



Illinois State Board of Education


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Chair of the Board

Dr. Carmen I. Ayala
State Superintendent of Education

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable William E. Brady, Senate Minority Leader
The Honorable John J. Cullerton, Senate President
The Honorable Jim Durkin, House Minority Leader
The Honorable Michael J. Madigan, Speaker of the House
The Honorable JB Pritzker, Governor

FROM: Dr. Carmen I. Ayala 
State Superintendent of Education

DATE: January 6, 2020

SUBJECT: Illinois State Board of Education Biennial Charter School Report

The Illinois Charter School Biennial Report is submitted in compliance with Section 27A-12 of the Illinois Charter Schools Law (105 ILCS 5/27A-12). It provides information on the Illinois charter school sector for school years 2017-18 and 2018-19.

This report is transmitted on behalf of the State Superintendent of Education. For additional copies of this report or for more specific information, please contact Amanda Elliott, Executive Director, Legislative Affairs at (217) 782-6510 or aelliott@isbe.net.

cc: Tim Anderson, Secretary of the Senate
John W. Hollman, Clerk of the House
Legislative Research Unit
State Government Report Center

2017-18 2018-19

ILLINOIS CHARTER SCHOOL BIENNIAL REPORT

Dr. Carmen I. Ayala, State Superintendent of Education
Darren Reisberg, Chair of the Board



Illinois
State Board of
Education

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1. Charter Schools Background

Charter schools are public schools governed by an independent board of directors that come into existence through a contract with an authorized public chartering agency. The charter — or contract — establishes the framework within which the school operates and provides public support for the school for a specified term. The charter may be renewed or revoked at the end of the contract term.

Charter schools have been part of the Illinois public education system since April 1996, when the General Assembly passed its first charter law, the 20th in the nation.ⁱ The Illinois Charter Schools Law, Public Act 89-450, codified at 105 ILCS 5/27A-1 et seq. (effective April 10, 1996), specifies that school districts are the primary authorizers of charter schools. Section 27A-2 [105 ILCS 5/27A-2] sets forth the intent of the Charter Schools Law as follows:

[T]o create a legitimate avenue for parents, teachers, and community members to take responsible risks and create new, innovative, and more flexible ways of educating children within the public school system. The General Assembly seeks to create opportunities within the public school system of Illinois for development of innovative and accountable teaching techniques.

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) has promulgated a set of regulations at Part 650 of the 23 Illinois Administrative Code to implement the Charter Schools Law, where necessary. The regulations outline procedures for the review, submission, and execution of charter agreements; the certification of charters; biennial reporting requirements; the monitoring of charter school authorizers; appeals of local school board decisions to deny a charter application or close a charter schoolⁱⁱ; and closing procedures for charter schools. Such regulations also define principles and standards for authorizing charter schools.

Charter schools are afforded significant flexibility under the Charter Schools Law to help them meet their goals. The law exempts charter schools from most mandates and restrictions applicable to public schools and school districts; laws applicable to charter schools are generally those designed to protect the well-being and privacy of students and staff. A charter school is operated by an independent governing board, and each charter school has complete autonomy over its educational plan and operations, provided that it adheres to the terms and conditions of its charter. Key components of the charter school's education plan, such as curriculum, staffing, professional development, length of school day and year, and "seat time," are left to the discretion of the charter school. In exchange for autonomy and flexibility in operations, charter schools are subject to rigorous accountability standards set forth by the charter authorizer and can be closed if they are not performing or meeting their contractual obligations.

ISBE monitors charter schools and authorizers on an ongoing basis and by statute must compile information and data on the charter school sector into a single report every two years. This report, known as the Illinois Charter School Biennial Report, provides law and policymakers, educators, and the general public with information regarding the state of Illinois' charter schools. In compliance with Section 27A-12 of the Charter Schools Law [105 ILCS 5/27A-12], it contains information that (i) compares the academic performance of charter school students to the performance of their peers in traditional public schools, (ii) analyzes whether or not exemption from certain regulations allows charter schools to better meet their stated goals and objectives, and (iii) recommends any changes to the Charter School

Law. This report also includes authorizer-specific information for each authorizer in the state, including (i) the authorizer’s strategic vision for chartering and progress toward achieving that vision; (ii) the status of each authorizer’s charter school portfolio; and (iii) the authorizing functions provided by the authorizer to the charter schools under its purview, including its operating costs and expenses.

1.1 – Charter Landscape: Statutory and Regulatory Modifications

Of the charter legislation passed in the last two years, Senate Bill 1226 (Public Act 101-0543) is likely to have the most substantial impact on the charter school sector. This legislation abolishes the Illinois State Charter School Commission effective July 1, 2020. The Illinois State Charter School Commission’s existing charter schools will transfer to ISBE on that date. In addition, ISBE will assume responsibility for hearing and deciding appeals of local school board decisions to close an existing charter school, either through non-renewal or revocation of the school’s charter agreement.ⁱⁱⁱ The legislation also eliminated administrative appeal rights when a local school board denies an application to open a new charter school — these decisions can now only be appealed in circuit court. A final key legislative change provides that when a local school board closes a charter school through revocation or non-renewal, it must ensure that the displaced charter school students are placed in a higher-performing school. Local school boards will be challenged in defending any decision to close a charter school that is outperforming the schools the charter students would otherwise attend, even if the charter school has not met the academic performance expectations set forth in the charter agreement.

Other recent changes to the Charter Schools Law:

- **Public Act 100-0465**, or the Evidence-Based Funding for Student Success Act, went into effect August 31, 2017. This Act primarily concerns school district funding, but it also included a change to the funding level for charter schools. Whereas previously the law required that charter schools receive a per pupil amount of not less than 75 percent and not more than 125 percent of the local school district’s per capita tuition charge (PCTC), PA 100-0465 narrowed the funding range to not less than 97 percent and not more than 103 percent of the PCTC. Districts that had negotiated a charter school funding rate outside of this range had to work with their charter schools to ensure they were meeting the new funding requirements.
- **PA 101-0291** goes into effect January 1, 2020. This Act requires that charter school governing boards include at least one parent or guardian of a pupil currently enrolled in the charter school. This is currently the only School Code requirement dictating the composition of charter school governing boards. PA 101-0291 also imposes new training requirements for charter school governing board members. Any voting board member must now complete four hours of training within their first year as a board member (or by January 1, 2021), and they must complete two additional hours of training in each subsequent year of membership. The four-hour initial training requirement is consistent with the requirements for local school board members.

The General Assembly made other changes in law that are not specific to charter schools, but nonetheless impact charter school operations. One key example is PA 101-0531, which addresses educator misconduct and makes many changes in the School Code to better protect students, including mandating certain procedures for handling allegations of sexual abuse. This legislation imposes new requirements for all schools operating under the Illinois School Code, including charter schools.

In addition to these statutory changes, ISBE modified its rules implementing the Charter Schools Law [23 Ill. Admin. Code 650] in January 2018 to establish the procedures and criteria by which eligible charter schools can apply for funding under the Charter School Revolving Loan Program.

1.2 – Charter Landscape: Federal Charter Schools Program Grant

The U.S. Department of Education awarded ISBE a five-year federal Charter Schools Program State Education Agency (CSP SEA) Grant in the amount of \$42 million in September 2015. The grant’s primary purpose was to allow ISBE to award subgrants to assist with the opening of up to 48 new, high-quality charter schools in Illinois. The grant allowed ISBE to award funds to new charter schools to offset the costs of designing the charter school program prior to school opening (up to \$150,000) and for the initial startup costs for the first two years of the school’s operation (up to \$400,000 for each year). Additionally, ISBE could utilize a portion of the grant funds to facilitate the study and dissemination of charter school best practices in areas of student achievement or diversity (up to \$150,000 total over two years).

The original CSP grant called for the creation of 48 new charter schools (24 in Chicago and 24 in the remainder of the state). Factors such as the multi-year Illinois budget crisis and a moratorium on new charter school growth within the City of Chicago all contributed to significantly fewer charter school applications than were expected. In response, ISBE ultimately modified the terms of the grant to decrease the projected number of new charter schools from 48 to 27, resulting in a corresponding reduction in the total award amount.

Based on the number of applications submitted and the quality of applications, ISBE ultimately awarded just six charter school start-up subgrants totaling just under \$3 million. Additionally, ISBE awarded Dissemination of Best Practice subgrants to two charter schools, each in the amount of \$150,000. ISBE also used grant funds to contract with Measurement Inc. to evaluate best practices across the charter sector. The company first evaluated the dissemination activities of the two schools that received Dissemination subgrants and is currently reviewing charter school report card data and survey responses to identify best practices more broadly. This project will culminate with a database of charter school best practices in areas of student achievement and diversity to bolster sharing efforts between school districts and schools of all types.

1.3 – Charter Landscape: Facts at a Glance

Early growth in Illinois’ charter sector that was spurred by the passage of the charter law and subsequent increases to the charter cap has stalled in the last few years, but charter schools still play a significant role in Illinois’ public education system. There were 61 charters and 142 charter school campuses operating across the state during the 2018-19 school year. Most of the charter schools are in Chicago.

Charter Schools by Authorizer (as of the 2018-19 school year)

Each state’s charter law empowers different entities to “authorize” charter schools (i.e., approve, oversee, and determine whether a charter should remain open or close at the end of its contract). Since its inception in 1996, the Illinois Charter Schools Law has identified local school districts as the primary authorizer of charter schools. Currently, nine Illinois school districts have authorized at least one charter school. Table 1 lists these nine districts and their 2018-19 charter school/campus and charter student enrollment counts.

Table 1: Local School District Authorizers

Illinois School District Authorizers	Charter Schools	Charter Student Enrollment^{iv}
Chicago Public Schools District 299	41 (121 campuses)	56,447
City of Peoria School District 150	1	573
Community Unit School District 300	1	860
Decatur School District 61	1	323
East St. Louis School District 189	1	113
Independent Authority of North Chicago School District 187	2	652
McLean County Unit School District No. 5	1	42
Rockford School District 205	3	1,002
Springfield School District 186	1	397

The Illinois Charter Schools Law also allows for a state appeal route when the local school board closes an existing charter school through revocation or non-renewal of the charter contract. ISBE was responsible for deciding charter school appeals from 1996 through 2011. The Illinois General Assembly passed legislation in 2011 creating the Illinois State Charter School Commission, an independent state agency with statewide chartering jurisdiction and authority. Since that time, the Commission has had the responsibility to hear and decide charter school appeals and to oversee and make renewal decisions for charter schools approved through the state appeal process.

As of the 2018-19 school year, the Commission was the authorizer of nine schools (10 campuses), which together served 4,010 students from six different school districts. Those districts include School District U-46, Chicago Public Schools (CPS) District 299, Fremont Elementary SD 79, Rich Township SD 227, Waukegan CUSD 60, and Woodland CCSD 50.

As previously noted, recent legislation abolishes the Commission effective July 1, 2020. On that date, ISBE will assume responsibility and authority over the Commission’s existing portfolio of schools and will be responsible for hearing and deciding appeals of local school board decisions to close a charter school.

Charter School Performance Snapshot

Every public school in Illinois, including charter schools, receives an annual designation on the Illinois Report Card.^v The designation is based on the school’s overall data for all of the accountability indicators, as well as the data for individual student groups. Based on these factors, schools receive one of the following four designations: Exemplary, Commendable, Underperforming, and Lowest-Performing.^{vi} The rating system is done on a forced curve: Exemplary schools are schools that have a rank index score in the top 10 percent of all high schools or elementary schools across the state. Lowest-Performing schools are schools that have a rank index score in the bottom 5 percent of all high schools or elementary schools across the state.

- **Charter School Summative Designations 2017-18 (out of 131 campuses with 2017-18 rating)**
 - 2 Exemplary
 - 84 (64%) Commendable
 - 21 (16%) Underperforming
 - 24 (18%) Lowest-Performing

- **Charter School Summative Designations 2018-19 (out of 131 campuses with 2018-19 rating)^{vii}**
 - 1 Exemplary
 - 97 (74%) Commendable
 - 8 (6%) Underperforming
 - 25 (19%) Lowest-Performing

Charter schools receive state report cards with the same student performance data as all other public schools. What follows is a comparison of charter school student performance to the performance of students in traditional public schools (excluding charter schools) and in district-managed schools in CPS District 299.

- **2018 4-Year Graduation Rate:**
 - Among traditional public schools (excluding charter schools): 86.7%
 - Among all charter schools: 74.6%
 - Among CPS district-managed schools (excluding charter schools): 76.9%
 - Among CPS-authorized charter schools only: 74.2%
- **2018 5-Year Graduation Rate:**
 - Among traditional public schools (excluding charter schools): 88.0%
 - Among all charter schools: 64.0%
 - Among CPS district-managed schools (excluding charter schools): 81.3%
 - Among CPS-authorized charter schools only: 61.5%
- **2019 4-Year Graduation Rate:**
 - Among traditional public schools statewide (excluding charter schools): 86.7%
 - Among all charter schools: 74.7%
 - Among CPS district-managed schools (excluding charter schools): 77.0%
 - Among CPS-authorized charter schools only: 74.2%
- **2019 5-Year Graduation Rate:**
 - Among traditional public schools (excluding charter schools): 88.0%
 - Among all charter schools: 80.0%
 - Among CPS district-managed schools (excluding charter schools): 77.1%
 - Among CPS-authorized charter schools only: 79.9%
- **2018 High School Dropout Rate:**
 - Among traditional public schools (excluding charter schools): 1.9%
 - Among all charter schools: 6.2%
 - Among CPS district-managed schools (excluding charter schools): 4.1%
 - Among CPS-authorized charter schools only: 6.5%
- **2019 High School Dropout Rate:**
 - Among traditional public schools (excluding charter schools): 3.9%
 - Among all charter schools: 10.0%
 - Among CPS district-managed schools (excluding charter schools): 6.6%
 - Among CPS-authorized charter schools only: 10.3%

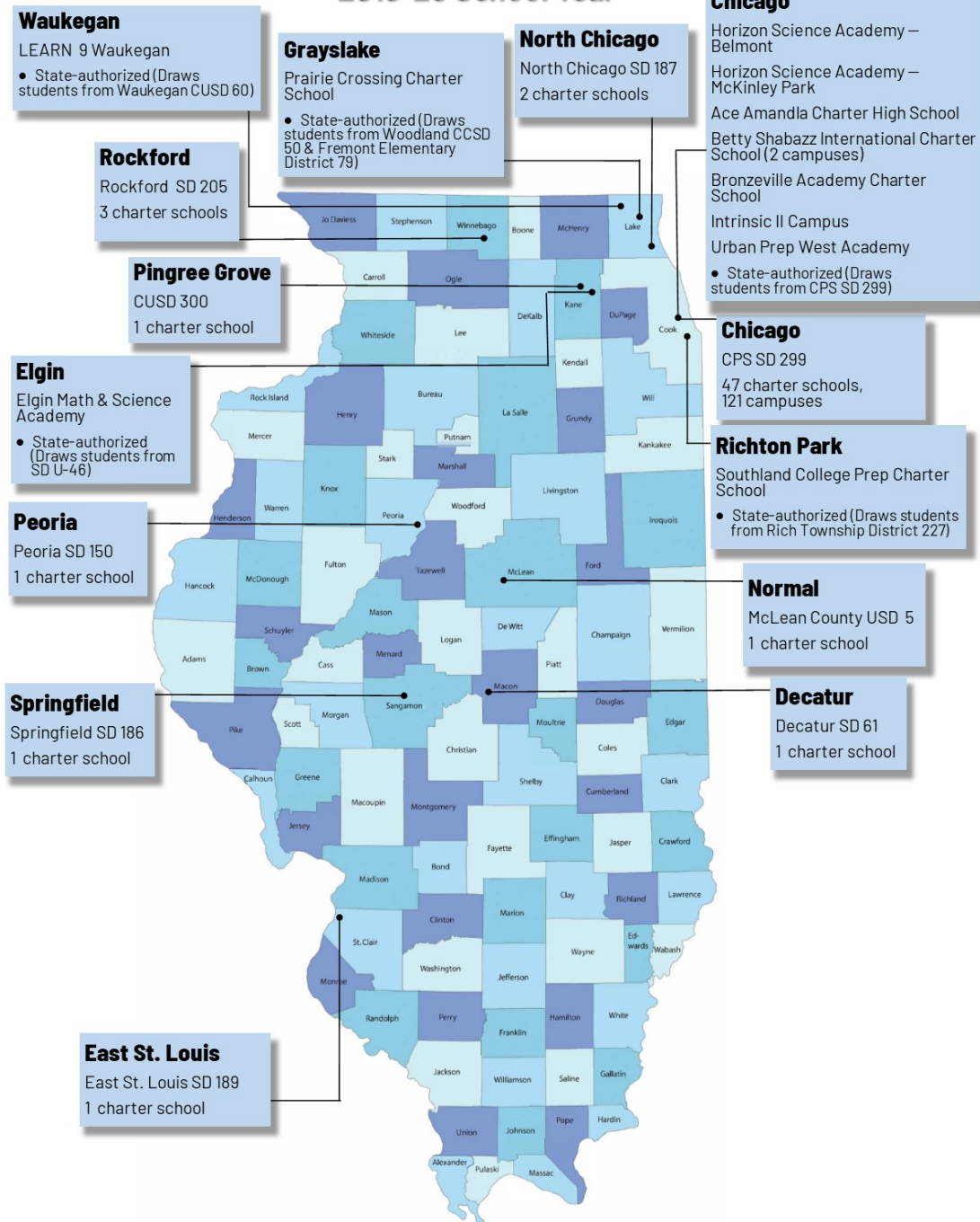
Future Charter School Growth

- CPS District 299 received six applications for new charter schools during the 2018 Request for Proposals (RFP) cycle (intent to apply form was due February 23, 2018, and final application was due October 1, 2018). Existing charter school operators seeking to open a second school submitted two of these applications.
 - Three of the applicants withdrew their applications before receiving a final decision by the Chicago Board of Education.
 - The Chicago Board of Education denied the other three applications. Two of those applicants — Intrinsic Schools (Intrinsic) and Chicago Education Partnership (CEP) — appealed their denials to the State Charter School Commission. The Commission approved Intrinsic’s application and denied CEP’s. Intrinsic II Charter School opened in Chicago in fall 2019.
- CPS District 299 received only one application to open a new charter school during the 2019 RFP cycle (intent to apply form was due February 22, 2019, and final application was due October 1, 2019). That applicant withdrew from consideration prior to a final decision.
- No district outside of Chicago issued a formal RFP for new charter school proposals in either 2018 or 2019. However, charter development teams submitted charter proposals to Springfield School District 186 (FY 2019), School District U-46 (FY 2018), and Champaign Community Unit School District 4 (FY 2018). All three districts denied the applications; the Springfield and U-46 development teams appealed to the Commission. The Commission approved the U-46 application, and the Springfield charter school development team withdrew its application prior to a final decision by the Commission. Elgin Math & Science Academy opened in SD U-46 in fall 2018.
- New charter schools that began operating in fall 2019:
 - Intrinsic II Charter School, Chicago (Commission-authorized)
 - Art in Motion Charter School, Chicago (CPS District 299-authorized)
- Future openings: None at this time, although the Springfield charter development team has been refining its proposal based on feedback from the first application cycle and plans to resubmit at a future date.

Figure 1: Charter School Locations in Illinois

Charter Schools in Illinois

2019-20 School Year



2. Number of Charter Schools and Enrollment Trends

The Illinois Charter Schools Law is structured to establish separate “caps” for the number of charter schools that may operate at one time in Chicago and in the remainder of the State. Since the law passed, the Illinois General Assembly has voted twice to increase the charter school cap for Chicago (from 15 to 30 in 2003 and from 30 to 75 in 2009 in response to Chicago reaching the cap in the preceding years). The increases included five charters (with up to 15 campuses each) devoted exclusively to students re-enrolling in high school after dropping out and students at risk of dropping out. The cap also increased in 2009 outside of Chicago, from 30 to 45. The number of charter schools grew steadily from one charter school in the 1996-97 school year to 60 charter schools (139 charter school campuses) in school year 2013-14. Charter school growth has slowed significantly over the last five years, in part due to fiscal and budget uncertainty at the State level. The State Board is reviewing how the current charter funding model may be a disincentive for local school districts that would otherwise consider innovations and the charter school model to better serve educationally-disadvantaged students.

Charter school growth information dating back to 1996 is available in prior year Charter School Biennial Reports, which can be found on ISBE’s [Charter School website](#).

