
Quality Charter School 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 for quality charter school authorizing standards, as approved by the State Board of Education. This policy contains the standards for essential practices that shall govern the day-to-day operation of charter authorizers in the state.

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.

State Board staff gathered additional feedback from authorizers and national charter school consultants between first and final reading and propose the following changes:

- 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.