

Charter Application Review Process and Criteria for Review

In accordance with MCL 380.503, an authorizing body is not required to issue a contract to any person or entity. Public school academy contracts shall be issued on a competitive basis, taking into consideration the proposed curriculum, resources available, population to be served, the applicant's track record in organizing schools, the graduation rate of the district in which the proposed school may be located, the proximity of low achieving schools, and the number of students on waiting lists of school in proximity to the proposed school.

1. The Charter Schools Office will accept applications at any time and competitively review them on a quarterly basis by a team of university experts and community stakeholders.
2. The Committee shall conduct a thorough review of the charter applications with the objective of awarding a charter to applicants that can demonstrate the greatest probability of establishing and operating a quality charter school and its capacity to implement that plan.
3. In addition to the items listed in the introductory paragraph, the criteria the Committee will use to determine their decision are:
 - Does the application clearly explain how the school will demonstrate academic success?
 - Does the application demonstrate organizational viability?
 - Does the application demonstrate a sound fiscal plan?
 - Does the application demonstrate how the school is in the best interest of the students and community that it proposes to serve?
4. The Committee will communicate in writing to all applicants its decision concerning the status of the application and will identify if the applicant is: 1) denied, or 2) invited to move forward to the Phase II application discussions.
5. Applicants selected to move to Phase II will be required to meet with the Committee at a mutually convenient date and time. The meeting will allow for Committee members to ask clarifying questions and for the University to describe its rigorous requirements for charter schools it authorizes.
6. The GVSU Charter Schools Office reserves the right to modify this process and timeline.