Figure 2A: Growth in Number of Charter Schools Since 2010

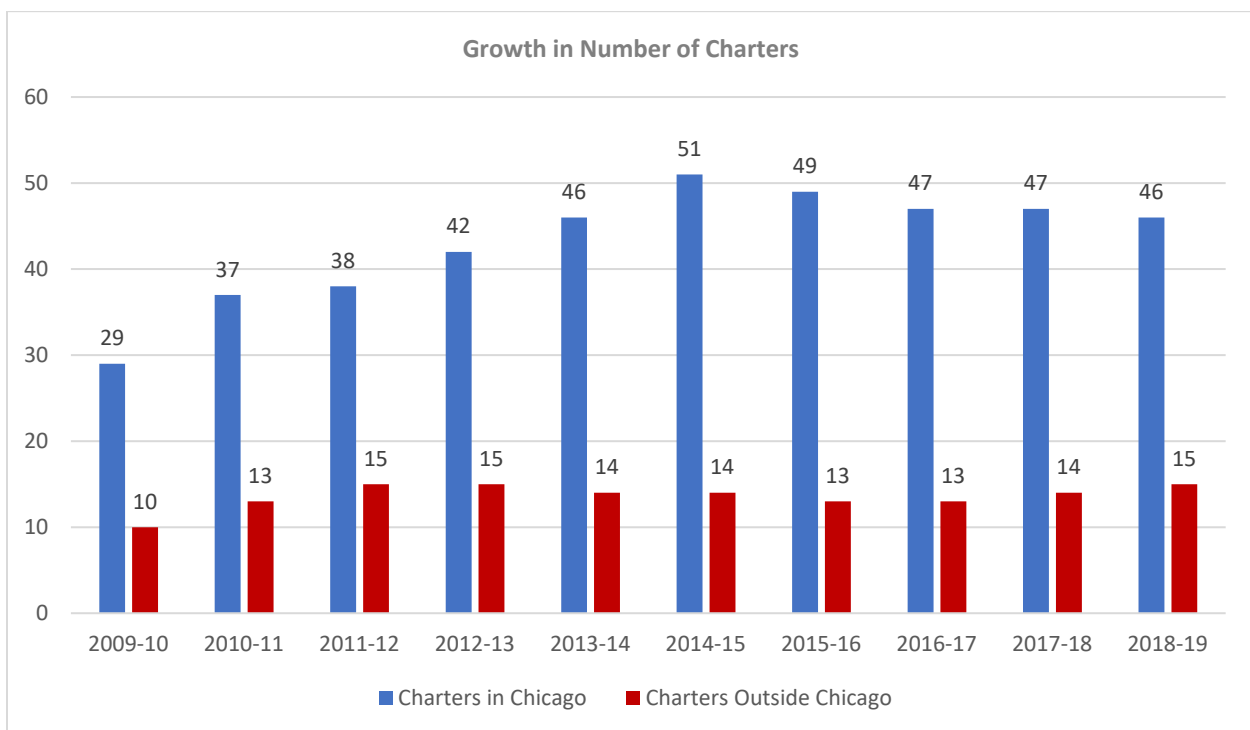


Figure 2B: Growth in Number of Charter School Campuses Since 2014

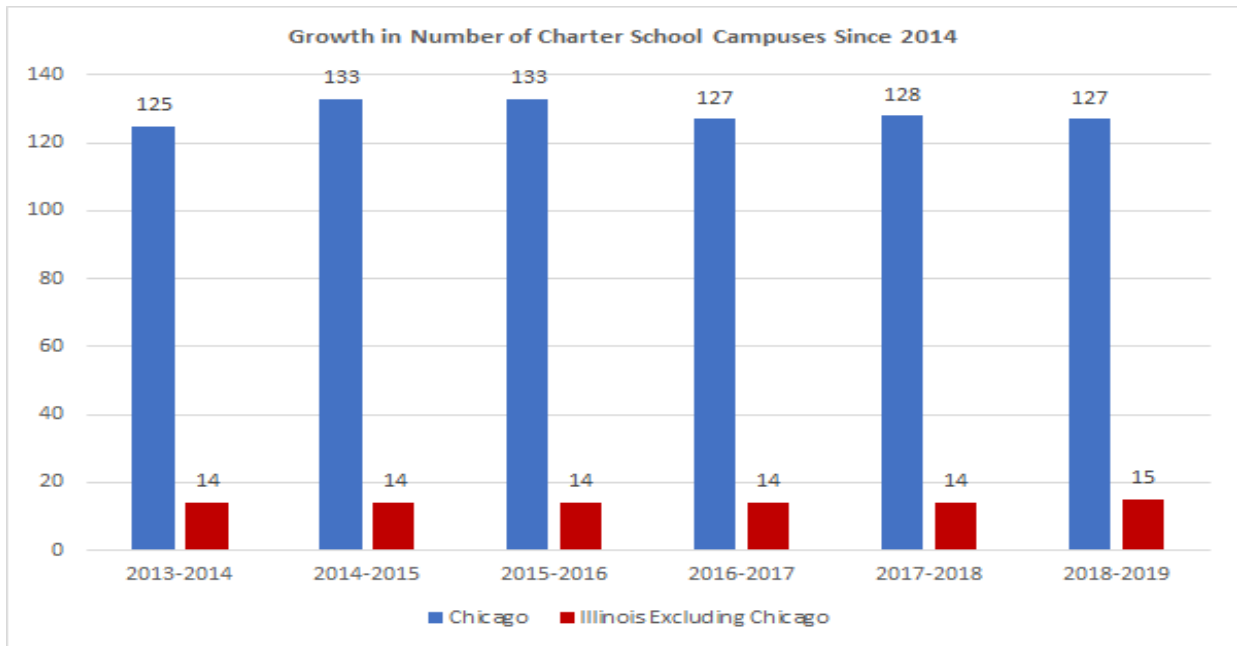


Figure 2C: Growth in Charter School Enrollment Since 2010

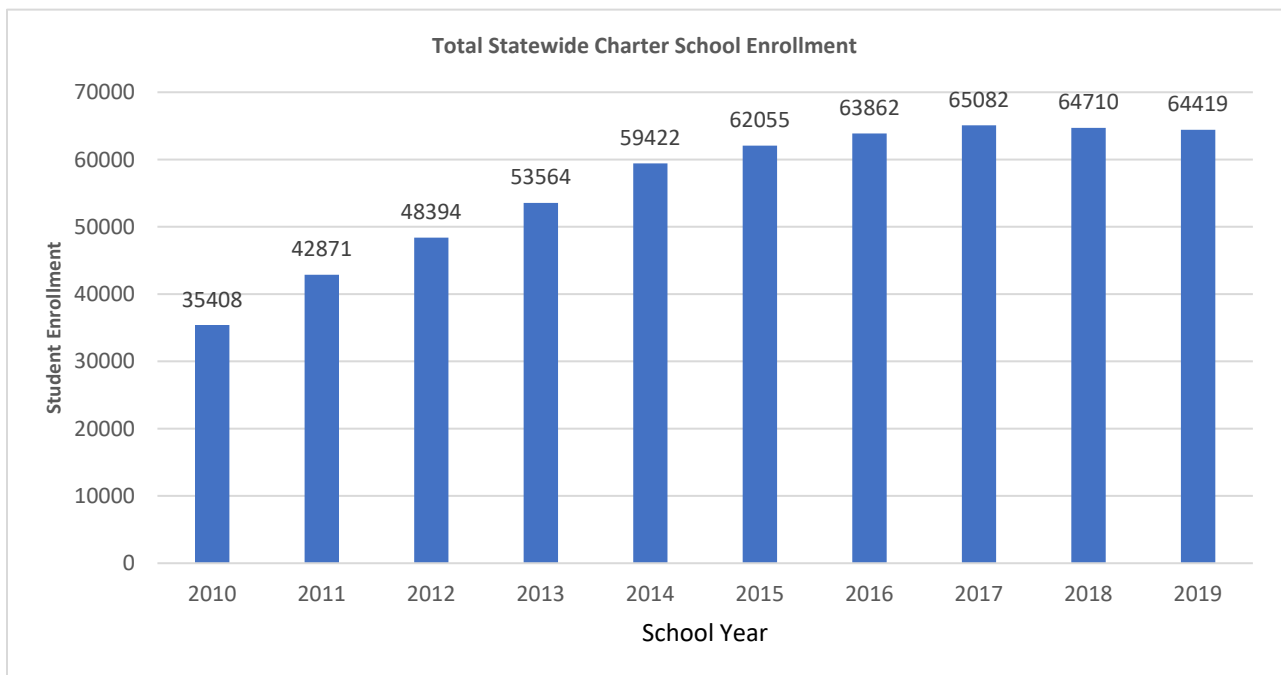


Table 2: District and Charter School 3-Year Enrollment Trends (K-12 Students)

Charter Schools (# of Campuses in SY 2018-19)	Grade Levels Served		Enrollments by Year		
	2017-18	2018-19	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Chicago Public Schools District 299	K-12	K-12	360,139	353,277	342,854
Academy for Global Citizenship	K-8	K-8	459	466	466
Acero Charter School Network (15 campuses)	K-12	K-12	7,842	7,620	7,479
ACE Technical Charter High School	9-12	N/A ^{viii}	376	306	N/A
Asian Human Services - Passages Charter School	K-8	K-8	479	452	422
ASPIRA Charter School Network (3 campuses)	6-12	6-12	1,291	1,278	1,274
Catalyst Charter – Circle Rock ES	K-8	K-8	521	521	519
Catalyst Charter – Maria	K-12	K-12	1103	1071	1095
Chicago Collegiate Charter School	4-9	4-10	313	374	374
Chicago Int'l Charter School (CICS) Network (14 campuses)	3-12	3-12	8,529	8,466	8,267
Chicago Math & Science Academy Charter School	6-12	6-12	599	596	604
Chicago Virtual Charter School	K-12	K-12	652	689	673
Christopher House Charter ES	K-5	K-6	276	341	382
EPIC Academy High School	9-12	9-12	498	538	545
Erie Elem Charter School	K-8	K-8	419	417	413
Foundations College Prep Charter	6-12	6-12	209	227	256
Frazier Prep Academy Charter ES	K-8	K-8	419	357	319
Great Lakes Academy Charter ES	K-4	K-5	251	294	338
Horizon Science Academy – Southwest Charter	K-11	K-12	665	723	734
Instituto Health Sciences Career Academy (IHSCA) Charter High School	9-12	9-12	756	749	741
Instituto Justice Leadership Academy (IJLA) Charter High School	9-12	9-12	129	86	89
Intrinsic Charter High School	7-12	7-12	986	1010	1008
KIPP Chicago Charter School Network (4 campuses)	K-8	K-8	1,682	2,013	2,437
LEARN Charter School Network (7 campuses)	K-8	K-8	3,162	3,015	2,799
Legacy Elem Charter School	K-8	K-8	464	465	469
Legal Prep Academy Charter HS	9-12	9-12	305	306	346
Locke A Elem Charter Academy	K-8	K-8	543	499	459
Montessori of Englewood Charter ES	K-7	K-8	290	307	331
Moving Everest Charter School	K-3	K-4	271	362	445
Namaste Elem Charter School	K-8	K-8	485	491	480
Nkrumah Academy Charter ES	K-8	K-8	212	178	197
Noble Network of Charter Schools ^{ix} (17 campuses)	6-12	6-12	12,006	12,476	12,440
North Lawndale Prep Charter Network (2 campuses)	9-12	9-12	771	701	731

Charter Schools (# of Campuses in SY 2018-19)	Grade Levels Served		Enrollments by Year		
	2017-18	2018-19	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Perspectives Charter Schools Network (4 campuses)	6-12	6-12	1,709	1,617	1,593
Polaris Elem Charter Academy	K-8	K-8	440	434	438
Providence Englewood Elem Charter	K-8	K-8	498	507	464
Rowe Elementary	K-8	K-8	946	1012	1009
University of Chicago Charter School Network (4 campuses)	K-12	K-12	1,811	1,743	1,591
Urban Prep Charter Academy Bronzeville HS	9-12	9-12	365	316	331
Urban Prep Charter Academy Englewood HS	9-12	9-12	324	260	258
Urban Prep Charter Academy West Campus HS	9-12	9-12	272	213	178
Young Women's Leadership Charter HS	9-12	9-12	248	188	158
Youth Connection Charter School (YCCS) Network (19 campuses)	9-12	9-12	3,949	3,588	3,567
Amandla Charter School*	9-12	9-12	277	245	272
Betty Shabazz Int'l Charter School Network+ (2 campuses)	K-8	K-8	561	546	582
Bronzeville Academy Charter School+	K-8	K-8	176	197	240
Horizon Science Academy – Belmont Charter School+	K-8	K-8	495	516	548
Horizon Science Academy – McKinley Park Charter School+	k-12	k-12	725	790	788
CUUSD 300	K-12	K-12	20,708	20,300	20,428
Cambridge Lakes Charter School	K-12	K-12	814	828	860
Decatur SD 61	K-12	K-12	9,104	8,306	8,181
Robertson Charter School	K-8	K-8	334	328	323
East St. Louis SD 189	K-12	K-12	5,735	5,321	5,031
SIU Charter School of East St. Louis	9-12	9-12	109	107	113
Fremont SD 79	K-8	K-8	2,086	2,114	2,132
Woodland CCSD 50	K-8	K-8	5,561	5,466	5,262
Prairie Crossing Charter School*	K-8	K-8	424	431	431
McLean CUSD 5	K-12	K-12	13,586	12,956	12,705
YouthBuild McLean County (YBMC) Charter School	11-12	11-12	53	52	42
North Chicago SD 187	K-12	K-12	3,564	3,317	3,296
LEARN Charter School 6 North Chicago Campus	K-8	K-8	490	486	468
LEARN 10 Charter School	K-5	K-5	94	159	184
Peoria SD 150	K-12	K-12	13,278	12,738	12,362
Quest Charter School Academy	5-12	5-12	597	610	573
Rich Township HSD 227	9-12	9-12	3,057	3,001	2,938
Southland College Prep Charter High School+	9-12	9-12	522	531	543
Rockford SD 205	K-12	K-12	28,370	26,040	26,330
Galapagos Rockford Charter School	K-8	K-8	319	304	311
Jackson Charter School	K-8	K-8	504	413	377

Charter Schools (# of Campuses in SY 2018-19)	Grade Levels Served		Enrollments by Year		
	2017-18	2018-19	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Legacy Academy of Excellence Charter School	K-12	K-12	315	321	314
SD U-46	K-12	K-12	38,108	37,699	37,120
Elgin Math and Science Academy Charter School [†]	N/A	K-3	N/A	N/A	202
Springfield SD 186	K-12	K-12	14,862	13,485	13,326
Springfield Ball Charter School	K-8	K-8	387	398	397
Waukegan CUSD 60	K-12	K-12	16,478	15,736	15,260
LEARN Charter 9 Campus in Waukegan*	K-6	K-6	328	391	404

[†] Charter school authorized by the Illinois State Charter School Commission

As public schools, charter schools must be open to all students who reside in the school district served, and if there are more applications to the school than spaces available, enrollment must be determined by lottery. Preference is allowed under the Illinois Charter Schools Law under the following limited circumstances: for siblings of students already enrolled in the charter school and pupils who were enrolled in the charter school in the previous school year. The law also allows for several enrollment preferences exclusive to Chicago. Specifically:

- CPS District 299 is permitted to create a limited number of attendance boundaries for charter schools – as needed to relieve overcrowding or to better serve low-income and at-risk students – and the school may grant students who live within such boundaries an enrollment preference.
- The Charter Schools Law allows for up to five charter schools in Chicago devoted exclusively to re-enrolled high school dropouts and students at risk for dropping out.

Finally, beginning in 2013 the law added an enrollment preference specific to school districts that contain all or part of a federal military base. Any district that meets this definition may set aside up to 33 percent of its open charter seats to students with parents assigned to the federal military base, with the remaining 67 percent of seats subject to the general enrollment and lottery requirements of the Charter Schools Law. LEARN 6 in North Chicago is currently the only charter school in Illinois that uses this enrollment preference.

2.1 – Charter School Closures

Under the Charter Schools Law, an authorizer may revoke or not renew the charter of a charter school in cases where the charter school failed to comply with any of the requirements of Article 27A, or in the following specifically-enumerated circumstances: (1) the charter school committed a material violation of its charter agreement; (2) the charter school failed to meet or make reasonable progress toward achievement of the goals and objectives set forth in its charter; (3) the charter school failed to meet generally accepted standards of fiscal management; and/or (4) the charter school violated any other provision of law from which it was not exempted. A charter school may also terminate operations by mutual agreement with the authorizer.

School Year 2017-18

During its December 2017 board meeting, the Chicago Board of Education voted to revoke the charter of Architecture, Construction, & Engineering (ACE) Technical Charter High School at the end of the 2017-18 school year. The Board cited academic performance and the school’s failure to implement a plan of remediation in its closure [decision](#). The school appealed that decision to the Illinois State Charter School Commission, but eventually withdrew its appeal prior to the Commission reaching a final decision. The school later merged its program with Amandla Charter School, which renamed itself ACE Amandla Charter School at the beginning of the 2018-19 school year.

School Year 2018-19

During its December 2018 board meeting, the Chicago Board of Education voted to revoke the charter of Urban Prep Charter Academy for Young Men High School – West campus and to non-renew the charter of Kwame Nkrumah Academy Charter School, both at the end of the 2018-19 school year. The Board cited academic and financial factors in its Kwame [decision](#) and academic factors in its Urban Prep West [decision](#). Both schools appealed the closure decisions to the Commission. The Commission overturned Urban Prep West’s closure and Urban Prep West began operating as a Commission-authorized charter school starting in fall 2019. Kwame withdrew its appeal prior to the Commission rendering a final decision.

Young Women’s Leadership Charter School (YWLCS) voluntarily closed at the end of the 2018-19 school year due to issues regarding financial sustainability. The Chicago Board of Education officially terminated the charter agreement “by mutual consent of the parties” at its [April 2019 board meeting](#). At the same board meeting, CPS approved an [80-student increase](#) in the at capacity enrollment at the Perspectives Charter School – Math & Science Academy campus; Perspectives created a STEM strand for female students at this campus as an option for displaced YWLCS students.

3. Charter School Demographics

One of the primary goals of the Illinois Charter Schools Law is to increase learning opportunities for all pupils, with a special emphasis on expanded learning opportunities for at-risk pupils. The law provides the only definition of “at-risk pupils” found in the Illinois School Code, defining the term as pupils who, because of physical, emotional, socioeconomic or cultural factors, are less likely to succeed in a conventional educational environment. Likewise, under the law, authorizers must give preference to charter school proposals that are designed to enroll and serve a substantial proportion of at-risk children.

At the same time, as public schools of choice, the student body of a charter school is determined by parent selection plus a lottery process when the school is oversubscribed. The orientation of charter schools in Illinois varies widely, and such orientation may drive the student population (e.g., a charter school whose mission is to educate English Learners may have a higher population of immigrant students than another school within the same district). The confluence of these factors means that a charter school’s demographics may not necessarily mirror the district’s population.

Section 3.1 – Racial and Ethnic Composition of Charter Schools

The following tables show student demographic data by charter school and as compared to student demographics of the school district where the charter schools are located and the state overall. As

shown in Table 3A, charter schools overall serve a much higher percentage of students of color, especially black and Hispanic students, than the state overall. Specifically, Illinois charter schools served a student population in both school years 2017-18 and 2018-19 that was 96.8 percent students of color, almost twice the percentage served by all public schools in Illinois (52 percent in 2017-18 and 52.4 percent in 2018-19). This is largely explained by the fact that the vast majority of charter schools are in Chicago, where the percentage of students of color served by the school district is significantly higher than the statewide percentage (89.5 percent versus 52.4 percent, respectively, in 2018-19).

Table 3A: Overall Student Demographic Data, all schools and charters

	School Year 2017-18		School Year 2018-19	
	Illinois School Students (%)	Charter School Students (%)	Illinois School Students (%)	Charter School Students (%)
White	48.0	3.2	47.6	3.2
Students of Color	52.0	96.8	52.4	96.8
Black	16.8	53.3	16.7	52.6
Hispanic	26.2	40.7	26.4	41.4
Asian	5.1	1.3	5.1	1.3
Native American	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2
Pacific Islander	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Multiracial	3.5	1.1	3.8	1.3

Table 3B shows the racial and ethnic composition of each charter school campus in Illinois, by school district. It is interesting to note some similarities in racial and ethnic makeup of campuses within single charter school networks. For example, the Acero Charter School Network in Chicago serves a disproportionately high percentage of Hispanic students relative to CPS District 299. Most Acero campuses had a Hispanic student population over 95 percent in 2018-19, as compared to the district's overall Hispanic student population of 47 percent. In contrast, the LEARN Charter School Network serves a disproportionately high percentage of black students relative to CPS. All LEARN campuses had a black student population of 89 percent or greater in 2018-19, as compared to the district's black student population of 37 percent. Again, a charter school's student demographics can be driven by any number of factors, including, but not limited to, school location and the school's mission, focus, and orientation.

Outside of Chicago, students of color are overrepresented in some charter schools and underrepresented in others when compared to the feeder school districts. For example, Robertson Charter School in Decatur served 98 percent students of color in 2018-19, whereas the district served 64 percent students of color in that year. Similarly, all three charter schools in Rockford enroll a much larger percentage of students of color than their feeder district, Rockford School District 205. The same is true of YouthBuild McLean County Charter School, which serves students from McLean County Unit School District 5, and Quest Charter Academy, which serves students from Peoria School District 150.

In contrast, students of color are underrepresented at LEARN 10 Charter School in North Chicago and Prairie Crossing Charter School in Grayslake. LEARN 10 served a student body in 2018-19 that was 80 percent students of color, as compared to the feeder district's 94 percent. Prairie Crossing's student

body was 33 percent students of color in 2018-19; by comparison, the student body of Woodland CCSD 50 – Prairie Crossing’s largest feeder district – was 59 percent students of color in that school year.

