



Strategic Plan Update

As a trusted partner, the Charter Commission provides access and support to excellent charter schools through rigorous oversight, transparency, and accountability.

The Commission has adopted the Agency's Strategic Plan which will guide our work for the next three years. This document outlines the progress of the Commission on our Strategic Plan.

Strategic Priority #1: High Quality Charter Schools: Authorize high-quality and high-performing charter schools that improve outcomes for Tennessee students.

- Highlights
 - **Renewal Criteria:** The Commission established renewal criteria for its authorized charter schools with a focus on clear and compelling academic, operational, and financial data that merits a new ten-year charter term.
 - **Direct Application Pathway:** Significant progress was made on the direct application pathway, including collaboration with the Tennessee State Board of Education on revisions to the application.
- Point of Focus
 - **Pre-Opening Readiness:** We continue to collaborate closely with our pre-opening schools to address the complexities involving schools remaining on track with established benchmarks with a noted emphasis on facilities, enrollment and staffing all of which directly impact financial preparedness.

Strategic Priority #2: Strong Operational Effectiveness: Achieve student success by providing effective operational support in addition to rigorous oversight and guidance.

- Highlights
 - **Completion of Risk Assessment:** The Commission has completed its comprehensive risk assessment of all schools. This process involves analyzing state and federal program data to evaluate risk levels and categorize schools into one of three tiers. These tiers determine the level of support each school receives from the Commission. By streamlining this assessment, we reduce the administrative burden and enhance our capacity to provide more targeted and effective support.
 - **2025-26 School Year Trainings:** The Commission developed a series of twenty-five online training sessions aimed at offering enhanced support for schools and staff in the 2025-26 school year. Training topics range from Student Information System 101 to School Safety and Personnel and Licensure Reporting.

- **Annual Procedure Review:** The annual procedure review encompassed over 40 LEA procedures and included updates such as new points of contact, new processes, updated checklists, and clarifications on a number of plans.
- Point of Focus
 - **Expanded Portfolio:** The Commission continually assesses needs across the team to effectively support the district’s annual growth.

Strategic Priority #3: Community and Stakeholder Engagement: Build and cultivate strong relationships with schools, operators, and communities.

- Highlights
 - **Responsive State Agency:** Our team is dedicated to providing exceptional service to schools, districts, and partner agencies. We consistently receive positive feedback for our responsiveness and collaborative mindset.
 - **Expanded Communication Channels:** The Commission disseminates a bi-weekly newsletter to inform schools of requirements and deadlines. Additionally, the Commission plans to roll out a new systematized and formal complaint process for families and community members.
- Point of Focus
 - **Balancing Accountability with Autonomy:** Striking the right balance between holding schools accountable and to high standards while reducing administrative burden and fostering a supportive environment.

Strategic #4: Agency Oversight: Maintain excellence in functions as a state agency by ensuring prudent fiscal management, transparent operations, and strong engagement with the administration and Tennessee General Assembly.

- Highlights
 - **Successful Legislative Session:** During the legislative session, we achieved significant milestones by thoroughly preparing our members, providing comprehensive bill analyses, and promptly sharing key updates with schools.
 - **Annual Policy Review:** The annual policy review encompassed over ninety LEA policies, representing a substantial effort for the team for the review and updating process.
- Point of Focus



- **Public Chapter 275:** Public Chapter 275 passed during the recent legislative session, making various changes to the Tennessee Public Charter Schools Act of 2022. Our team is working with the Tennessee State Board of Education to begin implementation.