by the School Office?

The District does not supply the array of technical assistance papers issued annually by the Florida Department of Education. The applicant is encouraged to visit the DOE website to become familiar with the latest mandates and/or changes to curriculum and instruction. In addition, the applicant should be knowledgeable of the latest legislative changes that will impact curriculum and instruction and other pertinent areas of operation as applicable to charter schools.

How will Senate Bill 736 affect pay for performance for teachers?

Senate Bill 736 applies to all schools, including charter schools. Subsequently, the applicant should address the provisions of this bill in the charter application.

What are the top three reasons for a charter application to be denied? What percentage of the applications is approved? What percent are denied? What is the ratio of approved to denied?

The most common reasons a charter school application is not approved include:

- Cut and paste applications that reference the wrong name of the school, incorrect budget for grade level configuration, and/or reference to another district.
- Unbalanced budget.
- Lack of developed research-based curriculum to serve all students.
- Inappropriate measurements of student academic progress for students being served in every grade level specified in the charter application.

The District approves “quality” charter applications and the percentage of charter applications approved annually varies.

How many applications are received (on average) during any given year?

The District receives an average of three to five charter applications annually. However, there have been years in which the District did not receive any charter applications.

Please contact the Office of School Choice at 321-633-1000 if you have additional questions.