Table 3B: Student Demographics – Race/Ethnicity and District Comparison

Charter School	White		Black		Hispanic		Asian		Other ^x	
	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019
City of Chicago SD 299	10%	11%	37%	37%	47%	47%	4%	4%	1%	2%
Academy for Global Citizenship	7%	5%	5%	5%	88%	89%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Acero Charter School Network – Bartolome de las Casas	0%	0%	1%	1%	99%	98%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Acero Charter School Network – Brighton Park Campus	0%	0%	0%	0%	99%	99%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Acero Charter School Network – Carlos Fuentes Campus	1%	1%	1%	1%	97%	98%	0%	0%	1%	0%
Acero Charter School Network – Esmeralda Santiago Campus	2%	2%	2%	2%	95%	95%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Acero Charter School Network – Jovita Idar	0%	0%	0%	0%	99%	99%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Acero Charter School Network – Major Hector P Garcia MD Campus	2%	2%	1%	1%	97%	97%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Acero Charter School Network – Octavio Paz Campus	0%	0%	7%	8%	92%	91%	0%	0%	1%	1%
Acero Charter School Network – Officer Donald J Marquez Campus	0%	0%	1%	0%	99%	99%	0%	0%	1%	1%
Acero Charter School Network – PFC Omar E Torres Campus	0%	1%	1%	1%	98%	98%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Acero Charter School Network – Roberto Clemente Campus	1%	1%	3%	3%	96%	95%	0%	0%	1%	0%
Acero Charter School Network – Rufino Tamayo Campus	0%	0%	1%	1%	99%	98%	0%	0%	1%	1%
Acero Charter School Network – Sandra Cisneros Campus	0%	1%	0%	1%	99%	98%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Acero Charter School Network – Sor Juana Ines de la Cruz	2%	3%	27%	39%	68%	56%	2%	1%	2%	2%
Acero Charter School Network – SPC Daniel Zizumbo Campus	2%	2%	0%	0%	97%	97%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Acero Charter School Network – Victoria Soto Campus	0%	0%	1%	1%	99%	98%	0%	0%	0%	0%
ACE Technical Charter High School	1%	N/A	82%	N/A	16%	N/A	0%	N/A	0%	N/A
Asian Human Services - Passages Charter School	7%	7%	48%	46%	18%	15%	25%	17%	3%	14%
ASPIRA Charter–Business and Finance HS	2%	2%	2%	3%	94%	94%	1%	1%	1%	1%
ASPIRA Charter – Early College Prep HS	1%	2%	3%	2%	95%	95%	1%	1%	0%	1%
ASPIRA Charter – Haugan Campus	2%	2%	3%	3%	91%	91%	3%	4%	0%	0%
Catalyst Charter – Maria	1%	2%	45%	44%	53%	54%	0%	0%	0%	1%
Catalyst Charter – Circle Rock ES	0%	0%	97%	97%	2%	3%	0%	0%	1%	1%
Chicago Collegiate Charter School	0%	0%	99%	98%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%
Chicago Math & Science Elem Charter	4%	5%	31%	31%	54%	52%	10%	10%	3%	2%
Chicago Virtual Charter School	13%	12%	56%	58%	23%	20%	5%	7%	3%	3%
Christopher House Charter ES	1%	1%	3%	2%	95%	95%	0%	0%	0%	2%

Charter School	White		Black		Hispanic		Asian		Other	
	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019
CICS – Avalon/South Shore	0%	0%	98%	99%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
CICS – Basil Campus	1%	0%	84%	83%	14%	14%	0%	0%	1%	3%
CICS – Bond Campus	0%	0%	99%	99%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
CICS – Bucktown Campus	4%	4%	11%	13%	82%	80%	1%	1%	2%	2%
CICS – Irving Park Campus	17%	15%	6%	5%	68%	71%	6%	5%	3%	3%
CICS – Longwood Campus	0%	0%	99%	99%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
CICS – Loomis Primary Campus	0%	0%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
CICS – Northtown Campus	21%	17%	7%	7%	53%	56%	16%	18%	3%	2%
CICS – Prairie Campus	1%	1%	52%	53%	46%	45%	0%	0%	1%	2%
CICS – Quest North Campus	2%	1%	87%	90%	10%	7%	1%	0%	1%	1%
CICS – Ralph Ellison Campus	0%	0%	99%	100%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
CICS – Washington Park Campus	0%	0%	99%	99%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
CICS – West Belden Campus	1%	1%	7%	6%	91%	93%	0%	0%	0%	0%
CICS – Wrightwood	0%	0%	95%	94%	3%	3%	0%	0%	2%	3%
EPIC Academy High School	0%	1%	64%	63%	35%	36%	0%	0%	1%	1%
Erie Elem Charter School	2%	2%	14%	14%	82%	82%	0%	0%	2%	1%
Foundations College Prep Charter	0%	0%	98%	95%	2%	3%	0%	0%	0%	2%
Frazier Prep Academy Charter ES	0%	0%	98%	99%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Great Lakes Academy Charter ES	0%	0%	89%	88%	11%	12%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Horizon Science Academy – Southwest Charter	0%	0%	30%	30%	69%	68%	0%	0%	0%	1%
IHSCA Charter High School	0%	0%	3%	2%	96%	97%	0%	0%	0%	0%
IJLA Charter High School	0%	1%	1%	0%	99%	98%	0%	0%	1%	0%
Intrinsic Charter High School	5%	3%	5%	4%	88%	91%	1%	1%	1%	0%
KIPP Academy Chicago Campus	0%	0%	99%	97%	1%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%
KIPP Chicago Charter School – Ascend Academy	0%	0%	95%	94%	5%	4%	0%	0%	0%	1%
KIPP Chicago Charter School – Bloom Campus	0%	1%	93%	95%	5%	3%	0%	0%	1%	0%
KIPP Chicago Charter School – KIPP One Academy	0%	0%	78%	69%	22%	30%	0%	0%	0%	0%
LEARN Charter – 7th Campus	0%	0%	94%	97%	5%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%
LEARN Charter – Butler	0%	0%	98%	99%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
LEARN Charter – Campbell Campus	0%	0%	96%	96%	4%	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%
LEARN Charter – Excel Campus	0%	0%	96%	96%	3%	4%	0%	0%	1%	1%
LEARN Charter – Hunter Perkins Campus	0%	0%	99%	99%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
LEARN Charter – Middle School	0%	0%	96%	94%	3%	4%	0%	0%	1%	0%
LEARN Charter – South Chicago Campus	0%	0%	88%	89%	11%	11%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Legacy Elem Charter School	0%	0%	97%	97%	3%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Legal Prep Academy Charter HS	0%	0%	99%	99%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Locke A Elem Charter Academy	0%	0%	99%	99%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Montessori of Englewood Charter ES	0%	0%	98%	97%	2%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%

Charter School	White		Black		Hispanic		Asian		Other	
	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019
Moving Everest Charter School	0%	0%	96%	98%	3%	2%	0%	0%	1%	0%
Namaste Elem Charter School	6%	6%	3%	2%	89%	90%	1%	0%	1%	1%
Nkrumah Academy Charter ES	0%	0%	99%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%
Noble St Charter – Baker Campus	1%	2%	84%	79%	13%	17%	0%	0%	2%	0%
Noble St Charter – Butler College Prep-Crimson	0%	0%	96%	95%	3%	4%	0%	0%	0%	1%
Noble St Charter – Chicago Bulls Prep	0%	1%	33%	31%	66%	67%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Noble St Charter – Comer College Prep	0%	0%	97%	97%	2%	2%	0%	0%	0%	1%
Noble St Charter – DRW Trading College Prep	0%	0%	95%	95%	5%	4%	0%	0%	0%	1%
Noble St Charter – Golder College Prep	2%	2%	15%	16%	81%	79%	0%	0%	1%	2%
Noble St Charter – Hansberry College Prep-Silver	0%	0%	98%	99%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Noble St Charter – ITW Speer Academy	2%	1%	13%	13%	84%	85%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Noble St Charter – Johnson College Prep	0%	0%	97%	96%	2%	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Noble St Charter – Mansueto	1%	1%	1%	1%	95%	96%	2%	2%	0%	0%
Noble St Charter – Muchin College Prep	1%	0%	27%	29%	67%	66%	4%	4%	1%	1%
Noble St Charter – Noble Campus	1%	1%	12%	11%	85%	86%	1%	1%	2%	1%
Noble St Charter – Pritzker College Prep	1%	1%	3%	4%	95%	95%	0%	0%	1%	1%
Noble St Charter – Rauner College Prep	2%	1%	17%	20%	79%	78%	0%	0%	1%	1%
Noble St Charter – Rowe-Clark MS Academy	0%	0%	75%	79%	24%	19%	0%	0%	0%	2%
Noble St Charter – The Noble Academy	3%	2%	46%	42%	46%	51%	3%	3%	2%	2%
Noble St Charter – UIC College Prep	1%	1%	31%	30%	64%	65%	3%	3%	0%	0%
North Lawndale Prep Charter – Christiana	0%	0%	99%	99%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
North Lawndale Prep Charter – Collins	0%	0%	99%	99%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%
Perspectives Charter – High School of Technology	0%	0%	98%	98%	2%	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%
Perspectives Charter – IIT Campus	0%	0%	97%	98%	3%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Perspectives Charter – Joslin Campus	1%	0%	87%	91%	10%	6%	1%	1%	2%	2%
Perspectives Charter – Leadership Academy	0%	0%	98%	98%	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%
Polaris Elem Charter Academy	0%	0%	92%	90%	7%	8%	0%	0%	1%	2%
Providence Englewood Elem Charter	0%	0%	95%	96%	4%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Rowe Elementary	1%	1%	18%	18%	80%	79%	0%	0%	0%	1%
Univ of Chicago Charter – Donoghue	0%	0%	98%	98%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Univ of Chicago Charter – Nth Kenwood	3%	2%	95%	95%	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%
Univ of Chicago Charter – Woodlawn	0%	0%	98%	98%	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%
Univ of Chicago Charter – Woodson	0%	0%	99%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Urban Prep Charter Academy Bronzeville HS	0%	0%	98%	98%	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%

Charter School	White		Black		Hispanic		Asian		Other	
	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019
Urban Prep Charter Academy Englewood HS	0%	0%	100%	99%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Urban Prep Charter Academy West Campus HS	0%	0%	97%	96%	2%	2%	0%	0%	1%	2%
YCCS – Albizu Campos Puerto Rican HS	4%	1%	17%	24%	79%	73%	0%	0%	2%	3%
YCCS – ASPIRA Pantoja Alt HS	1%	3%	4%	3%	94%	93%	0%	0%	2%	2%
YCCS – Association House	3%	3%	29%	26%	68%	71%	0%	0%	1%	1%
YCCS – Austin Career Ed Center HS	1%	0%	98%	99%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
YCCS – CCA Academy HS	0%	0%	99%	97%	1%	2%	0%	0%	0%	1%
YCCS – Chatham	0%	0%	99%	99%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
YCCS – Community Youth Dev Inst HS	0%	0%	97%	99%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
YCCS – Innovations of Arts Integration HS	1%	0%	90%	92%	8%	7%	0%	0%	1%	0%
YCCS – Jane Addams Alternative HS	3%	3%	28%	25%	68%	71%	0%	0%	0%	0%
YCCS – Latino Youth Alternative HS	0%	0%	6%	11%	94%	89%	0%	0%	0%	0%
YCCS – McKinley-Lakeside Leadership Academy	0%	1%	95%	97%	5%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%
YCCS – Olive Harvey Mid College HS	1%	0%	83%	84%	16%	14%	0%	0%	0%	2%
YCCS – Progressive Leadership Academy	0%	0%	99%	98%	1%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%
YCCS – Scholastic Achievement HS	0%	0%	95%	96%	5%	4%	0%	0%	1%	1%
YCCS – Sullivan House Alt HS	0%	0%	94%	96%	5%	4%	0%	0%	0%	1%
YCCS – Truman Middle College HS	10%	9%	31%	32%	49%	45%	8%	9%	2%	5%
YCCS – Westside Holistic Leadership Academy HS	0%	1%	76%	67%	24%	32%	0%	0%	0%	0%
YCCS – West Town Academy Alt HS	1%	1%	81%	61%	17%	37%	0%	0%	2%	2%
YCCS – Youth Connection Leadership Academy	0%	0%	92%	96%	6%	3%	0%	0%	1%	0%
Young Women’s Leadership Charter HS	2%	1%	93%	94%	5%	4%	0%	0%	1%	1%
Amandla Charter School ⁺	1%	1%	96%	89%	3%	10%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Barbara A Sizemore Campus ⁺	0%	0%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Betty Shabazz International Charter School ⁺	0%	0%	99%	98%	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%	0%
Bronzeville Academy Charter School ⁺	0%	0%	99%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%
Horizon Science Academy – Belmont Charter School ⁺	1%	0%	65%	60%	30%	35%	0%	1%	4%	4%
Horizon Science Academy – McKinley Park Charter School ⁺	6%	7%	4%	4%	84%	85%	1%	1%	5%	4%
CUUSD 300	48%	47%	5%	6%	38%	39%	6%	6%	3%	3%
Cambridge Lakes Charter School	42%	41%	5%	6%	29%	29%	16%	15%	8%	8%
Decatur SD 61	37%	36%	46%	47%	4%	4%	1%	1%	12%	12%
Robertson Charter School	2%	2%	92%	91%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5%	6%
East St Louis SD 189	1%	1%	97%	97%	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%
SIU Charter School of East St Louis	1%	1%	97%	96%	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%	2%

Charter School	White		Black		Hispanic		Asian		Other	
	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019
Fremont SD 79	70%	70%	2%	2%	13%	14%	10%	9%	5%	4%
Woodland SD 50	42%	41%	8%	8%	32%	33%	12%	11%	7%	7%
Prairie Crossing Charter School*	67%	67%	3%	4%	6%	6%	17%	17%	5%	6%
McLean County USD 5	65%	65%	12%	13%	7%	8%	9%	9%	6%	6%
YBMC Charter School	48%	43%	42%	36%	4%	14%	0%	0%	6%	7%
North Chicago SD 187	6%	6%	36%	33%	54%	56%	1%	1%	3%	4%
LEARN Charter School 6 North Chicago Campus	10%	8%	33%	29%	47%	53%	2%	2%	8%	6%
LEARN 10 Charter School	23%	20%	39%	37%	22%	32%	2%	1%	14%	10%
Peoria SD 150	21%	20%	57%	58%	11%	11%	2%	1%	9%	9%
Quest Charter School Academy	8%	8%	71%	68%	11%	13%	1%	0%	9%	10%
Rich Township HSD 227	3%	2%	89%	89%	7%	7%	0%	0%	2%	2%
Southland College Prep Charter High School*	1%	1%	93%	91%	3%	4%	0%	0%	3%	3%
Rockford SD 205	30%	29%	31%	32%	27%	28%	4%	4%	7%	7%
Galapagos Rockford Charter School	15%	11%	53%	58%	19%	20%	0%	0%	13%	11%
Jackson Charter School	11%	11%	68%	70%	11%	10%	1%	0%	9%	10%
Legacy Academy of Excellence Charter School	11%	13%	60%	56%	25%	25%	0%	0%	5%	6%
SD U-46	27%	26%	7%	6%	54%	55%	8%	8%	5%	5%
Elgin Math and Science Academy Charter School*	N/A	34%	N/A	14%	N/A	37%	N/A	14%	N/A	0%
Springfield SD 186	44%	42%	40%	41%	3%	3%	2%	2%	11%	12%
Springfield Ball Charter School	45%	45%	37%	37%	5%	4%	1%	1%	13%	14%
Waukegan CUSD 60	4%	4%	15%	14%	77%	78%	1%	1%	3%	3%
LEARN Charter 9 Campus in Waukegan*	4%	3%	20%	15%	73%	79%	0%	0%	4%	2%

* Charter school authorized by the Illinois State Charter School Commission

Section 3.2 – Socioeconomic Composition of Charter Schools

A number of interrelated socioeconomic factors impact student achievement. Perhaps the most documented indicator for student achievement is poverty. ISBE has supported the development of high-quality charter schools as schools of choice in areas of the state with some of the highest concentrations of students in low-income households to assist educationally disadvantaged students and other students meet Illinois academic content standards and student achievement standards.

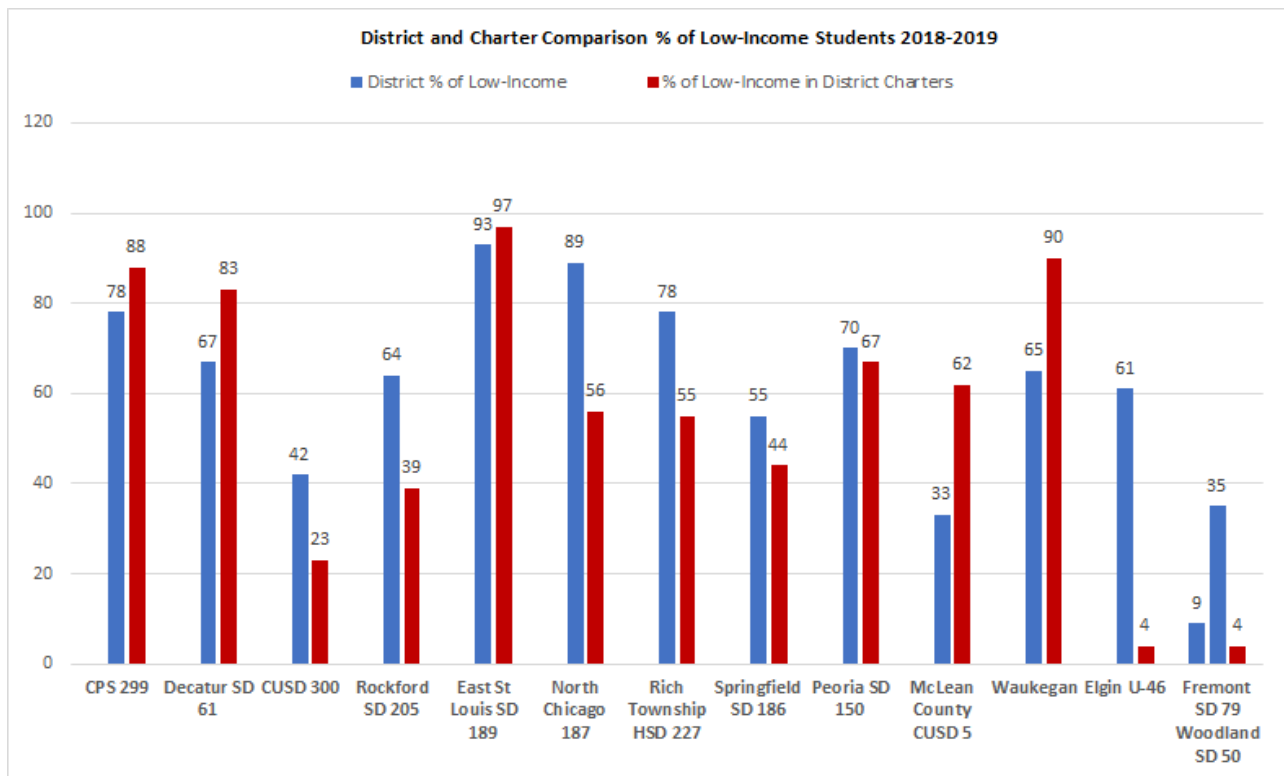
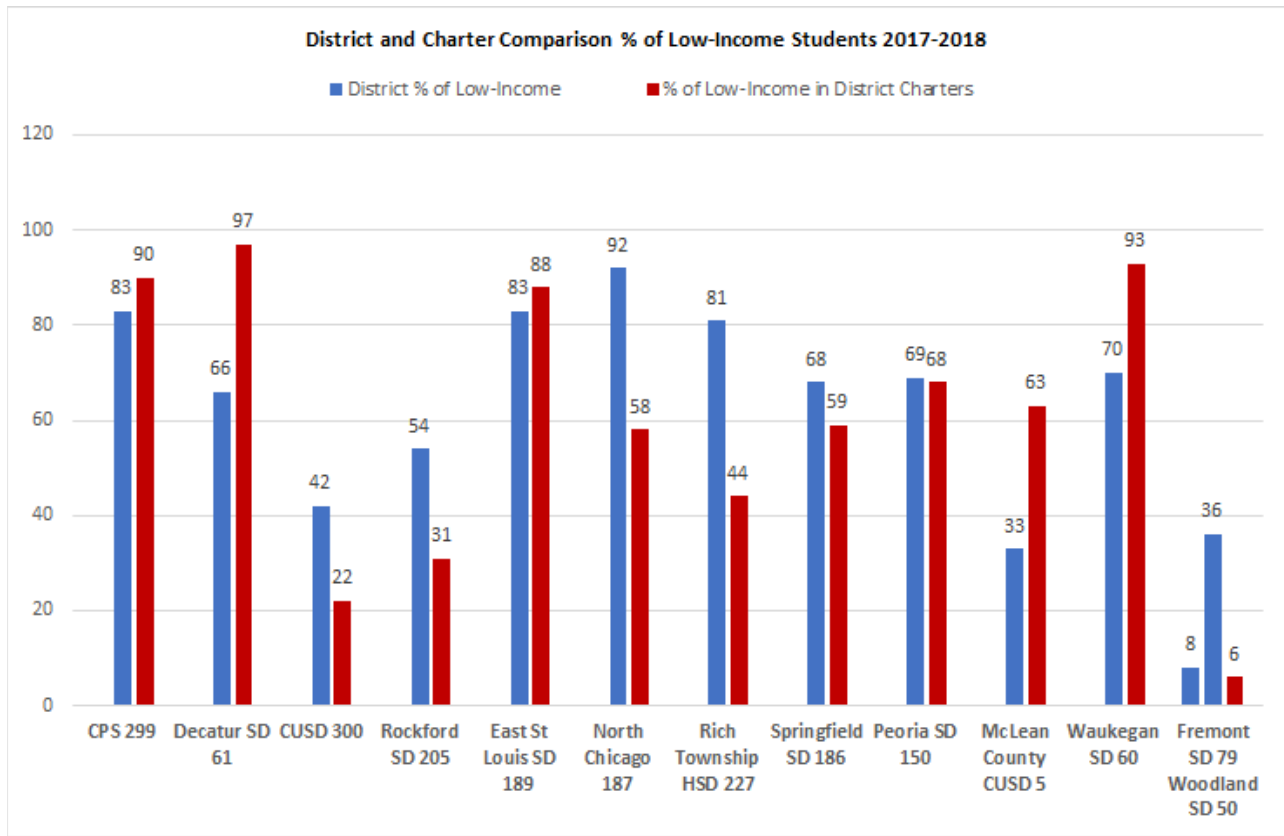
The following charts show that the percentage of students from low-income households in charter schools in Chicago is generally reflective of the school district. Outside of Chicago, the proportionality of representation varies widely from district to district. A number of charter schools served a significantly smaller percentage of students in low-income households than their feeder districts:

- Cambridge Lakes Charter School in Pingree Grove (23 percent in 2018-19 to the district's 42 percent);
- Elgin Math and Science Academy Charter School in Elgin (4 percent in 2018-19 to the district's 61 percent);
- LEARN 6 and LEARN 10 in North Chicago (59 percent and 48 percent in 2018-19 respectively, to the district's 89 percent);
- Prairie Crossing Charter School in Grayslake (4 percent in 2018-19 to the largest feeder district's 35 percent);
- All three Rockford-based charter schools (36 percent, 37 percent, and 44 percent in 2018-19 to the district's 64 percent);
- Springfield Ball Charter School in Springfield (44 percent in 2018-19 to the district's 55 percent); and
- Southland College Prep Charter High School in Richton Park (55 percent in 2018-19 to the district's 79 percent).

At the opposite end of the spectrum, the following charter schools had significant overrepresentation of low-income students as compared to their feeder districts:

- Robertson Charter School in Decatur (83 percent in 2018-19 to the district's 67 percent);
- YouthBuild McLean County Charter School in Normal (62 percent in 2018-19 to the district's 33 percent); and
- LEARN 9 in Waukegan (90 percent in 2018-19 to the district's 65 percent).

