

---

**Quality Charter Authorizing Standards Policy 6.111**

---

**The Background:**

Pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-13-108, charter school authorizers are required to adopt policies and practices aligned to the State Board of Education’s quality charter school authorizing standards. This policy contains the standards for essential practices that govern the day-to-day operation of charter authorizers in the state. Additionally, these standards serve as the foundation of the charter school authorizer evaluation conducted by the State Board in accordance with § T.C.A. 49-13-145.

The standards within this policy were developed in collaboration with the National Association of Charter School Authorizers (NACSA) and were originally adopted by the State Board in 2018. The State Board is committed to regularly evaluating the standards to ensure they are aligned to national best practices and the needs of Tennessee.

Upon completion of the State Board’s first full authorizer evaluation cycle, State Board staff reviewed the policy for additional opportunities for clarity and evaluation streamlining. Additionally, State Board staff held an in-person workshop with authorizers on January 11, 2023 to review and finalize the proposed changes.

Changes to the policy include:

- A reorganization to group together relevant authorizing responsibilities and eliminate duplicative standards;
- Incorporated the advanced bonus standards into the full set of required standards;
- Consolidated standards that are achieved through required use of the state’s charter school application and rubric;
- Added language to require the key authorizing responsibilities, such as application review, monitoring and oversight, renewal, and revocation be documented in board-approved policies; and
- Added a standard for amendment petition review and decision-making.

**Connection to the [Master Plan](#):**

This item supports the State Board’s strategic focus on Engagement and Accountability outlined in the Master Plan by ensuring authorizers are held accountable to high quality and meaningful authorizing standards that are grounded in best practice, State Board rule and policy, and state law.

**The Recommendation:**

State Board staff recommends acceptance of this item on first reading.