
Charter School Authorizer Evaluations Policy 6.113

The Background:

Pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-13-145, the State Board is charged with ensuring the effective operation of authorizers in the state and shall evaluate authorizer quality. The State Board conducts periodic evaluations of authorizers to determine compliance with state law, State Board rules, and State Board policy 6.111 – Quality Charter Authorizing Standards. An authorizer’s failure to remedy non-compliance may result in the reduction of the authorizer fee.

This policy is presented as a companion policy to State Board Rule 0520-14-01-.08 and provides further explanation and detail regarding authorizer evaluation cohorts and timeline, the evidence considered in an evaluation, and the evaluation ratings and corresponding follow-up actions. Additionally, this policy includes the charter school authorizer evaluation rubric as Appendix A.

Since first reading, no substantive changes were made to the policy itself. The only proposed changes are in Appendix A to align with the proposed changes to State Board Policy 6.111. The proposed changes include:

- Clarifying language to further align with best practices;
- Updates to align with recent changes made to NACSA’s principles and standards;
- Combining funding accountability with expectations for how an authorizer structures and protects its work from conflicts of interest generally; and
- Adding an expectation of a high-stakes interim review to be conducted in the fifth (5th) year of a charter term, as required in state law.

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 approval of this item on final reading.