Figure 3A: District and Charter Comparison of Low-income Student Percentages



Section 3.3 – Special Student Populations in Charter Schools

The General Assembly passed Public Act 98-0639 in 2015, making it explicit in law that charter schools are subject to all federal and state laws and rules applicable to public schools that pertain to special education and instruction of English Learners (ELs). ISBE argued during the General Assembly’s deliberations on the bill that this language was declaratory of existing law, because the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and the federal laws and rules protecting the rights of ELs contemplate consistent and equitable treatment of students in all public schools of the state, regardless of the school model.

Since that time, charter schools have closed some gaps in the percentages of special student populations being served, especially with ELs. The percentage of ELs in Chicago charter schools was 9.5 percent in 2012-13, compared to 17 percent for CPS District 299. The percentage of ELs in Chicago charter schools six years later, in 2018-19, was 15 percent, mirroring the district’s 19 percent EL enrollment number much more closely. Cambridge Lakes (Pingree Grove) and LEARN 6 and LEARN 10 (both in North Chicago) all serve relatively large EL populations that approximate their local districts’ EL enrollment percentages. LEARN 9, a Commission-authorized charter school that opened in Waukegan in fall 2015, serves a disproportionately high percentage of ELs compared to its feeder district Waukegan CUSD 60 (60 percent versus 35 percent, respectively). In contrast, the charter schools in SD U-46 (Elgin Math and Science Academy), Rockford (Legacy Academy of Excellence, Galapagos Rockford, and Jackson Charter School), and Grayslake (Prairie Crossing Charter School) all serve a disproportionately low percentage of ELs in comparison to their feeder districts.

As has been the case historically, the data with respect to students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) is more mixed. The charter schools in Richton Park (Southland College Prep Charter High School), Pingree Grove (Cambridge Lakes Charter School), Decatur (Robertson Charter School), East St. Louis (SIUE Charter School of East St. Louis), Peoria (Quest Charter Academy), and Waukegan (LEARN 9) all serve disproportionately low percentages of students with IEPs, relative to their feeder school districts. In contrast, the percentage of students with IEPs served by Chicago charter schools is just slightly higher than the districtwide percentage (15 percent versus 14 percent, respectively).

Figure 3B: Comparison of District and Charter School English Learner Populations

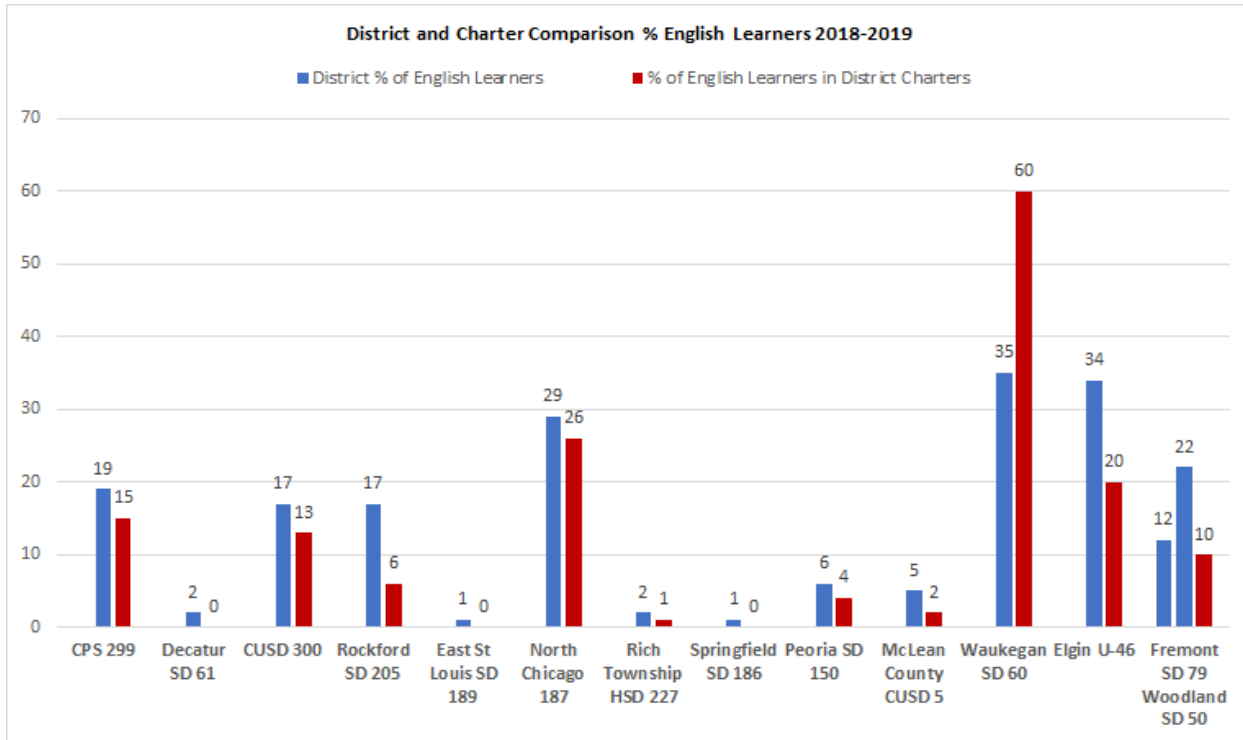
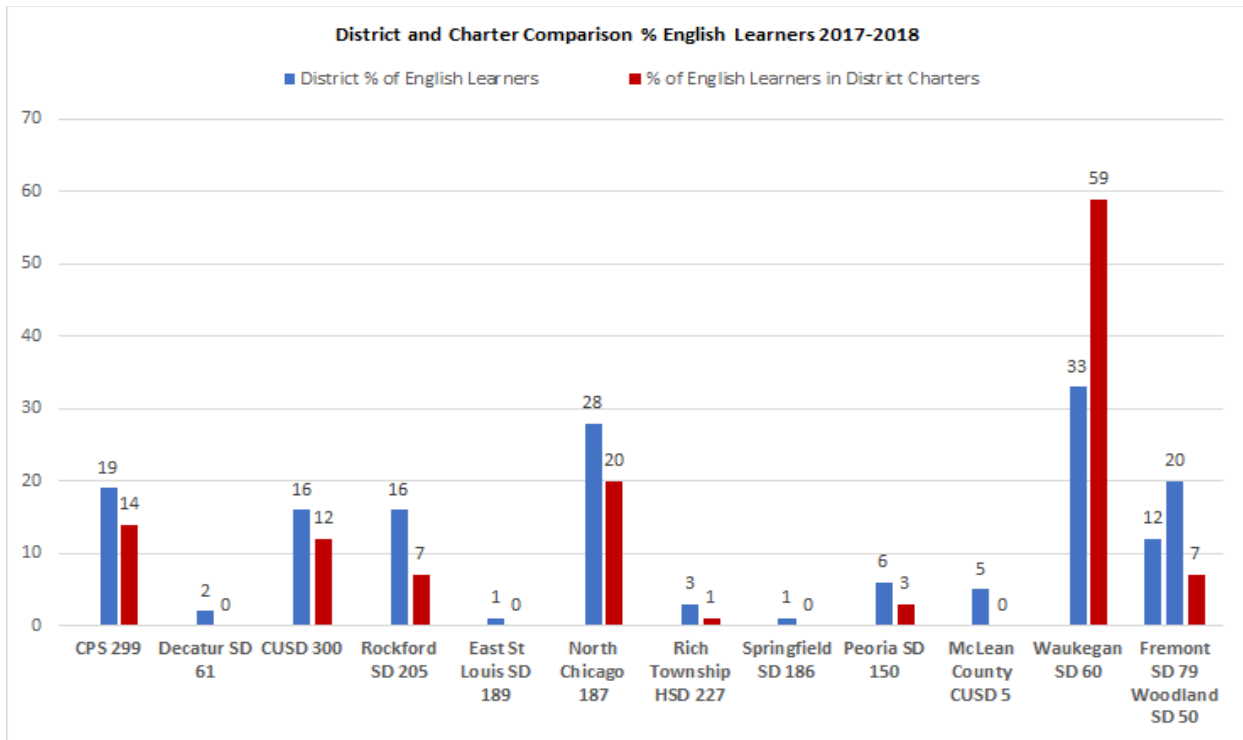


Figure 3C: Comparison of District and Charter School Students with IEP Population

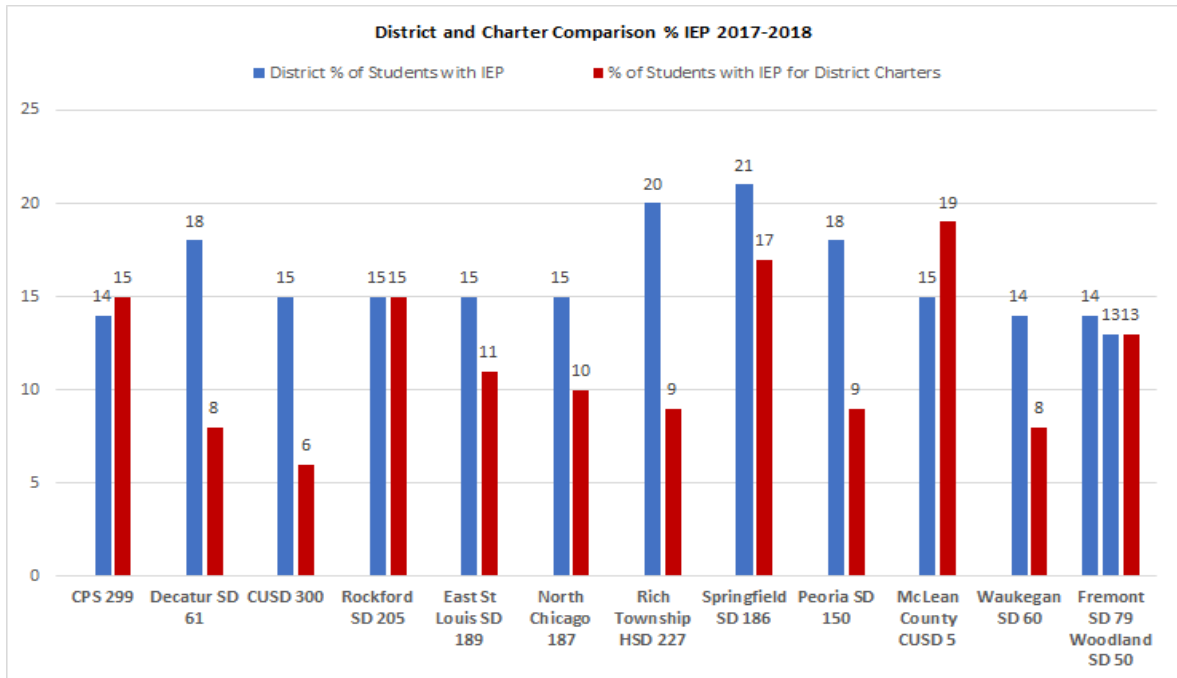
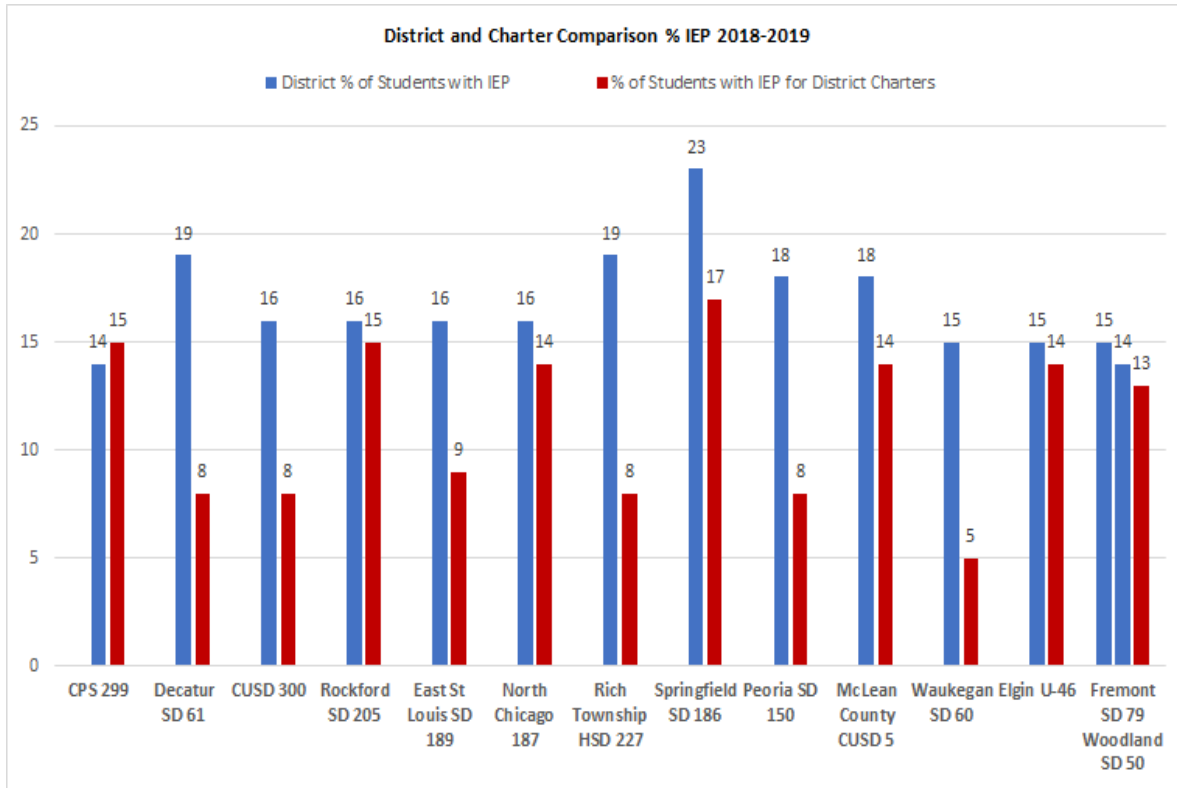


Table 3C: School-by-school Comparison of Low-Income, English Learners, and Students with IEPs

Charter School	Percent Students with IEPs		Percent English Learners		Percent Low-Income	
	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019
City of Chicago SD 299	14%	14%	19%	19%	83%	78%
Academy for Global Citizenship	14%	12%	38%	34%	71%	71%
Acero Charter School Network – Bartolome de las Casas	15%	14%	46%	45%	94%	88%
Acero Charter School Network – Brighton Park Campus	13%	11%	57%	54%	95%	95%
Acero Charter School Network – Carlos Fuentes Campus	14%	15%	42%	41%	92%	91%
Acero Charter School Network – Esmeralda Santiago Campus	19%	16%	47%	50%	93%	95%
Acero Charter School Network – Jovita Idar	7%	7%	46%	48%	93%	92%
Acero Charter School Network – Major Hector P Garcia MD	14%	15%	24%	26%	94%	93%
Acero Charter School Network – Octavio Paz Campus	12%	10%	53%	53%	97%	97%
Acero Charter School Network – Officer Donald J Marquez	11%	11%	61%	58%	94%	92%
Acero Charter School Network – PFC Omar E Torres Campus	10%	11%	49%	51%	90%	88%
Acero Charter School Network – Roberto Clemente Campus	10%	12%	46%	46%	92%	89%
Acero Charter School Network – Rufino Tamayo Campus	16%	16%	61%	60%	95%	92%
Acero Charter School Network – Sandra Cisneros Campus	9%	9%	45%	49%	95%	95%
Acero Charter School Network – Sor Juana Ines de la Cruz	14%	12%	43%	44%	94%	93%
Acero Charter School Network – SPC Daniel Zizumbo Campus	11%	10%	38%	41%	89%	88%
Acero Charter School Network – Victoria Soto Campus	14%	15%	29%	33%	96%	90%
ACE Technical Charter High School	22%	N/A	8%	N/A	99%	N/A
Asian Human Services - Passages Charter School	11%	9%	41%	41%	86%	85%
ASPIRA Charter – Business and Finance HS	22%	21%	34%	33%	97%	66%
ASPIRA Charter – Early College Prep HS	24%	26%	31%	34%	95%	95%
ASPIRA Charter – Haugan Campus	14%	17%	26%	34%	97%	95%
Catalyst Charter – Circle Rock ES	12%	10%	0%	0%	93%	81%
Catalyst Charter – Maria	15%	14%	19%	20%	96%	93%
Chicago Collegiate Charter School	19%	17%	0%	0%	92%	83%
Chicago Math & Science Academy Charter School	10%	11%	16%	20%	93%	91%
Chicago Virtual Charter School	15%	12%	7%	8%	76%	64%
Christopher House Charter ES	18%	16%	38%	35%	94%	83%
CICS – Avalon/South Shore	11%	10%	1%	1%	92%	90%
CICS – Basil Campus	11%	12%	8%	8%	96%	96%
CICS – Bond Campus	15%	12%	1%	0%	97%	98%
CICS – Bucktown Campus	12%	12%	19%	19%	78%	75%
CICS – Irving Park Campus	17%	15%	23%	26%	62%	59%
CICS – Longwood Campus	17%	19%	1%	1%	90%	88%
CICS – Loomis Primary Campus	12%	9%	0%	0%	92%	91%
CICS – Northtown Campus	23%	22%	16%	16%	79%	77%

Charter School	Percent Students with IEPs		Percent English Learners		Percent Low-Income	
	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019
CICS – Prairie Campus	14%	13%	24%	26%	94%	95%
CICS – Quest North Campus	23%	22%	4%	3%	94%	92%
CICS – Ralph Ellison Campus	19%	22%	0%	0%	93%	92%
CICS – Washington Park Campus	13%	12%	0%	0%	95%	93%
CICS – West Belden Campus	16%	15%	45%	45%	88%	86%
CICS – Wrightwood	11%	9%	2%	1%	90%	88%
EPIC Academy High School	21%	21%	15%	14%	96%	96%
Erie Elem Charter School	18%	17%	46%	47%	87%	78%
Foundations College Prep Charter	25%	24%	1%	2%	97%	95%
Frazier Prep Academy Charter ES	10%	8%	0%	0%	92%	97%
Great Lakes Academy Charter ES	7%	11%	7%	9%	87%	86%
Horizon Science Academy - Southwest Charter	13%	12%	23%	25%	96%	95%
IHSCA Charter High School	20%	20%	25%	30%	99%	95%
IJLA Charter High School	17%	11%	35%	33%	100%	97%
Intrinsic Charter High School	18%	19%	13%	15%	84%	84%
KIPP Academy Chicago Campus	16%	15%	1%	1%	96%	94%
KIPP Chicago Charter School – Ascend Academy	13%	12%	1%	1%	96%	95%
KIPP Chicago Charter School – Bloom Campus	17%	16%	2%	2%	93%	94%
KIPP Chicago Charter School – KIPP One Academy	11%	10%	8%	14%	98%	97%
LEARN Charter – 7th Campus	12%	13%	1%	0%	96%	92%
LEARN Charter – Butler	11%	7%	0%	0%	93%	93%
LEARN Charter – Campbell Campus	9%	9%	2%	2%	98%	97%
LEARN Charter – Excel Campus	13%	12%	2%	2%	96%	88%
LEARN Charter – Hunter Perkins Campus	11%	10%	0%	0%	88%	85%
LEARN Charter – Middle School	16%	17%	1%	0%	98%	77%
LEARN Charter – South Chicago Campus	10%	9%	8%	10%	96%	96%
Legacy Elem Charter School	14%	13%	0%	0%	92%	90%
Legal Prep Academy Charter HS	24%	21%	0%	0%	98%	95%
Locke A Elem Charter Academy	9%	11%	0%	0%	93%	87%
Montessori of Englewood Charter ES	16%	15%	0%	1%	98%	98%
Moving Everest Charter School	12%	11%	0%	2%	93%	90%
Namaste Elem Charter School	18%	17%	43%	47%	77%	75%
Nkrumah Academy Charter ES	13%	10%	0%	0%	91%	68%
Noble St Charter – Baker Campus	24%	26%	5%	10%	96%	96%
Noble St Charter – Butler College Prep - Crimson	20%	20%	2%	2%	92%	89%
Noble St Charter – Chicago Bulls Prep	15%	16%	8%	10%	90%	90%
Noble St Charter – Comer College Prep	17%	16%	1%	1%	89%	84%
Noble St Charter – DRW Trading College Prep	27%	31%	1%	0%	94%	94%
Noble St Charter – Golder College Prep	15%	17%	12%	12%	94%	90%

Charter School	Percent Students with IEPs		Percent English Learners		Percent Low-Income	
	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019
Noble St Charter – Hansberry College Prep-Silver	22%	20%	1%	1%	87%	80%
Noble St Charter – ITW Speer Academy	14%	17%	13%	14%	91%	89%
Noble St Charter – Johnson College Prep	21%	21%	1%	1%	96%	92%
Noble St Charter – Mansueto	15%	17%	24%	25%	92%	91%
Noble St Charter – Muchin College Prep	11%	11%	7%	9%	85%	85%
Noble St Charter – Noble Campus	13%	14%	9%	10%	89%	83%
Noble St Charter – Pritzker College Prep	11%	11%	12%	15%	95%	96%
Noble St Charter – Rauner College Prep	14%	14%	13%	13%	84%	84%
Noble St Charter – Rowe-Clark MS Academy	25%	26%	8%	8%	97%	95%
Noble St Charter – The Noble Academy	16%	15%	6%	6%	85%	82%
Noble St Charter – UIC College Prep	15%	14%	10%	11%	85%	85%
North Lawndale Prep Charter - Christiana	18%	20%	0%	0%	98%	97%
North Lawndale Prep Charter-Collins	16%	19%	0%	0%	97%	94%
Perspectives Charter – High School of Technology	20%	21%	1%	1%	92%	92%
Perspectives Charter – IIT Campus	21%	16%	2%	1%	93%	91%
Perspectives Charter – Joslin Campus	20%	19%	3%	1%	83%	85%
Perspectives Charter – Leadership Academy	17%	19%	0%	0%	95%	92%
Polaris Elem Charter Academy	16%	16%	1%	2%	95%	88%
Providence Englewood Elem Charter	13%	10%	2%	2%	92%	90%
Rowe Elementary	14%	13%	22%	23%	85%	85%
Univ of Chicago Charter – Donoghue	5%	5%	0%	1%	77%	77%
Univ of Chicago Charter – Nth Kenwood	7%	7%	1%	2%	72%	66%
Univ of Chicago Charter – Woodlawn	15%	15%	0%	0%	84%	79%
Univ of Chicago Charter – Woodson	14%	18%	1%	1%	85%	68%
Urban Prep Charter Academy Bronzeville HS	20%	24%	0%	0%	82%	80%
Urban Prep Charter Academy Englewood HS	24%	23%	0%	0%	85%	86%
Urban Prep Charter Academy West Campus HS	26%	28%	0%	0%	90%	87%
YCCS – Albizu Campos Puerto Rican HS	26%	22%	12%	9%	95%	92%
YCCS – ASPIRA Pantoja Alt HS	14%	16%	29%	27%	98%	83%
YCCS – Association House	22%	22%	10%	16%	99%	93%
YCCS – Austin Career Ed Center HS	13%	15%	0%	0%	100%	92%
YCCS – CCA Academy HS	16%	22%	1%	0%	98%	96%
YCCS – Chatham	15%	17%	0%	0%	79%	94%
YCCS – Community Youth Dev Inst HS	16%	20%	0%	0%	99%	99%
YCCS – Innovations of Arts Integration HS	17%	17%	1%	1%	99%	88%
YCCS – Jane Addams Alternative HS	12%	18%	6%	9%	98%	72%
YCCS – Latino Youth Alternative HS	19%	15%	19%	21%	99%	85%
YCCS – McKinley-Lakeside Leadership Academy	21%	20%	1%	1%	99%	96%

