

TENNESSEE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION		
REVENUE AND SCHOOL FEES		2400
ADOPTED: April 9, 2021	REVISED: July 28, 2023	MONITORING: Review: Annually

An authorized charter school may receive funds collected from activities and for events held at or in connection with the school, including contracts with other schools for interschool events. To be included in this accounting are all monies collected from athletics, entertainment, school clubs, fees, concessions, stores, gifts, vending machines and all fund-raising activities.¹ All funds collected by a school shall be properly receipted and documented in accordance with the Tennessee Internal School Uniform Accounting Policy Manual.

The purchase of items intended for resale for profit through the school shall be subject to sales tax based on the purchase price of the vendor providing the service or item. Resale activities, as defined in T.C.A. § 49-6-102(83), not intended to generate a profit shall be conducted at the discretion of the school leader or designated financial officer.

School funds are not considered to include those of organizations composed of parents and teachers or parents and students working in coordination, including, but not limited to, appropriately organized and approved school support organizations.

Fees. In keeping with the establishment of free public schools in Tennessee, all necessary elements of any school activity, which constitute an internal fundamental part of elementary and secondary education, shall be provided free of charge to students. In the event that it becomes necessary to collect fees from pupils enrolled in certain academic subjects or engaged in certain enrichment activities to maintain the desired instructional and activities program in each school center, school fees may be collected and then expended only for the purposes for which they were collected. No fees or tuition shall be required of any student as a condition to attend the school or use its equipment. No student shall be penalized for nonpayment of any materials fee.²

Fee Waivers. The school shall adopt a policy by which to waive school fees for verified students that comply with all state laws and regulations.³

Fines. The school shall adopt a policy for implementation and collection of fines in accordance with state law.⁴

Grants. As defined: a “grant” refers to financial resources that are awarded to a school, department, or individual (“grantee”) based upon a request or application for funding. Grant awards are usually designated for specific purposes and are generally accompanied by a statement of terms and conditions that guide the grantee in the use of these funds.

Grants for educational purposes made available by the state and/or federal government may be sought by the school when the conditions of their availability are in alignment with the purposes and policies of the school and the laws of the state and county. Schools are encouraged to apply for federal funds appropriated specifically for the support of public charter schools.

Each school shall adopt a policy detailing its grant management procedures, regarding applications, specific types of grants, and the receipt of grant awards.⁵ Grant management procedures adopted by the school shall comply with the Commission's policies and procedures for the administration and implementation of federal programs. It is the responsibility of the school to apply for and receive desired grants. The school shall incur all obligations and responsibilities to expend the grant funds in accordance with the stated purposes and conditions of the award. Legally restricted donations or allocations to individual schools must be used in accordance with the stipulations placed on their use by the contributor. Any grant received by a school, with the exception of certain state or federal pass-through/sub-recipient grants (grants that are allocated to the district and passed through to schools or grants that allow the district to withhold a portion of funds for specified purposes), shall become property of that school and the Commission shall have no title to the award.

Receipt of any grants shall be reported to the Commission as outlined in the adopted Commission reporting calendar.⁶

Legal References:

¹ T.C.A. § 49-2-110(a); T.C.A. § 49-2-110(b)
²T.C.A. § 49-6-3001(a); T.C.A. § 49-6-3003;
T.C.A. § 49-13-111(k); TRR/MS 0520-01-03-.03(14)

³ T.C.A. § 49-2-114; TRR/MS 0520-01-03-.03 (14)

⁴ T.C.A. § 37-10-101 - 102;
TRR/MS 0520-01-03-.03(15)

⁵ T.C.A. § 49-2-203(b)(15)

⁶ T.C.A. § 49-13-112

Cross References:

Tennessee Internal School Uniform
Section 4-40
School Support Organizations 2404