Charter School	Percent Students with IEPs		Percent English Learners		Percent Low-Income	
	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019
YCCS – Olive Harvey Mid College HS	10%	13%	2%	4%	93%	89%
YCCS – Progressive Leadership Academy	20%	14%	0%	1%	100%	80%
YCCS – Scholastic Achievement HS	19%	16%	0%	1%	97%	88%
YCCS – Sullivan House Alt HS	17%	17%	0%	0%	100%	98%
YCCS – Truman Middle College HS	11%	10%	21%	23%	87%	78%
YCCS – Westside Holistic Leadership Academy HS	11%	17%	6%	7%	98%	92%
YCCS – West Town Academy Alt HS	15%	17%	4%	8%	97%	84%
YCCS – Youth Connection Leadership Academy	14%	18%	1%	1%	97%	83%
Young Women’s Leadership Charter HS	24%	28%	1%	2%	93%	88%
Amandla Charter School ⁺	22%	24%	1%	5%	88%	86%
Barbara A Sizemore Campus ⁺	9%	6%	1%	0%	42%	96%
Betty Shabazz International Charter School ⁺	9%	9%	0%	0%	48%	97%
Bronzeville Academy Charter School ⁺	16%	13%	0%	0%	100%	100%
Horizon Science Academy – Belmont Charter School ⁺	7%	9%	21%	17%	90%	90%
Horizon Science Academy – McKinley Park Charter School ⁺	10%	10%	23%	24%	65%	76%
CUSD 300	15%	16%	16%	17%	42%	42%
Cambridge Lakes Charter School	6%	8%	11%	13%	22%	23%
Decatur SD 61	18%	19%	2%	2%	66%	67%
Robertson Charter School	8%	8%	0%	0%	97%	83%
East St Louis SD 189	15%	16%	1%	1%	83%	93%
SIU Charter School of East St Louis	11%	9%	0%	0%	88%	97%
Fremont SD 79	14%	15%	12%	12%	8%	9%
Woodland SD 50	13%	14%	20%	22%	36%	35%
Prairie Crossing Charter School ⁺	13%	13%	7%	10%	6%	4%
McLean County USD 5	15%	18%	6%	6%	33%	33%
YBMC Charter School	19%	14%	0%	2%	63%	62%
North Chicago SD 187	15%	16%	28%	29%	92%	89%
LEARN Charter School 6 North Chicago Campus	10%	14%	19%	24%	63%	59%
LEARN 10 Charter School	9%	15%	23%	29%	43%	48%
Peoria SD 150	18%	18%	6%	6%	69%	70%
Quest Charter School Academy	9%	8%	3%	4%	68%	67%
Rich Township HSD 227	20%	19%	3%	2%	81%	79%
Southland College Prep Charter High School ⁺	9%	8%	1%	1%	44%	55%
Rockford SD 205	15%	16%	16%	17%	54%	64%
Galapagos Rockford Charter School	15%	17%	6%	5%	33%	37%
Jackson Charter School	17%	12%	6%	6%	29%	44%
Legacy Academy of Excellence Charter School	14%	15%	8%	9%	31%	36%
SD U-46	14%	15%	32%	34%	59%	61%
Elgin Math and Science Academy Charter School ⁺	N/A	14%	N/A	20%	N/A	4%

Charter School	Percent Students with IEPs		Percent English Learners		Percent Low-Income	
	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019
Springfield SD 186	21%	23%	1%	1%	68%	55%
Springfield Ball Charter School	17%	17%	0%	0%	59%	44%
Waukegan SD 60	14%	15%	33%	35%	70%	65%
LEARN Charter 9 Campus in Waukegan ⁺	8%	5%	59%	60%	93%	90%

⁺ Charter school authorized by the Illinois State Charter School Commission

4. Charter School Operations

Charter schools are afforded significant flexibility under the Illinois Charter Schools Law. The law exempts charter schools from most state laws and regulations in the School Code governing public schools and local school boards, with exceptions for those designed to protect the well-being and privacy of students and staff.^{xi}

Charter schools are operated by independent governing boards, and each charter school has complete autonomy over its educational plan and operations, provided it adheres to the terms and conditions of the approved charter agreement. Key components of the charter school’s education plan, such as curriculum, staff, professional development, length of school day and year, and “seat time” are left to the discretion of the charter school. In this way, charter schools may serve as testing grounds for innovative educational approaches that address the unique needs of students who may not succeed in a conventional educational environment.

At the end of the 2018-19 school year ISBE sent a survey to each charter school asking the school to report certain data for the last two academic years. That survey is attached to this report as [Attachment A](#). Among other data pieces, the survey asked each charter school to identify the key areas of flexibility the charter school utilized in that school year, with a brief explanation of how that exemption assisted or impeded the charter school in achieving its stated goals and objectives. Results are aggregated in Table 4A below and expounded on in the narrative that follows.

Table 4: Key Areas of Flexibility Used by Illinois Charter Schools

Area of Flexibility	Number of Charters Reporting Use (2018-2019) ^{xii}
Teacher certification	16
Autonomy to set educational priorities	16
Autonomy to design curriculum independent from school district	19
Autonomy to allow teaching methods that are new or different from the	17
Autonomy to design different, additional performance standards	13
Autonomy to set unique school day and school year schedules	18
Autonomy to manage fiscal affairs independent of school district	14
Autonomy to set employee compensation rates and/or provide bonuses	17
Autonomy to contract with external providers for various services	17
Autonomy to develop our own school food program	1

Section 4.1 – Staff Licensure

According to the survey responses, most charter schools take advantage of their flexibility under law to hire teachers who are not fully licensed in accordance with Article 21B of the Illinois School Code.

Under the Illinois Charter Schools Law, charter schools have total flexibility on setting qualification requirements for their school administrators. In addition, charter schools can hire a certain percentage of instructional personnel who do not hold a teaching license under Article 21B of the School Code, but meet other rigorous requirements, including: graduation with a bachelor’s degree from an accredited institution of higher education; employment for at least five years in an area requiring application of the individual’s education; passage of the relevant content area knowledge test required under Section 21B-30 of the School Code; and demonstrated continuing evidence of professional growth.

Some charter schools reported that in the current teacher shortage environment, the flexibility to hire individuals for certain instructional positions who do not hold teaching licenses is critical to their ability to fully staff their schools. Other charter schools reported that this flexibility has enabled them to recruit and retain instructors in areas of high need, such as math, science, fine arts and foreign language. Finally, other charter schools rely on this flexibility to hire individuals who have developed specific content area expertise in their previous careers and/or bring skills that benefit the charter school’s model. As examples:

- *Chicago Math & Science Academy (Chicago) provides a STEM-focused curriculum and reports that they used this flexibility to find teachers for computer and physics positions.*
- *Legal Prep Academy (Chicago) used this flexibility to hire a teacher with extensive legal experience to teach a pre-law course and further strengthen the school’s legal focus.*
- *The Noble Network of Charter Schools and Youth Connection Charter School are two large charter school networks located in Chicago. Both networks report that they rely on hiring flexibility to ensure that their staff is reflective of the communities they serve.*

In contrast, the following three charter schools reported that in 2018-19 they maintained 100 percent teacher licensure: Alain Locke Charter School (Chicago), Southland College Prep Charter High School (Richton Park), and Springfield Ball Charter School (Springfield).^{xiii} This may be because these schools have not had the same challenges with their teacher applicant pools or because the schools set their own policies on licensure that exceed the state requirement.

Section 4.2 – Educational Program Design

Charter schools also reported in high numbers that they take advantage of their autonomy to design an educational program that is distinct from their local school district’s. This includes charter school flexibilities in areas like curriculum design, educational priorities, and teaching methods. Charter schools report that these flexibilities allow them to incorporate the Illinois learning standards in innovative ways to best address the instructional needs of their unique student populations. As examples:

- *Quest Charter Academy (Peoria) uses teaching method flexibility to implement a learning platform that supports the academic model and includes mentoring, project-based learning, and student-directed learning.*
- *Prairie Crossing Charter School (Grayslake) reports that they have developed and use a unique curriculum that is student-centered and based on Place, Problem & Project-based learning activities aligned to the school's environmental understandings as well as the Illinois Learning Standards.*
- *Youth Connection Charter School is an options (alternative) charter school network located in Chicago. YCCS reports that the average enrollment of a student at Youth Connection is one year, so the YCCS curriculum focuses on the essential skills that can be taught in the time students are at the school. Students meet state graduation requirements through a blended learning program that consists of regular and online courses.*

Section 4.3 – School Calendar

The surveys asked charter schools to enter standard school day start and end times and their average number of instructional minutes per day for the 2018-19 school year. Their responses reflect widely varying approaches to this key area of the educational program, with schools reporting an average number of instructional minutes ranging from 300 minutes per day at one alternative network of charter schools located in Chicago to over 400 minutes as reported by five charter school respondents.

Charter schools have used the freedom to set school hours and calendars that differ from the school district's to create unique educational opportunities through field studies, internships, mentoring programs and community service experiences. Scheduling freedom also provides charter schools with the ability to offer increased professional development opportunities.

Section 4.4 – Budgeting and Fiscal Priorities

Charter schools also reported in high numbers that they rely heavily on the flexibility to set their own budget and fiscal priorities, including the flexibility to set employee compensation rates and/or bonus structures that may differ from their local districts'. Charter school governing boards are stewards of public funds and are responsible for managing their schools in a fiscally responsible manner. Therefore, while charter schools have broad flexibilities with budgeting and procurement decisions, the law dictates that they may be closed through revocation or non-renewal of the charter contract if they fail to meet generally accepted standards of fiscal management. Authorizers are charged with setting financial standards for their charter schools and renewing charter agreements only with those charter school organizations deemed to be organizationally and fiscally viable.

5. Charter School Student Performance

For the 2017-18 school year, Illinois administered the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) accountability assessment to students in grades 3 through 8, and the SAT exam for students in grade 11 as the high school assessment. In 2018-19 Illinois switched the grade 3 through 8 exam to the Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) accountability assessment, and again administered the SAT exam for students in grade 11 as the high school assessment.

Charter school assessment results are summarized separately for the 2017-18 and 2018-19 school years in the tables below, with overall results reported as well as results for low-income students and students of color (defined as black, Hispanic, Asian, Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, American Indian, or multi-racial). The below tables also report the local school district's results for comparison purposes. An asterisk in an assessment cell reflects a cell size less than 10 that has been redacted and suppressed in accordance with ISBE's federal and state student privacy policy.

Table 5A: Comparison of Charter School and District Performance on the PARCC/IAR Assessments

District/Charter School	2018 PARCC Proficiency %			2019 IAR Proficiency %	
	ELA	Math		ELA	Math
City of Chicago SD 299	28%	22%		27%	24%
Academy for Global Citizenship	23%	13%		13%	12%
Acero Charter School Network – Bartolome de las Casas	32%	28%		25%	23%
Acero Charter School Network – Brighton Park Campus	30%	21%		29%	22%
Acero Charter School Network – Carlos Fuentes Campus	31%	27%		29%	28%
Acero Charter School Network – Esmeralda Santiago Campus	31%	31%		24%	27%
Acero Charter School Network – Jovita Idar	42%	28%		34%	22%
Acero Charter School Network – Octavio Paz Campus	12%	6%		13%	7%
Acero Charter School Network – Officer Donald J Marquez Campus	18%	19%		19%	21%
Acero Charter School Network – PFC Omar E Torres Campus	27%	29%		24%	27%
Acero Charter School Network – Roberto Clemente Campus	21%	14%		16%	13%
Acero Charter School Network – Rufino Tamayo Campus	34%	30%		39%	26%
Acero Charter School Network – Sandra Cisneros Campus	29%	23%		20%	17%
Acero Charter School Network – Sor Juana Ines de la Cruz	21%	16%		20%	13%
Acero Charter School Network – SPC Daniel Zizumbo Campus	36%	27%		35%	28%
Asian Human Services - Passages Charter School	28%	24%		27%	24%
ASPIRA Charter – Haugan Campus	22%	11%		16%	7%
Catalyst Charter – Circle Rock ES	14%	9%		15%	12%
Catalyst Charter – Maria	20%	14%		25%	16%
Chicago Collegiate Charter School	6%	4%		11%	7%
Chicago Math & Science Academy Charter School	24%	27%		19%	23%
Chicago Virtual Charter School	30%	20%		21%	15%
Christopher House Charter ES	47%	28%		35%	16%
CICS – Avalon/South Shore	48%	37%		42%	29%
CICS – Basil Campus	36%	26%		31%	30%
CICS – Bond Campus	11%	8%		10%	8%
CICS – Bucktown Campus	21%	12%		19%	15%
CICS – Irving Park Campus	37%	24%		33%	25%
CICS – Longwood Campus	14%	6%		15%	8%
CICS – Prairie Campus	14%	18%		20%	17%
CICS – Washington Park Campus	33%	22%		38%	22%
CICS – West Belden Campus	26%	16%		27%	16%
CICS – Wrightwood	11%	10%		15%	12%
Erie Elem Charter School	24%	6%		28%	9%
Foundations College Prep Charter	9%	5%		9%	2%

District/Charter School	2018 PARCC Proficiency %			2019 IAR Proficiency %	
	ELA	Math		ELA	Math
Frazier Prep Academy Charter ES	11%	1%		10%	3%
Great Lakes Academy Charter ES	52%	27%		28%	18%
Horizon Science Academy – Southwest Charter	20%	16%		21%	18%
Intrinsic Charter High School	17%	14%		25%	22%
KIPP Academy Chicago Campus	23%	17%		24%	20%
KIPP Chicago Charter School – Ascend Academy	18%	15%		20%	21%
KIPP Chicago Charter School – Bloom Campus	15%	10%		13%	11%
KIPP Chicago Charter School – KIPP One Academy	24%	19%		27%	22%
LEARN Charter – 7th Campus	17%	17%		19%	17%
LEARN Charter – Butler	32%	19%		28%	21%
LEARN Charter – Campbell Campus	33%	16%		25%	16%
LEARN Charter – Excel Campus	31%	32%		38%	32%
LEARN Charter – Hunter Perkins Campus	29%	18%		31%	23%
LEARN Charter – Middle School	11%	17%		18%	11%
LEARN Charter – South Chicago Campus	26%	22%		27%	24%
Legacy Elem Charter School	18%	11%		18%	10%
Locke A Elem Charter Academy	54%	35%		44%	27%
Montessori of Englewood Charter ES	7%	1%		4%	1%
Moving Everest Charter School	17%	14%		17%	11%
Namaste Elem Charter School	24%	13%		16%	9%
Nkrumah Academy Charter ES	6%	1%		23%	8%
Noble St Charter – Comer College Prep	17%	28%		13%	18%
Perspectives Charter – IIT Campus	9%	15%		10%	17%
Perspectives Charter – Joslin Campus	11%	13%		22%	7%
Perspectives Charter – Leadership Academy	9%	10%		14%	7%
Polaris Elem Charter Academy	19%	9%		18%	10%
Providence Englewood Elem Charter	19%	10%		21%	15%
Rowe Elementary	28%	24%		24%	20%
Univ of Chicago Charter – Donoghue	26%	17%		21%	22%
Univ of Chicago Charter – North Kenwood	33%	22%		26%	26%
Univ of Chicago Charter – Woodlawn	*	*		*	*
Univ of Chicago Charter – Woodson	8%	17%		0%	13%
Amandla Charter School*	2%	2%		NA	NA
Barbara A Sizemore Campus*	2%	7%		5%	6%
Betty Shabazz International Charter School*	30%	14%		19%	9%
Bronzeville Academy Charter School*	9%	0%		7%	3%
Horizon Science Academy – Belmont Charter School*	32%	21%		36%	25%
Horizon Science Academy – McKinley Park Charter School*	45%	39%		49%	43%
CUUSD 300	39%	35%		38%	35%
Cambridge Lakes Charter School	42%	35%		42%	36%
Decatur SD 61	12%	7%		12%	7%
Robertson Charter School	6%	2%		7%	2%
Fremont SD 79	56%	47%		54%	46%

Charter School	2018 PARCC Proficiency %		2019 IAR Proficiency %	
	ELA	Math	ELA	Math
Woodland SD 50	40%	38%	36%	36%
Prairie Crossing Charter School ⁺	71%	56%	54%	57%
North Chicago SD 187	14%	12%	17%	12%
LEARN Charter School 6 North Chicago Campus	41%	36%	45%	32%
LEARN 10 Charter School	14%	13%	22%	16%
Peoria SD 150	20%	17%	18%	16%
Quest Charter School Academy	11%	4%	12%	5%
Rockford SD 205	17%	13%	19%	14%
Galapagos Rockford Charter School	14%	16%	21%	18%
Jackson Charter School	4%	3%	6%	1%
Legacy Academy of Excellence Charter School	11%	6%	14%	9%
SD U-46	26%	26%	27%	27%
Elgin Math and Science Academy Charter School ⁺	N/A	N/A	35%	47%
Springfield SD 186	27%	24%	27%	24%
Springfield Ball Charter School	35%	25%	37%	28%
Waukegan SD 60	16%	14%	20%	16%
LEARN Charter 9 Campus in Waukegan ⁺	16%	9%	28%	20%

⁺Charter school authorized by the Illinois State Charter School Commission

Table 5B: Comparison of Charter School and District Performance on the SAT Assessment

Charter School	2018 SAT Proficiency %		2019 SAT Proficiency %	
	ELA	Math	ELA	MATH
City of Chicago SD 299	25%	25%	26%	26%
Acero Charter School Network – Major Hector P Garcia MD Campus	17%	16%	12%	11%
Acero Charter School Network – Sor Juana Ines de la Cruz	8%	8%	12%	20%
Acero Charter School Network – Victoria Soto Campus	11%	5%	8%	4%
ACE Technical Charter High School	2%	3%	N/A	N/A
ASPIRA Charter – Business and Finance HS	6%	5%	7%	4%
ASPIRA Charter – Early College Prep HS	9%	5%	11%	12%
Catalyst Charter – Maria	6%	4%	11%	6%
Chicago Math & Science Academy Charter School	33%	45%	29%	55%
Chicago Virtual Charter School	33%	15%	33%	19%
CICS – Longwood Campus	3%	1%	2%	3%
CICS – Northtown Campus	24%	20%	13%	20%
CICS – Quest North Campus	9%	7%	6%	0%
CICS – Ralph Ellison Campus	5%	1%	1%	1%
EPIC Academy High School	14%	7%	12%	7%
Horizon Science Academy – Southwest Charter	3%	5%	10%	10%
IHSCA Charter High School	3%	5%	6%	5%
IJLA Charter High School	5%	0%	3%	0%

Charter School	2018 SAT Proficiency %		2019 SAT Proficiency %	
	ELA	Math	ELA	MATH
Intrinsic Charter High School	23%	29%	22%	25%
Legal Prep Academy Charter HS	3%	3%	1%	5%
Noble St Charter – Baker Campus	17%	29%	16%	23%
Noble St Charter – Butler College Prep-Crimson	16%	16%	7%	11%
Noble St Charter – Chicago Bulls Prep	29%	44%	28%	48%
Noble St Charter – Comer College Prep	21%	21%	15%	10%
Noble St Charter – DRW Trading College Prep	12%	13%	6%	8%
Noble St Charter – Golder College Prep	32%	42%	25%	37%
Noble St Charter – Hansberry College Prep-Silver	22%	12%	20%	22%
Noble St Charter – ITW Speer Academy	32%	52%	36%	58%
Noble St Charter – Johnson College Prep	9%	10%	9%	18%
Noble St Charter – Muchin College Prep	40%	47%	31%	42%
Noble St Charter – Noble Campus	37%	52%	38%	50%
Noble St Charter – Pritzker College Prep	46%	56%	38%	56%
Noble St Charter – Rauner College Prep	35%	36%	32%	45%
Noble St Charter – Rowe-Clark MS Academy	20%	16%	16%	28%
Noble St Charter – The Noble Academy	43%	51%	37%	39%
Noble St Charter – UIC College Prep	37%	47%	43%	57%
North Lawndale Prep Charter – Christiana	2%	1%	2%	7%
North Lawndale Prep Charter – Collins	2%	1%	8%	0%
Perspectives Charter – High School of Technology	1%	0%	5%	2%
Perspectives Charter – IIT Campus	13%	9%	8%	4%
Perspectives Charter – Joslin Campus	10%	5%	7%	5%
Perspectives Charter – Leadership Academy	7%	1%	0%	2%
Univ of Chicago Charter – Woodlawn	12%	5%	4%	2%
Urban Prep Charter Academy Bronzeville HS	0%	2%	8%	2%
Urban Prep Charter Academy Englewood HS	5%	14%	2%	2%
Urban Prep Charter Academy West Campus HS	6%	2%	0%	3%
YCCS – Albizu Campos Puerto Rican HS	1%	6%	0%	0%
YCCS – ASPIRA Pantoja Alt HS	2%	0%	3%	0%
YCCS – Association House	2%	2%	4%	2%
YCCS – Austin Career Ed Center HS	0%	0%	0%	0%
YCCS – CCA Academy HS	2%	2%	0%	0%
YCCS – Chatham	0%	0%	0%	0%
YCCS – Community Youth Dev Inst HS	0%	0%	0%	0%
YCCS – Innovations of Arts Integration HS	0%	3%	0%	0%
YCCS – Jane Addams Alternative HS	6%	10%	10%	2%
YCCS – Latino Youth Alternative HS	3%	1%	0%	1%
YCCS – McKinley-Lakeside Leadership Academy	0%	0%	0%	0%
YCCS – Olive Harvey Mid College HS	0%	0%	2%	0%
YCCS – Progressive Leadership Academy	0%	0%	0%	0%
YCCS – Scholastic Achievement HS	0%	0%	0%	2%
YCCS – Sullivan House Alt HS	2%	0%	1%	0%

Charter School	2018 SAT Proficiency %		2019 SAT Proficiency %	
	ELA	Math	ELA	MATH
YCCS – Truman Middle College HS	13%	5%	8%	4%
YCCS – Westside Holistic Leadership Academy HS	5%	3%	0%	0%
YCCS – West Town Academy Alt HS	2%	0%	0%	0%
YCCS – Youth Connection Leadership Academy	0%	0%	3%	1%
Young Women’s Leadership Charter HS	5%	2%	4%	4%
Amandla Charter School*	7%	2%	4%	1%
Horizon Science Academy – McKinley Park Charter School*	23%	26%	18%	30%
CUUSD 300	37%	34%	36%	37%
Cambridge Lakes Charter School	50%	20%	50%	17%
McLean County USD 5	45%	42%	43%	41%
YBMC Charter School	5%	0%	5%	5%
East St Louis SD 189	3%	2%	5%	2%
SIU Charter Sch of East St Louis	13%	4%	3%	5%
Peoria SD 150	20%	15%	18%	15%
Quest Charter School Academy	9%	3%	8%	9%
Rich Township HSD 227	13%	8%	12%	8%
Southland College Prep Charter High School*	45%	36%	37%	30%
Rockford SD 205	22%	17%	21%	15%
Legacy Academy of Excellence Charter School	*	*	*	*

* Charter school authorized by the Illinois State Charter School Commission

Table 5C: Comparison of District and Charter School PARCC/IAR Assessment Performance for Low-Income Students and Students of Color

Charter School	Low Income Students				Students of Color			
	2018 PARCC Proficiency		2019 IAR Proficiency		2018 PARCC Proficiency		2019 IAR Proficiency	
	ELA	Math	ELA	Math	ELA	Math	ELA	Math
City of Chicago SD 299	22%	17%	21%	18%	25%	19%	29%	26%
Academy for Global Citizenship	22%	12%	12%	14%	20%	14%	12%	13%
Acero Charter School Network – Bartolome de las Casas	32%	28%	23%	22%	32%	28%	25%	23%
Acero Charter School Network – Brighton Park	29%	21%	28%	22%	30%	21%	29%	22%
Acero Charter School Network – Carlos Fuentes	31%	27%	28%	28%	31%	27%	29%	28%
Acero Charter School Network – Esmeralda Santiago	32%	32%	24%	26%	32%	31%	25%	27%
Acero Charter School Network – Jovita Idar	42%	29%	34%	22%	42%	28%	34%	22%
Acero Charter School Network – Octavio Paz	12%	6%	13%	6%	12%	6%	13%	7%
Acero Charter School Network – Officer Donald J Marquez	16%	18%	19%	20%	18%	19%	19%	21%
Acero Charter School Network – PFC Omar E Torres	26%	28%	23%	27%	27%	29%	24%	27%
Acero Charter School Network – Roberto Clemente Campus	20%	14%	16%	13%	21%	14%	16%	13%
Acero Charter School Network – Rufino Tamayo	35%	29%	40%	26%	34%	30%	39%	26%
Acero Charter School Network – Sandra Cisneros Campus	29%	23%	20%	17%	29%	23%	20%	17%

Charter School	Low Income Students				Students of Color			
	2018 PARCC Proficiency		2019 IAR Proficiency		2018 PARCC Proficiency		2019 IAR Proficiency	
	ELA	Math	ELA	Math	ELA	Math	ELA	Math
Acero Charter School Network – Sor Juana Ines de la Cruz	20%	16%	20%	13%	21%	16%	21%	13%
Acero Charter School Network – SPC Daniel Zizumbo	35%	27%	34%	27%	36%	27%	35%	28%
Asian Human Services - Passages Charter School	29%	23%	26%	21%	29%	24%	27%	24%
ASPIRA Charter - Haugan Campus	21%	10%	15%	6%	22%	11%	16%	7%
Catalyst Charter – Circle Rock ES	14%	9%	14%	11%	14%	9%	15%	12%
Catalyst Charter – Maria	18%	13%	25%	16%	19%	14%	25%	15%
Chicago Collegiate Charter School	5%	3%	10%	6%	6%	4%	11%	7%
Chicago Math & Science Academy Charter School	23%	26%	17%	22%	24%	27%	19%	23%
Chicago Virtual Charter School	25%	13%	18%	12%	27%	16%	19%	13%
Christopher House Charter ES	45%	28%	33%	16%	47%	28%	35%	16%
CICS – Avalon/South Shore	48%	36%	42%	29%	48%	37%	42%	29%
CICS – Basil Campus	35%	25%	30%	29%	36%	26%	31%	30%
CICS – Bond Campus	12%	8%	10%	7%	11%	8%	10%	8%
CICS – Bucktown Campus	18%	12%	17%	13%	21%	12%	19%	15%
CICS – Irving Park Campus	30%	15%	21%	16%	35%	22%	29%	22%
CICS – Longwood Campus	13%	6%	14%	8%	14%	6%	15%	8%
CICS – Prairie Campus	14%	18%	20%	16%	14%	17%	21%	17%
CICS – Washington Park Campus	33%	21%	38%	22%	33%	22%	38%	22%
CICS – West Belden Campus	23%	15%	27%	15%	26%	16%	28%	16%
CICS –Wrightwood	11%	10%	14%	12%	11%	10%	15%	12%
Erie Elem Charter School	21%	4%	25%	8%	24%	6%	28%	9%
Foundations College Prep Charter	8%	5%	10%	2%	9%	5%	9%	2%
Frazier Prep Academy Charter ES	10%	0%	11%	3%	11%	1%	10%	3%
Great Lakes Academy Charter ES	46%	21%	24%	15%	52%	27%	28%	18%
Horizon Science Academy – Southwest Charter	19%	15%	20%	18%	20%	16%	21%	18%
Intrinsic Charter High School	15%	12%	23%	20%	16%	13%	24%	21%
KIPP Academy Chicago Campus	24%	17%	23%	20%	23%	17%	24%	20%
KIPP Chicago Charter School – Ascend Academy	18%	14%	19%	21%	18%	14%	20%	21%
KIPP Chicago Charter School – Bloom Campus	13%	9%	12%	10%	15%	10%	13%	11%
KIPP Chicago Charter School – KIPP One Academy	25%	19%	27%	21%	24%	19%	27%	22%
LEARN Charter – 7th Campus	15%	15%	19%	17%	17%	17%	19%	17%
LEARN Charter – Butler	30%	18%	27%	20%	32%	19%	28%	21%
LEARN Charter – Campbell Campus	32%	15%	25%	16%	33%	16%	25%	16%
LEARN Charter – Excel Campus	30%	32%	38%	32%	31%	32%	38%	32%
LEARN Charter – Hunter Perkins Campus	29%	18%	32%	22%	29%	18%	31%	23%
LEARN Charter – Middle School	11%	16%	18%	11%	11%	17%	18%	11%
LEARN Charter – South Chicago Campus	26%	22%	26%	23%	26%	22%	26%	24%
Legacy Elem Charter School	18%	10%	17%	9%	18%	11%	18%	10%
Locke A Elem Charter Academy	52%	33%	42%	27%	54%	35%	44%	27%
Montessori of Englewood Charter ES	6%	1%	4%	1%	7%	1%	4%	1%
Moving Everest Charter School	15%	11%	16%	12%	17%	14%	17%	11%

Charter School	Low Income Students				Students of Color			
	2018 PARCC Proficiency		2019 IAR Proficiency		2018 PARCC Proficiency		2019 IAR Proficiency	
	ELA	Math	ELA	Math	ELA	Math	ELA	Math
Namaste Elem Charter School	19%	11%	11%	6%	23%	12%	14%	8%
Nkrumah Academy Charter ES	4%	1%	20%	6%	6%	1%	23%	8%
Noble St Charter – Comer College Prep	16%	25%	13%	18%	17%	28%	13%	18%
Perspectives Charter – IIT Campus	7%	11%	9%	11%	9%	15%	10%	17%
Perspectives Charter – Joslin Campus	11%	12%	23%	9%	11%	13%	22%	7%
Perspectives Charter – Leadership Academy	9%	9%	14%	6%	9%	10%	14%	7%
Polaris Elem Charter Academy	18%	8%	19%	9%	19%	9%	18%	10%
Providence Englewood Elem Charter	18%	8%	20%	13%	19%	10%	21%	15%
Rowe Elementary	27%	23%	21%	18%	28%	24%	24%	20%
Univ of Chicago Charter – Donoghue	24%	16%	21%	22%	26%	17%	21%	22%
Univ of Chicago Charter – Nth Kenwood	28%	13%	23%	20%	33%	21%	24%	25%
Univ of Chicago Charter – Woodson	9%	17%	0%	17%	8%	17%	0%	13%
Amandla Charter School*	2%	2%	*	*	2%	2%	*	*
Barbara A Sizemore Campus*	2%	7%	5%	6%	2%	7%	5%	6%
Betty Shabazz International Charter School*	30%	11%	19%	9%	30%	14%	19%	9%
Bronzeville Academy Charter School*	9%	0%	7%	3%	9%	0%	7%	3%
Horizon Science Academy – Belmont Charter School*	32%	21%	33%	23%	32%	20%	36%	25%
Horizon Science Academy – McKinley Park Charter School*	45%	36%	46%	39%	45%	38%	49%	42%
CUUSD 300	24%	22%	23%	21%	30%	27%	8%	3%
Cambridge Lakes Charter School	18%	14%	17%	15%	38%	35%	40%	34%
Decatur SD 61	7%	4%	9%	4%	7%	4%	14%	9%
Robertson Charter School	6%	3%	7%	1%	5%	3%	7%	2%
Fremont SD 79	32%	18%	32%	20%	57%	46%	55%	45%
Woodland SD 50	20%	17%	16%	16%	33%	29%	30%	28%
Prairie Crossing Charter School*	60%	35%	40%	53%	69%	57%	48%	55%
North Chicago SD 187	11%	9%	13%	9%	14%	11%	16%	11%
LEARN 10 Charter School	8%	11%	13%	10%	9%	6%	21%	12%
LEARN Charter School 6 North Chicago Campus	36%	33%	42%	27%	41%	36%	45%	31%
Peoria SD 150	13%	9%	11%	9%	14%	10%	13%	10%
Quest Charter School Academy	10%	3%	12%	6%	10%	4%	12%	5%
Rockford SD 205	10%	7%	12%	8%	12%	8%	13%	9%
Galapagos Rockford Charter School	11%	13%	22%	17%	14%	15%	19%	16%
Jackson Charter School	3%	1%	3%	1%	3%	3%	6%	2%
Legacy Academy of Excellence Charter School	7%	2%	8%	8%	10%	5%	14%	9%
SD U-46	16%	16%	17%	17%	21%	21%	23%	22%
Elgin Math and Science Academy Charter School*	N/A	N/A	*	*	N/A	N/A	38%	38%
Springfield SD 186	16%	15%	15%	13%	19%	16%	19%	16%
Springfield Ball Charter School	31%	20%	26%	16%	31%	19%	33%	22%
Waukegan SD 60	14%	17%	12%	14%	16%	19%	13%	16%
LEARN Charter 9 Campus in Waukegan*	16%	9%	28%	20%	16%	8%	28%	19%

* Charter school authorized by the Illinois State Charter School Commission

Table 5D: Comparison of District and Charter School Performance on SAT Assessment for Low-Income Students and Students of Color

Charter School	Low-Income Students SAT Proficiency %				Students of Color SAT Proficiency %			
	2018 ELA	2018 Math	2019 ELA	2019 Math	2018 ELA	2018 Math	2019 ELA	2019 Math
City of Chicago SD 299	19%	19%	19%	20%	22%	22%	22%	23%
Acero Charter School Network – Major Hector P Garcia MD Campus	15%	15%	12%	12%	17%	16%	12%	11%
Acero Charter Sch Network – Sor Juana Ines de la Cruz	6%	6%	13%	21%	5%	5%	12%	20%
Acero Charter School Network – Victoria Soto Campus	10%	5%	9%	3%	11%	5%	8%	4%
ACE Technical Charter High School	2%	3%	N/A	N/A	2%	3%	N/A	N/A
ASPIRA Charter – Business and Finance HS	6%	6%	8%	5%	6%	6%	7%	4%
ASPIRA Charter – Early College Prep HS	8%	5%	9%	10%	8%	5%	11%	12%
Catalyst Charter – Maria	6%	3%	11%	6%	6%	4%	11%	6%
Chicago Math & Science Academy Charter School	32%	46%	29%	54%	33%	44%	28%	56%
Chicago Virtual Charter School	33%	14%	38%	16%	38%	19%	31%	12%
CICS – Longwood Campus	3%	1%	2%	2%	3%	1%	2%	3%
CICS – Northtown Campus	23%	19%	10%	17%	21%	20%	11%	19%
CICS – Quest North Campus	8%	6%	7%	0%	7%	5%	6%	0%
CICS – Ralph Ellison Campus	5%	1%	1%	1%	5%	1%	1%	1%
EPIC Academy High School	15%	8%	13%	8%	14%	8%	12%	7%
Horizon Science Academy – Southwest Charter	3%	5%	10%	10%	3%	5%	10%	10%
IHSCA Charter High School	3%	5%	5%	5%	3%	5%	6%	5%
IJLA Charter High School	5%	0%	3%	0%	5%	0%	3%	0%
Intrinsic Charter High School	16%	26%	18%	21%	23%	30%	20%	23%
Legal Prep Academy Charter HS	4%	4%	0%	5%	3%	3%	1%	5%
Noble St Charter – Baker Campus	15%	29%	17%	24%	17%	29%	17%	20%
Noble St Charter – Butler College Prep-Crimson	15%	15%	6%	10%	16%	16%	7%	11%
Noble St Charter – Chicago Bulls Prep	28%	43%	25%	47%	29%	44%	28%	47%
Noble St Charter – Comer College Prep	19%	20%	17%	9%	21%	21%	15%	10%
Noble St Charter – DRW Trading College Prep	12%	14%	6%	8%	12%	13%	6%	8%
Noble St Charter – Golder College Prep	31%	41%	24%	37%	31%	43%	25%	36%
Noble St Charter – Hansberry College Prep-Silver	21%	11%	17%	22%	22%	12%	20%	22%
Noble St Charter – ITW Speer Academy	31%	53%	34%	59%	31%	53%	35%	59%
Noble St Charter – Johnson College Prep	8%	10%	8%	18%	9%	10%	9%	18%
Noble St Charter – Mansueto	NA	NA	33%	42%	NA	NA	34%	42%
Noble St Charter – Muchin College Prep	36%	44%	28%	40%	40%	47%	31%	42%
Noble St Charter – Noble Campus	33%	49%	36%	49%	37%	52%	37%	49%
Noble St Charter – Pritzker College Prep	46%	55%	38%	56%	47%	56%	38%	56%
Noble St Charter – Rauner College Prep	36%	35%	30%	45%	34%	37%	32%	45%
Noble St Charter – Rowe-Clark MS Academy	20%	17%	16%	29%	20%	16%	16%	28%
Noble St Charter – The Noble Academy	40%	48%	36%	40%	43%	51%	37%	39%
Noble St Charter – UIC College Prep	34%	46%	40%	58%	37%	48%	42%	57%
North Lawndale Prep Charter – Christiana	1%	1%	3%	8%	2%	1%	2%	7%
North Lawndale Prep Charter – Collins	3%	1%	8%	0%	2%	1%	8%	0%
Perspectives Charter – High School of Technology	1%	0%	3%	2%	1%	0%	5%	2%

Charter School	Low-Income Students SAT Proficiency %				Students of Color SAT Proficiency %			
	2018 ELA	2018 Math	2019 ELA	2019 Math	2018 ELA	2018 Math	2019 ELA	2019 Math
Perspectives Charter – IIT Campus	13%	9%	5%	2%	13%	9%	8%	4%
Perspectives Charter – Joslin Campus	12%	6%	9%	6%	9%	3%	7%	5%
Perspectives Charter – Leadership Academy	8%	1%	0%	2%	7%	1%	0%	2%
Univ of Chicago Charter – Woodlawn	11%	4%	5%	3%	12%	5%	4%	2%
Urban Prep Charter Academy Bronzeville HS	0%	2%	8%	2%	0%	2%	8%	2%
Urban Prep Charter Academy Englewood HS	4%	14%	2%	2%	5%	14%	2%	2%
Urban Prep Charter Academy West Campus HS	7%	2%	0%	0%	6%	2%	0%	3%
YCCS – Albizu Campos Puerto Rican HS	1%	4%	0%	0%	1%	6%	0%	0%
YCCS – ASPIRA Pantoja Alt HS	2%	0%	4%	0%	2%	0%	4%	0%
YCCS – Association House	0%	0%	4%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%
YCCS – Austin Career Ed Center HS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
YCCS – CCA Academy HS	2%	2%	0%	0%	2%	2%	0%	0%
YCCS – Chatham	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
YCCS – Community Youth Dev Inst HS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
YCCS – Innovations of Arts Integration HS	0%	3%	0%	0%	0%	3%	0%	0%
YCCS – Jane Addams Alternative HS	6%	10%	10%	3%	6%	10%	10%	2%
YCCS – Latino Youth Alternative HS	3%	1%	0%	2%	3%	1%	0%	1%
YCCS – McKinley-Lakeside Leadership Academy	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
YCCS – Olive Harvey Mid College HS	0%	0%	3%	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%
YCCS – Progressive Leadership Academy	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
YCCS – Scholastic Achievement HS	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	2%
YCCS – Sullivan House Alt HS	2%	0%	1%	0%	2%	0%	1%	0%
YCCS – Truman Middle College HS	11%	3%	7%	2%	12%	5%	8%	5%
YCCS – Westside Holistic Leadership Academy HS	5%	3%	0%	0%	5%	3%	0%	0%
YCCS – West Town Academy Alt HS	2%	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%
YCCS – Youth Connection Leadership Academy	0%	0%	3%	1%	0%	0%	3%	1%
Young Women’s Leadership Charter HS	4%	2%	4%	4%	5%	2%	4%	4%
Amandla Charter School*	7%	2%	3%	0%	7%	2%	3%	1%
Horizon Science Academy-McKinley Park Charter School*	18%	24%	14%	24%	23%	26%	17%	29%
CUUSD 300	15%	19%	19%	19%	24%	25%	24%	27%
Cambridge Lakes Charter School	0%	0%	40%	0%	43%	14%	33%	0%
East St Louis SD 189	3%	2%	5%	1%	4%	2%	5%	1%
SIU Charter Sch of East St Louis	10%	5%	3%	3%	13%	4%	3%	6%
McLean County USD 5	18%	17%	12%	12%	31%	31%	28%	28%
YBMC Charter School	6%	0%	8%	8%	8%	0%	0%	0%
Peoria SD 150	12%	7%	8%	6%	12%	8%	10%	8%
Quest Charter School Academy	6%	0%	4%	4%	6%	2%	6%	10%
Rich Township HSD 227	11%	8%	10%	6%	12%	9%	12%	8%
Southland College Prep Charter High School*	37%	26%	35%	29%	45%	35%	38%	30%

* Charter school authorized by the Illinois State Charter School Commission

Table 5E: Student Dropout Rates-2018 and 2019 (A change was made in the dropout calculation in 2018-19 and may falsely reflect a significant increase from the prior year's rate)

Charter High Schools	2017-18 Enrollment	2018-19 Enrollment	2017-18 Dropout Rate	2018-19 Dropout Rate
City of Chicago SD 299	107,765	105,352	5%	8%
Acero Charter School Network – Major Hector P Garcia MD Campus	600	618	0%	1%
Acero Charter School Network – Sor Juana Ines de la Cruz	187	164	2%	1%
Acero Charter School Network – Victoria Soto Campus	551	541	3%	4%
ACE Technical Charter High School	306	N/A	0%	N/A
ASPIRA Charter – Business and Finance HS	489	640	3%	3%
ASPIRA Charter – Early College Prep HS	364	328	5%	10%
Catalyst Charter – Maria	536	547	0%	1%
Chicago Collegiate Charter School	38	84	3%	0%
Chicago Math & Science Academy Charter School	340	357	0%	7%
Chicago Virtual Charter School	177	202	1%	8%
CICS – Longwood Campus	475	425	0%	3%
CICS – Northtown Campus	917	920	0%	2%
CICS – Quest North Campus	258	235	1%	8%
CICS – Ralph Ellison Campus	415	346	0%	4%
EPIC Academy High School	538	545	1%	4%
Foundations College Prep Charter	97	137	0%	5%
Horizon Science Academy – Southwest Charter	113	128	1%	2%
IHSCA Charter High School	749	741	1%	4%
IJLA Charter High School	86	89	30%	35%
Intrinsic Charter High School	677	673	0%	19%
Legal Prep Academy Charter HS	306	346	0%	2%
Noble St Charter – Baker Campus	365	230	3%	10%
Noble St Charter – Butler College Prep-Crimson	647	674	0%	2%
Noble St Charter – Chicago Bulls Prep	1136	1137	0%	2%
Noble St Charter – Comer College Prep	781	870	3%	3%
Noble St Charter – DRW Trading College Prep	508	355	1%	8%
Noble St Charter – Golder College Prep	662	665	2%	3%
Noble St Charter – Hansberry College Prep-Silver	628	554	2%	5%
Noble St Charter – ITW Speer Academy	1014	1067	1%	3%
Noble St Charter – Johnson College Prep	780	764	0%	6%
Noble St Charter – Mansueto	525	798	0%	1%
Noble St Charter – Muchin College Prep	956	973	0%	2%
Noble St Charter – Noble Campus	652	668	0%	2%
Noble St Charter – Pritzker College Prep	985	974	0%	2%
Noble St Charter – Rauner College Prep	633	615	1%	5%
Noble St Charter – Rowe-Clark MS Academy	461	404	4%	7%
Noble St Charter – The Noble Academy	489	444	1%	4%
Noble St Charter – UIC College Prep	939	934	1%	5%
North Lawndale Prep Charter – Christiana	353	371	0%	1%
North Lawndale Prep Charter – Collins	348	356	0%	1%
Perspectives Charter – High School of Technology	333	317	0%	1%

Charter High Schools	2017-18 Enrollment	2018-19 Enrollment	2017-18 Dropout Rate	2018-19 Dropout Rate
Perspectives Charter – IIT Campus	403	430	1%	3%
Perspectives Charter – Joslin Campus	258	282	1%	2%
Perspectives Charter – Leadership Academy	301	280	0%	2%
Univ of Chicago Charter – Woodlawn	411	394	1%	17%
Urban Prep Charter Academy Bronzeville HS	316	331	0%	3%
Urban Prep Charter Academy Englewood HS	260	258	1%	2%
Urban Prep Charter Academy West Campus HS	213	178	0%	4%
YCCS – Albizu Campus Puerto Rican HS	200	185	40%	34%
YCCS – ASPIRA Pantoja Alt HS	180	173	60%	54%
YCCS – Association House	143	129	62%	50%
YCCS – Austin Career Ed Center HS	143	106	39%	33%
YCCS – CCA Academy HS	163	158	39%	31%
YCCS – Chatham	164	174	47%	42%
YCCS – Community Youth Dev Inst HS	156	137	54%	46%
YCCS – Innovations of Arts Integration HS	409	403	48%	39%
YCCS – Jane Addams Alternative HS	209	209	56%	43%
YCCS – Latino Youth Alternative HS	231	219	48%	45%
YCCS – McKinley-Lakeside Leadership Academy	151	150	46%	29%
YCCS – Olive Harvey Mid College HS	101	101	50%	41%
YCCS – Progressive Leadership Academy	164	185	57%	35%
YCCS – Scholastic Achievement HS	154	170	32%	33%
YCCS – Sullivan House Alt HS	344	304	6%	16%
YCCS – Truman Middle College HS	221	218	40%	37%
YCCS – Westside Holistic Leadership Academy HS	95	155	63%	30%
YCCS – West Town Academy Alt HS	129	172	48%	40%
YCCS – Youth Connection Leadership Academy	231	219	36%	47%
Young Women’s Leadership Charter HS	188	158	1%	3%
Amandla Charter School*	180	272	0%	7%
Horizon Science Academy – McKinley Park Charter School*	279	274	0%	1%
CUUSD 300	6,402	6,588	1%	2%
Cambridge Lakes Charter School	33	41	3%	9%
East St Louis SD 189	1,558	1,444	4%	10%
SIU Charter School of East St Louis	106	113	1%	5%
McLean County USD 5	3,884	3,924	1%	2%
YBMC Charter School	52	42	21%	35%
Peoria SD 150	3,706	3,640	3%	9%
Quest Charter School Academy	276	271	0%	7%
Rich Township SD 227	3,001	2,938	2%	6%
Southland College Prep Charter High School*	531	543	0%	2%
Rockford SD 205	7,651	7,801	6%	8%
Legacy Academy of Excellence Charter School	28	32	0%	3%

* Charter school authorized by the Illinois State Charter School Commission

Table 5F: Student 4-year and 5-year Graduation Rates-2018 and 2019 (high schools only)

Charter High Schools	2018 4-Year Graduation Rate	2018 5-Year Graduation Rate	2019 4-Year Graduation Rate	2019 5-Year Graduation Rate
City of Chicago SD 299	76%	80%	76%	78%
Acero Charter School Network – Major Hector P Garcia MD Campus	95%	100%	92%	97%
Acero Charter School Network – Sor Juana Ines de la Cruz	91%	67%	86%	98%
Acero Charter School Network – Victoria Soto Campus	77%	15%	88%	86%
ACE Technical Charter High School	1%	69%	N/A	N/A
ASPIRA Charter – Business and Finance HS	*	*	*	*
ASPIRA Charter – Early College Prep HS	86%	69%	76%	92%
Catalyst Charter – Maria	91%	98%	93%	96%
Chicago Collegiate Charter School	*	*	*	*
Chicago Math & Science Academy Charter School	74%	90%	0%	74%
Chicago Virtual Charter School	57%	53%	46%	56%
CICS – Longwood Campus	92%	100%	82%	99%
CICS – Northtown Campus	95%	46%	99%	98%
CICS – Quest North Campus	78%	60%	86%	96%
CICS – Ralph Ellison Campus	87%	25%	89%	95%
EPIC Academy High School	76%	2%	81%	78%
Foundations College Prep Charter	*	*	*	*
Horizon Science Academy – Southwest Charter	*	*	88%	0%
IHSCA Charter High School	93%	95%	88%	95%
IJLA Charter High School	35%	20%	25%	51%
Intrinsic Charter High School	0%	92%	92%	96%
Legal Prep Academy Charter HS	77%	92%	87%	83%
Noble St Charter – Baker Campus	77%	86%	85%	90%
Noble St Charter – Butler College Prep-Crimson	96%	86%	91%	100%
Noble St Charter – Chicago Bulls Prep	92%	82%	95%	100%
Noble St Charter – Comer College Prep	88%	93%	88%	97%
Noble St Charter – DRW Trading College Prep	83%	80%	91%	98%
Noble St Charter – Golder College Prep	89%	75%	92%	95%
Noble St Charter – Hansberry College Prep-Silver	82%	75%	88%	90%
Noble St Charter – ITW Speer Academy	92%	100%	87%	97%
Noble St Charter – Johnson College Prep	80%	79%	85%	97%
Noble St Charter – Mansueto	*	*	*	*
Noble St Charter – Muchin College Prep	93%	100%	92%	100%
Noble St Charter – Noble Campus	94%	100%	95%	100%
Noble St Charter – Pritzker College Prep	93%	100%	88%	98%
Noble St Charter – Rauner College Prep	81%	80%	85%	98%
Noble St Charter – Rowe-Clark MS Academy	87%	70%	82%	97%
Noble St Charter – The Noble Academy	93%	50%	90%	98%
Noble St Charter – UIC College Prep	88%	71%	94%	97%
North Lawndale Prep Charter – Christiana	96%	100%	92%	99%
North Lawndale Prep Charter – Collins	92%	100%	86%	98%

Charter High Schools	2018 4-Year Graduation Rate	2018 5-Year Graduation Rate	2019 4-Year Graduation Rate	2019 5-Year Graduation Rate
Perspectives Charter – High School of Technology	99%	0%	97%	99%
Perspectives Charter – IIT Campus	97%	80%	88%	98%
Perspectives Charter – Joslin Campus	97%	0%	100%	98%
Perspectives Charter – Leadership Academy	98%	0%	95%	100%
Univ of Chicago Charter – Woodlawn	0%	0%	94%	0%
Urban Prep Charter Academy Bronzeville HS	92%	96%	96%	92%
Urban Prep Charter Academy Englewood HS	82%	86%	74%	84%
Urban Prep Charter Academy West Campus HS	73%	81%	84%	78%
YCCS – Albizu Campus Puerto Rican HS	34%	26%	44%	51%
YCCS – ASPIRA Pantoja Alt HS	20%	14%	22%	27%
YCCS – Association House	16%	16%	32%	23%
YCCS – Austin Career Ed Center HS	54%	50%	59%	60%
YCCS – CCA Academy HS	41%	22%	38%	42%
YCCS – Chatham	38%	30%	38%	49%
YCCS – Community Youth Dev Inst HS	32%	27%	32%	47%
YCCS – Innovations of Arts Integration HS	24%	17%	36%	44%
YCCS – Jane Addams Alternative HS	57%	44%	43%	60%
YCCS – Latino Youth Alternative HS	26%	27%	22%	37%
YCCS – McKinley-Lakeside Leadership Academy	49%	23%	50%	62%
YCCS – Olive Harvey Mid College HS	25%	26%	15%	30%
YCCS – Progressive Leadership Academy	63%	37%	62%	69%
YCCS – Scholastic Achievement HS	49%	30%	41%	58%
YCCS – Sullivan House Alt HS	46%	32%	54%	62%
YCCS – Truman Middle College HS	24%	48%	30%	37%
YCCS – Westside Holistic Leadership Academy HS	50%	39%	43%	62%
YCCS – West Town Academy Alt HS	35%	29%	41%	41%
YCCS – Youth Connection Leadership Academy	47%	40%	46%	51%
Young Women’s Leadership Charter HS	84%	88%	88%	91%
Amandla Charter School [†]	74%	93%	78%	85%
Horizon Science Academy – McKinley Park Charter School [†]	95%	*	95%	97%
CUUSD 300	91%	92%	92%	93%
Cambridge Lakes Charter School	75%	62%	85%	75%
East St Louis SD 189	73%	72%	71%	75%
SIU Charter School of East St Louis	89%	100%	92%	88%
McLean County USD 5	88%	90%	88%	89%
YBMC Charter School	25%	35%	17%	26%
Peoria SD 150	71%	73%	71%	74%
Quest Charter School Academy	81%	82%	82%	91%
Rich Township SD 227	82%	84%	86%	84%
Southland College Prep Charter High School [†]	100%	100%	98%	100%
Rockford SD 205	65%	71%	66%	70%
Legacy Academy of Excellence Charter School	50%	100%	50%	50%

[†] Charter school authorized by the Illinois State Charter School Commission

6. *Suggested Statutory Changes*

The biennial report must include “suggested changes in state law necessary to strengthen charter schools.” ISBE addressed this required element by asking charter schools to review a list of potential amendments to the Illinois Charter Schools Law and to indicate which suggested amendments they would support. As in prior years, respondents signaled the greatest levels of support for those amendments that would provide charter schools with additional operational funding.

The Evidence-Based Funding for Student Success Act (effective August 31, 2017) comprehensively changed the way that school districts are funded in Illinois. It also made a change to the Charter Schools Law that restricts local school board discretion in setting charter school tuition rates. Whereas previously the law required districts to pay their charter schools a per pupil amount of not less than 75 percent and not more than 125 percent of the local school district’s per capita tuition charge (PCTC), the new funding law narrowed the per pupil funding range to not less than 97 percent and not more than 103 percent of the PCTC. The narrowed range greatly reduces charter school funding variability from authorizer to authorizer and even among charter schools under the same authorizer (specifically, Chicago Public Schools [CPS]). CPS previously funded its charter schools using the same student-based budgeting methodology applied to all of its other schools. The district has argued that the change in charter funding actually *reduces* funding equity because it limits a local school board’s ability to allocate resources based on student need and district priorities and to target funds to students in poverty. See 2018 CPS Budget Book, [Appendix B](#).

Even with the narrowing of the PCTC funding range, the survey responses suggest that charter schools continue to perceive inequities in some key areas of operational funding. Survey respondents support statutory remedies to provide additional facilities funding (12 charter schools), transportation funding (13 charter schools), and discretionary operational funding beyond the per capita assistance from their authorizing district (12 charter schools).

The [2014 Charter School Funding Task Force Report](#) found that Illinois law “does not address equitable funding or access to facilities for Illinois charter schools.” The task force ultimately issued three recommendations related to access to and funding for facilities; as of the date of this report, none of those recommendations has become law. Five years after the publication of the task force report, charter schools continue to cite lack of access to local and capital dollars as a major financial challenge. In response to ISBE’s survey, one charter school wrote, “[f]acilities operational and capital costs are the biggest barrier to charter schools delivering equitable resources to their educational programs.” Another wrote, “[w]e are desperate for more facilities funds because of the improvements [our authorizer] is requiring us to make, without providing additional funds to do so ...”

Charter schools also support new options for transportation funding, even in Chicago where public transportation is widely available. One Chicago-based charter school wrote that “while low- or no-cost transportation is often available, lack of route consistency, timing of routes, and even safety issues on public transportation can be a barrier to students attending charters or keeping consistently high attendance and on-time rates.” A number of charter schools expressed a belief that increased funding for transportation would enable them to better meet their students’ needs and ultimately decrease truancy and dropout numbers.

In addition, a high number of survey respondents indicated that they support changing the law to allow additional preferences in the charter school lottery process. As public schools, charter schools must be open to all students who reside in the school district served; if there are more applications to the school than spaces available, enrollment must be determined by lottery. The law allows for preference in the lottery process in very limited circumstances — such as for siblings of already-enrolled students and students living within an attendance boundary established by CPS — and respondents have indicated their support for expanding those limited exceptions to include children of charter school employees (regardless of their home district) and students who are at risk of academic failure.

The table below summarizes the potential changes in law considered by survey respondents and the number of charter schools indicating their support for those changes.

Table 6: Suggested Changes in Law from Survey Responses

Suggested Changes in the Law	Number of Charters Supporting Change (2018-19)^{xiv}
Charter School and Authorizer Finances	
Provide transportation funding	13
Provide facilities financing	12
Allocate additional operating funds to charter schools beyond the per capita assistance from the authorizing district	12
Provide state grants to all schools, including those in renewal periods	9
Prohibit districts from charging rent for district buildings used by charter schools	8
Allocate funds to provide incentive grants to districts that approve charter schools	6
Increase the amount of state start-up grants to up to \$1,000 per enrolled student	5
Appropriate funds sufficient to fully fund state start-up grants as well as transition impact aid to districts	3
Admissions/Enrollment	
Allow children of employees to attend regardless of their home district	11
Allow children classified as “at risk” to have preference in the lottery in all charter schools	4
Other – (Allow children of employees to have preference in the lottery if they live within district)	1
Authorization	
Allow statewide RFPs for charter schools	10
Lengthen the 75 days currently allowed for authorizers to respond to charter school applications	1
Expansion of Charter Schools	
Allow multiple campuses for all schools	8
Prohibit multiple campuses for all charter schools	0
Other (Please Specify)	
Transfer of PCTC from state directly to charter schools and bypass the district	1
Allow for innovation as long as results are present, and standards are met	1

7. Authorizer Information

Under the Illinois Charter Schools Law, an “authorizer” is an entity empowered by law to “review [charter school] applications, decide whether to approve or reject applications, enter into charter contracts with applicants, oversee charter schools, and decide whether to renew, not renew, or revoke a charter.” Each state’s charter law allows for different entity types to act in this capacity, ranging from local school boards, to universities, to municipal officials such as the mayor of Indianapolis.

As previously noted, local school boards in Illinois are the primary authorizers of charter schools. The law also allows for a state appeal route when a local school board closes an existing charter school through revocation or non-renewal of the charter contract. Under new legislation effective August 23, 2019, ISBE and the Illinois State Charter School Commission currently share this function, with ISBE hearing appeals of charter revocations and the Commission continuing to hear appeals of non-renewals. The Commission will be abolished effective July 1, 2020, and at that time ISBE will be the only state agency empowered to hear charter school appeals. It will also become the authorizer of the Commission’s existing charter schools and any new charter schools that ISBE approves through the state appeal process.

Authorizer powers and duties are defined in the Charter Schools Law as follows: soliciting and evaluating charter school applications; approving quality charter applications; declining to approve weak or inadequate charter applications; negotiating and executing sound charter contracts with each approved charter school; monitoring, in accordance with charter contract terms, the performance and legal compliance of charter schools; and determining whether each charter contract merits renewal, non-renewal, or revocation. Authorizers are required to develop and maintain policies and practices consistent with recognized principles and standards for quality charter authorizing in all of these areas.

ISBE seeks to provide information regarding the operations of Illinois charter school authorizers in the 2020 Illinois Charter School Biennial Report. The areas of specific interest are listed statutorily as follows:

- 1) The authorizer’s strategic vision for chartering and progress toward achieving that vision;
- 2) The academic and financial performance of all operating charter schools overseen by the authorizer, according to the performance expectations for charter schools set forth in the Charter Schools Law;
- 3) The status of the authorizer’s charter school portfolio, identifying all charter schools in each of the following categories: approved (but not yet open), operating, renewed, transferred, revoked, not renewed, voluntarily closed, or never opened; and
- 4) The authorizing functions provided by the authorizer to the charter schools under its purview, including the authorizer’s operating costs and expenses.

ISBE surveyed the nine local school boards with at least one charter school and the Illinois State Charter School Commission at the end of the 2018-19 school year and compiled the information into individual authorizer profiles. All information included in these profiles was collected on an Authorizer Report Information form developed in accordance with Part 650.55 of the 23 Illinois Administrative Code and attached hereto as [Attachment B](#). Other than Academic Performance data, this information is entirely self-reported, so it may differ from ISBE data. The information has either been transposed directly from the survey to the profile or summarized by ISBE staff. Further, because ISBE asked authorizers to report

for school years 2017-18 and 2018-19 only, the profiles may not reflect authorizer activities in the current school year.

The authorizers report some similar goals for authorizing and their survey responses reflect support for their charter schools’ success in general, but the survey responses also reflect wide variance in authorizer practices. ISBE will use this information and information collected through its general oversight functions to determine trainings and interventions that may be needed to improve the quality of charter school authorizing in Illinois.

Charter Authorizer	CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT 299 (CPS) Office of Innovation & Incubation
Acting Executive Director	Mr. Hendrik Woods
Address	42 West Madison, Third Floor Chicago, IL 60602
Published Mission/Vision for Authorizing	<p>The mission of the Office of Innovation and Incubation (I&I) is to provide students with access to high-quality and innovative education through incubation of quality schools, accountability and high-quality oversight. The vision of the office is a diverse educational landscape of quality schools that meets the needs of all children.</p> <p>To uphold this mission and vision, I&I seeks to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Execute a rigorous new school authorization process that leads to a continuously improving portfolio of schools; - Provide ongoing oversight that ensures schools are meeting the expectations of the Charter Agreement and acting in accordance with the agreement and law; - Provide support to charter boards, schools, and parents that will result in greater connections and partnerships while increasing the performance and outcomes of schools; - Identify and share innovative models and best practices across the District and charter community; and - Ensure students have access to high-quality Options Schools and Programs.
Key Policies & Practices	<p>CPS identified the following six policies and practices that it pursues to achieve its authorizing goals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.) Setting Enrollment Targets Each authorized charter agreement contains within it a student enrollment maximum or cap. 2.) Defining the term “high-quality charter school” to guide authorizer decisions CPS utilizes the School Quality Rating Policy (SQRP) https://www.cps.edu/Performance/Documents/SQRP_Overview.pdf and the Charter School Quality Policy (CSQP) https://policy.cps.edu/download.aspx?ID=273. Additionally, all of the Chicago Board of Education’s charter school agreements contain an Accountability Plan that includes the CSQP and clear financial and operational performance expectations. The Accountability Plan is implemented through an annual review process and informs all charter school authorization decisions related to school renewal, revocation, replication, and expansion. 3.) Promoting the replication and expansion of existing charter schools with clear guidelines to do so CPS utilizes the guidelines for replication or expansion as set forth in the CSQP. The District also releases an application for existing operators to open a new campus.

	<p>The 2019 Application for Existing Operators can be accessed here: https://cps.edu/RFP2019/Pages/RFP2019.aspx.</p> <p>4.) Promoting conversion of low-performing neighborhood, contract, or other school types to charter status The Chicago Board of Education may consider a restart under new charter school management as an intervention approach to chronically failing schools.</p> <p>5.) Selecting locations for new charter schools based upon need CPS prioritizes charter school proposals to serve communities in high need of improving educational outcomes and communities experiencing school overcrowding. Through the Request for Proposals (RFP) process, CPS requests information from the applicant that demonstrates that the communit(ies) the applicant seeks to serve are in high need of improving educational outcomes, are experiencing overcrowding, or both.</p> <p>6.) Include an external expert panel to review charter applications CPS sometimes uses external subject matter experts to review new and/or renewal charter applications.</p>
Academic Performance	Refer to Section 5 of this Charter School Biennial Report.
Financial Performance	<p>CPS holds its charter schools to a common financial accountability plan outlined in each school’s agreement with the Chicago Board of Education. It created the framework of this plan through research of national best practices, input from charter school leaders, an analysis of historical and current CPS charter school financial health, and consultation with outside auditing firms. The framework holds charters accountable for the following indicators, which are each rated individually as Exceeds, Meets, or Does Not Meet the Standard based on a clearly defined rubric in the school’s Accountability Plan. The bolded metrics are considered “Key Indicators” of financial health:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Change in Net Assets ▪ Current Ratio ▪ Net Asset Ratio ▪ Cash on Hand Ratio ▪ Loan Delinquency ▪ Annual Audit – Financial Controls ▪ Document Timeliness ▪ Legal Compliance <p>A charter school is required to enter a Financial Remediation Process if it fails to meet standards in at least two of the four Key Indicators in one fiscal year, or if exigent circumstances cause the charter school unexpected financial hardship. When a school enters the Financial Remediation Process it is required to submit monthly cash flow statements to the Office of Innovation & Incubation, with the possibility of other requirements. A charter school in its second consecutive year of the Financial Remediation Process is required to submit a financial corrective action plan that details the actions the charter school will take to improve its financial position, and any other documents I&I may require.</p> <p>Young Women’s Leadership Charter School voluntarily closed at the end of the 2018-19 school year due to issues of financial sustainability. See CPS Board Report 19-0424-EX6. The Chicago Board of Education also cited financial performance in its decision to close Kwame Nkrumah Charter Academy effective July 1, 2019. See CPS Board Report 18-1205-EX6.</p> <p>In the 2018-19 school year, CPS had three charter schools in their first year of the financial remediation process: Chicago Virtual Charter School, Foundations College Preparatory</p>

	<p>School, and the Montessori School of Englewood. These operators were required to submit monthly cashflow statements.</p> <p>CPS also had six charter schools in their second or more consecutive year of the financial remediation process: Asian Human Services – Passages Charter School; Legal Prep Charter School; Instituto Health Sciences Career Academy; Instituto – Rudy Lozano; North Lawndale College Preparatory Charter High School (operator of 2 campuses); and Urban Prep Academies (the operator of the three Urban Prep campuses). These operators were required to submit Financial Corrective Action Plans.</p> <p>Financial scorecards for all CPS schools can be found by going to https://cps.edu/Schools/Find_a_school/Pages/findaschool.aspx and searching for any charter school, clicking on the “Downloads” tab, and scrolling down to the “Financial” section of the page.</p>
<p>Authorizer Functions</p>	<p>CPS reported that it performs all 14 authorizer functions listed in the authorizer survey:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Soliciting and evaluating charter applications on a defined cycle CPS releases an RFP for new charter schools on an annual basis. It released the 2018 RFP on December 30, 2017, and the 2019 RFP on December 30, 2018. The Office of Innovation & Incubation utilizes a team of internal and external expert evaluators to review all applications against a set of publicly available criteria. I&I then makes a recommendation to the CEO’s office, which then makes the final recommendation to the Chicago Board of Education (the Board) to approve or deny the application. 2. Negotiating and executing sound charter contracts with each approved charter school Once a charter school is authorized by the Board, I&I then works with the CPS legal team to negotiate a charter school agreement with the proposed charter school’s governing board, which must be a legally incorporated Illinois not-for-profit entity according to Illinois law. The Board’s approval of any charter school application automatically rescinds if a written charter school agreement is not executed by the Board within 120 days of the date of Board approval, unless an extension to continue with good faith negotiations has been granted. 3. Conducting a formal site visit of all charter school in your area I&I conducts informal visits throughout the entire term of a charter agreement. It also conducts formal site visits for schools identified on the Charter School Warning List and for lower-performing schools that are going through the charter school renewal process. 4. Conducting a formal renewal and revocation process When a charter school comes up for renewal, I&I evaluates its performance against its Accountability Plan within the Charter School Agreement. The components of the renewal process are: (1) school submission of a renewal application; (2) review of student academic performance data (current and historical); (3) renewal site visit and report (if applicable); (4) financial performance review; (5) operational performance review, which includes compliance review of governance, facilities, special student populations, and student discipline; (6) additional evidence (especially that pertaining to legal or material violations); and (7) a public hearing. Certain deficiencies may result in a shortened renewal term or may result in the CEO recommending non-renewal to the Board. Charter school revocation decisions fall outside of the renewal process. In accordance with the Charter School Agreement and the Illinois Charter Schools Law, the Board may revoke a charter school’s charter if the charter school: (1) committed a material violation of any of the conditions, standards, or procedures

set forth in its Charter School Agreement, including the Accountability Plan; (2) failed to meet or make reasonable progress toward achievement of the content standards or pupil performance standards identified in the Accountability Plan of the Charter School Agreement and the Board's Charter School Quality Policy; (3) failed to meet generally accepted standards of fiscal management; and/or (4) materially violated any provision of law from which the charter school was not exempted.

CPS adopted the Charter School Quality Policy (CSQP) in October 2015 to transparently define "failed to meet or make reasonable progress toward achievement of the context standards or pupil performance standards identified in the Accountability Plan of the Charter School Agreement." The CSQP identifies when a charter school is placed on the Academic Warning List according to its annual School Quality Rating Policy rating.

CPS utilizes set policies and procedures to analyze data and inform charter schools of status based on the CSQP. The CEO will recommend the revocation of a charter school or campus to the Board if either: (1) the CEO determines that the charter school or campus failed to implement the remediation plan and adhere to the timeline; or (2) the charter school or campus remains on the Academic Warning List for two consecutive years.

5. Centralizing the lottery for all choice schools

CPS utilizes a universal enrollment system for ninth graders that includes all CPS schools with a ninth-grade class, including charter schools. Charter schools continue to conduct their own lotteries in accordance with the requirements of the Charter Schools Law for all grades other than grade 9.

6. Encouraging the sharing of best practices between charters and traditional schools

Dissemination of best practices between charter schools and District-managed schools is one of the District's key priorities. Examples include Showcase School Visits, the Chicago Principal Fellowship, Teach Plus programs, the Chicago Teacher Advisory Council, the Chicago Principal Advisory Council, and the Personalized Learning Collaborative.

7. Centralizing student accounting (i.e., record school placements and student progress)

CPS charter schools are required to use the CPS-ASPEN Student Information System for student registration, enrollment, and attendance.

8. Providing an information system that details school characteristics and performance

CPS provides detailed school information for all its schools at <https://cps.edu/Pages/AboutOurSchools.aspx>.

9. Providing transportation

CPS is the Local Education Agency (LEA) for all charter schools it authorizes. As the LEA and in accordance with law, CPS provides transportation to any charter school student when it is a requirement of the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP). CPS also provides Ventra cards for students in temporary living situations.

10. Adjudicating disputes related to student transfers

With appropriate parental/guardian consent, I&I adjudicates student transfer disputes when a publicly communicated protocol has been executed, sufficiently documented, and the "sending" school still has not released the student(s) in question. In this case, I&I will release the student in ASPEN (CPS's student information system) to the "receiving" school.

11. Treatment of specialized populations (e.g., students with disabilities, English Language Learners, homeless children and youths, etc.)

CPS charter schools enroll a diverse student population (i.e., students with disabilities, students in temporary living situations, and English Learners). CPS provides a full continuum of supports and services for all students with specialized needs, and multiple CPS departments -- including the Offices of Diverse Learner Supports and Services, Language and Cultural Education, and Students in Temporary Living Situations -- provide support and monitoring of charter school programs to ensure that all programs meet the requirements of state and federal law.

The Office of Innovation and Incubation considers a charter school's compliance with state and federal laws protecting the rights of students with specialized needs in recommendations to the CEO and the Board on various authorization decisions.

12. Providing technical assistance
Item was checked off, but no response or explanation was provided.

13. Providing a publicly published application timeline and materials
See response to "Soliciting and evaluating charter applications on a defined cycle."

14. Require and/or examine annual, independent financial audits of charter schools
In accordance with law and its individual charter contract, each charter school authorized by CPS is required to retain an outside, independent auditor to conduct an annual audit of the charter school. I&I collects and reviews these audits in November of each year and incorporates the audit information into an annual Financial and Compliance Scorecard that is published for each charter school. Annual Financial and Compliance Scorecards can be reviewed on CPS's website at https://cps.edu/Schools/Find_a_school/Pages/findaschool.aspx. (Enter school name in text box, select desired school from drop down list, and then select the tab for "Downloads.")

Authorizer's Operating Costs and Expenses

CPS has 18 full-time equivalents (FTE) assigned exclusively to authorizing work. The District reported that while the Office of Innovation and Incubation does not delegate any core authorizing functions to contractors, it does at times work with external contractors to assist with aspects of the charter school RFP and renewal process.

CPS further reported that it supports its authoring work through the District's general operating budget, state or federal grants, and an authorizing fee of 3 percent deducted from each charter school's revenue. The District has a budget dedicated to authorization of charter schools and reported an authorizing budget of \$3,789,755 for FY 2018 and \$4,400,664 for FY 2019.

**CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT 299
Charter School Portfolio**

Status	2017-18		2018-19	
	Total Charter Schools	Student Enrollment	Total Charter Schools	Student Enrollment
Approved (not yet open)	0	—		—
Operating	42 (121 campuses)	59,014	41 (120 campuses)	61,920
Renewed	14	—	6	—
Transferred	—	—	—	—
Revoked	1	—	1	—
Not Renewed	-	—	1	—
Voluntarily Closed	1 (financial reasons)	—	--	—
Never Opened	1	—	--	—
Total	42	59,014	41	61,690

Charter Authorizer	COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 300 (CUSD 300)
Superintendent	Mr. Fred Heid
Address	2550 Harnish Drive Algonquin, IL 60102
Published Mission/Vision for Authorizing	CUSD 300 reported that it does not have a published mission for charter school authorization.
Key Policies & Practices	CUSD 300 reported that it pursues the following two policies and practices to achieve its authorizing goals: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Setting enrollment targets Enrollment targets ensures that the school can meet its fiscal requirements and is sustainable. 2. Defining the term “high-quality charter school” to guide authorization decisions The District’s definition is defined through its Accountability Plan.
Academic Performance	Refer to Section 5 of this Charter School Biennial Report.
Financial Performance	CUSD 300 reported that its one charter school — Cambridge Lakes Charter School — continues to meet its financial obligations and has submitted its annual audit in accordance with the District’s requirements.
Authorizer Functions	CUSD 300 reported that it performs the following nine authorizer functions listed in the authorizer survey: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Negotiating and executing sound charter contracts with each approved charter school This is done as part of the renewal process. The process is outlined in the school’s Accountability Plan. 2. Conducting formal site visits of all charter schools in the portfolio The District schedules regular "audits" in the areas of SPED, ELL, health, and other compliance areas each year. Summaries or findings are shared, and the charter school then submits a corrective action plan to address how it will correct any deficiencies. 3. Conducting a formal renewal and revocation process These processes are outlined in the Renewal Book and Accountability Plan. 4. Centralizing student accounting The District and school utilize a common SIS system. 5. Providing an information system that details school characteristics and performance The District provides access and support to its LMS and SIS systems. 6. Adjudicating disputes related to student transfers CUSD 300 utilizes a transfer committee and procedures (outlined at https://www.d300.org/Page/1278) to prevent disputes regarding school transfers and to date this has not been an issue. 7. Treatment of specialized populations (i.e., Students with Disabilities, English Language Learners, Homeless children and youth, etc.) Item was checked off, but no response or explanation was provided. 8. Providing technical assistance The District and the Lake County Regional Office of Education offer ongoing access to staff and/or resources to support the school’s operations and compliance relating to state mandated reporting, assessments, and federal programs areas.

	<p>9. Require and/or examine annual, independent financial audits of charter schools CUSD 300 requires the submission of a charter school annual audit. In addition, the District’s Chief Operating Officer works directly with the school to review its billing submissions on a quarterly basis.</p>
Authorizer’s Operating Costs and Expenses	<p>CUSD 300 does not have any FTE assigned exclusively to authorizing work but has four FTE who spend at least .25% of their time on authorizing work. The District does not delegate any of its core authorizing functions to contractors.</p> <p>CUSD 300 did not identify any specific funding sources that it relies upon for authorizing work and does not have a budget dedicated to authorization of charter schools. The District identified \$0 as the estimated amount of direct costs for authorizing in FY 2019 and did not report an amount for FY 2018.</p>

**COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 300
 Charter School Portfolio**

Status	Total Charter Schools 2017018	Student Enrollment 2017-18	Total Charter Schools 2018-19	Student Enrollment 2018-19
Approved (not yet open)	—	—	—	—
Operating	1	828	1	860
Renewed	—	—	—	—
Transferred	—	—	—	—
Revoked	—	—	—	—
Not Renewed	—	—	—	—
Voluntarily Closed	—	—	—	—
Never Opened	—	—	—	—
Total	1	828	1	860

Charter Authorizer	DECATUR PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT 61 (DECATUR SD 61)
Superintendent	Dr. Paul Fregeau
Address	101 West Cerro Gordo St. Decatur, IL 62523
Published Mission/Vision for Authorizing	Decatur SD 61 reported that the school board has not approved a mission for authorizing charters.
Key Policies & Practices	Decatur SD 61 identified one policy or practice that it pursues to achieve its authorizing goals: setting enrollment targets. The District responds to enrollment requests made by the charter school and makes decisions based on the capacity limitations of the school and District needs.
Academic Performance	Refer to Section 5 of this Charter School Biennial Report.

Financial Performance	Decatur SD 61 reported that through its most recent evaluation of its one charter school — Robertson Charter School — it found the school’s financials to be adequate per the contract language. The charter school is addressing a discrepancy in its most recent financial audit.
Authorizer Functions	<p>Decatur SD 61 reported that it performs the following seven authorizer functions listed in the authorizer survey:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Soliciting and evaluating charter applications on a defined cycle The District evaluates charter applications timely based upon submissions. 2. Negotiating and executing sound charter contracts with each approved charter school The District charter contract is negotiated and renewed on cycle as defined in the charter contract. The contract is reviewed by District administration, the District’s legal counsel, and the Decatur Public Schools Board of Education based upon the merits of the charter application. 3. Conducting formal site visit/ audit of all charter schools in the portfolio The District conducts periodic site observations. The District has an understood calendar noting specific documents that are to be submitted by the charter school to the District. 4. Conducting a formal renewal process The District’s charter contract is negotiated and renewed on cycle as defined in the charter contract. The contract is reviewed by District administration, the District’s legal counsel, and the Decatur Public Schools Board of Education based upon the merits of the charter. 5. Centralizing student accounting The District enrolls its charter school students in the State’s Student Information System (SIS). The District acts as a pipeline for reporting information to SIS. In addition, the District stores the student cumulative folders for the respective students. Regarding testing issues, individual student scores are funneled through the District; however, the resulting data is reported directly to the charter school. The District receives the respective summative data. 6. Providing an information system that details school characteristics and performance Students at the charter school are enrolled in the District’s student management system. The charter school submits student enrollment data, which is collected by the District and reported to the Illinois State Board of Education for the Evidence-Based Funding formula. 7. Treatment of specialized populations (i.e., Students with Disabilities, English Language Learners, Homeless children and youth, etc.) The District provides appropriate services to the charter school through the Macon-Piatt Special Education District.
Authorizer’s Operating Costs and Expenses	<p>Decatur SD 61 has assigned a .05 FTE to authorizing work. The District delegates one or more of its core authorizing functions to its legal counsel: Miller, Tracy, Braun, Funk & Miller, Ltd.</p> <p>Decatur SD 61 relies on its general operating budget for authorizing work and does not have a budget dedicated to authorization of charter schools. The District identified \$0 as the estimated amount of direct costs for authorizing in FY 2019 and did not report an amount for FY 2018.</p>

DECATUR PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT 61 Charter School Portfolio				
Status	Total Charter Schools 2017-18	Student Enrollment 2017-18	Total Charter Schools 2018-19	Student Enrollment 2018-19
Approved (not yet open)	--	—	—	—
Operating	1	328	1	322
Renewed	—	—	—	—
Transferred	—	—	—	—
Revoked	—	—	—	—
Not Renewed	—	—	—	—
Voluntarily Closed	—	—	—	—
Never Opened	—	—	—	—
Total	1	328	1	322

Charter Authorizer	EAST ST LOUIS SCHOOL DISTRICT 189 (ESL SD 189)
Assistant Superintendent	Mr. Arthur R. Culver
Address	1005 State Street East St Louis, IL 62201
Published Mission/Vision for Authorizing	<p>ESL SD 189 reported that its goals and its reasoning for authorizing include holding the District’s charter school accountable for reasonable academic progress toward the goals, objectives, and standards set forth in the charter accountability plan. This reportedly aligns with the charter school’s mission, as set forth below:</p> <p>Mission Statement: The mission of the SIUE East St. Louis Charter High School is to prepare students who are career- and college-ready upon graduation. To achieve this mission, the school and its staff will positively impact the educational and economic lives of East St. Louis, Illinois, youth through individualized instruction in core academic subjects, exploration of career interests and aptitudes, assistance in realizing students’ talents, and high academic goals and expectations that graduates will become competitive employees for the 21st century.</p>
Key Policies & Practices	<p>ESL SD 189 reported that it pursues the following two policies and practices to achieve its authorizing goals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Setting enrollment targets The charter school and ESL SD 189 set an enrollment target of 120 students. Currently, the charter school meets this goal each year, with students on a waiting list. Defining the term “high-quality charter school” to guide authorization decisions The charter school uses clear purpose guidelines to meet the rigorous standards. The charter school must show how it meets the needs of students in key accountability areas.
Academic Performance	Refer to Section 5 of this Charter School Biennial Report.

<p>Financial Performance</p>	<p>ESL SD 189 reported that the financial health of its one charter school — SIU Edwardsville East St. Louis Charter High School — is positive and supports the 66% adequacy of the school district. The charter school uses its Title funding to staff a math teacher and to support professional development of staff. The charter school is mostly self-sufficient otherwise with key partnerships to support student activities. It reportedly has partnerships with Carrolton Bank and Joy Fellowship Church. These partnerships support student field trips, mentors, and paid internships.</p> <p>The District further reported a strong financial outlook for SIU Edwardsville East St. Louis Charter High School, noting that the school increased its per capita tuition revenue to \$1,109,554 in school year 2018 from \$844,667 in school year 2017. Following negotiations with the District, the school’s per capita tuition increased to \$1,319,532 in school year 2019.</p>
<p>Authorizer Functions</p>	<p>ESL SD 189 reported that it performs the following 10 authorizer functions listed in the authorizer survey:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Soliciting and evaluating charter applications on a defined cycle The charter school is evaluated annually through site visits and a performance review. 2. Negotiating and executing sound charter contracts with each approved charter school A new charter agreement is negotiated on two-year cycles with the Board of Directors of SIUE East St. Louis Charter High School (SIUE Charter) and ESL SD 189. 3. Conducting a formal site visit/audit of all charter schools in your portfolio The District conducts two formal site visits — one in fall and one in spring — annually. Other informal visits are conducted periodically. 4. Conducting a formal renewal and revocation process The District makes renewal and/or revocation decisions on an annual basis after the performance review. 5. Encouraging the sharing of best practices between charters and traditional schools District staff meet with SIUE Charter staff to review the school’s performance using the District’s Performance Management Rubric. 6. Centralizing student accounting (i.e., record school placements and student progress) SIUE Charter uses the Skyward database to store and record student records and progress. The District’s Director of Student Information Services reviews and monitors this process. 7. Providing an information system that details school characteristics and performance SIUE Charter produces an Annual Report that details performance and characteristics. 8. Adjudicating disputes related to student transfers The District’s Director of Student Information Services monitors enrollment and as necessary adjudicates any enrollment disputes. 9. Treatment of specialized populations (e.g., students with disabilities, English Language Learners, Homeless children and youth, etc.) The District provides a Homeless and Attendance Truancy Officer part-time and supports students with IEPs who attend the charter school. 10. Providing technical assistance All of the District’s directors and district administrators are available for technical support whenever needed.

Authorizer's Operating Costs and Expenses	<p>ESL SD 189 has two FTE assigned exclusively to authorizing work. It does not delegate any of its core authorizer functions to contractors.</p> <p>In order to support its authorizing work, the District reported that it charges its charter school 3 percent of the per capita tuition charge amount. The District does not maintain a budget dedicated to authorization of charter schools. It did not report a direct cost amount related to authorizing work for FY 2018, but reported direct costs totaling \$30,000 in FY 2019.</p>
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**EAST ST LOUIS SCHOOL DISTRICT 189
Charter School Portfolio**

Status	Total Charter Schools 2017-18	Student Enrollment 2017-18	Total Charter Schools 2018-19	Student Enrollment 2018-19
Approved (not yet open)	—	—	—	—
Operating	1	111	1	109
Renewed	—	—	1	—
Transferred	—	—	—	—
Revoked	—	—	—	—
Not Renewed	—	—	—	—
Voluntarily Closed	—	—	—	—
Never Opened	—	—	—	—
Total	1	111	1	109

Charter Authorizer	ILLINOIS STATE CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION (THE COMMISSION)
Commission Chair	Ms. DeRonda Williams
Address	100 West Randolph, Suite 4-300 Chicago, IL 60601
Published Mission/Vision for Authorizing	As reported by the Illinois State Charter School Commission, the vision of the Commission is that ALL Illinois students and families have access to a [sic] high-quality schools and academic experiences. Currently, composed of 11 schools (12 campuses) across the state, the Commission's portfolio of schools serves 4,000 students, which is more than 90% of school districts in the state. Commission schools <i>serve as a stimulus for educational excellence and equity</i> , exemplifying the legislative intent of the charter schools' law (105 ILCS 5/27A-2).
Key Policies & Practices	<p>The Commission identified the following three policies and practices that it pursues to achieve its authorizing goals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Defining the term "high-quality charter school" to guide authorization decisions The Commission attached its Accountability System as a reference for its definition of "high-quality." 2. Granting preference to charter school proposals with programs not otherwise available in the district The Commission follows the statutory preferences promulgated in the Illinois Charter Schools Law, 105 ILCS 5/27A-8(a).

	<p>3. Include an external expert panel to review charter applications The Commission annually retains a cadre of expert evaluators and analysts to support the review and evaluation of appeals, annual monitoring, and renewals.</p>
Academic Performance	Refer to Section 5 of this Charter School Biennial Report.
Financial Performance	The Commission reported that the schools it has authorized have strong financial health. No schools have been closed, revoked, or not renewed for financial reasons.
Authorizer Functions	<p>The Commission reported that it performs the following nine authorizer functions listed in the authorizer survey:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Negotiating and executing sound charter contracts with each approved charter school The Commission utilizes best practice model contracts with each charter school it authorizes. Charter agreements are negotiated with the charter school board and Commission staff. 2. Conducting formal site visits/audits of all charter schools in the portfolio Commission staff conducts site visits to all schools at various times for monitoring purposes. Formal site visits occur annually, during renewal evaluation, and for schools identified as needing support. 3. Conducting a formal renewal and revocation process The Illinois Charter Schools Law and the Commission's Accountability System dictate the renewal and revocation process. 4. Encouraging the sharing of best practices between charters and traditional schools The Commission encourages all charters and school districts that come before it on appeal to work together and share best practices. The Commission has also developed quarterly workshops (the "Commission Collaborative") to encourage Commission best practices and resource sharing. 5. Providing an information system that details school characteristics and performance The Commission publishes annual performance reports and has developed a system of online platforms to manage compliance, data collection, and reporting. 6. Treatment of specialized populations (e.g., students with disabilities, English Language Learners, Homeless children and youth, etc.) The Commission has been conducting research and facilitating discussions and plans to develop a special education cooperative. 7. Providing technical assistance Schools demonstrating performance below or far below the standards will receive intensive support or may be subject to probation, revocation, or non-renewal. The School Support Team and Commission staff monitor implementation of School Performance Action Plans; the School Support Team conducts regular monitoring of remediation plan implementation. 8. Providing a publicly published application timeline and materials The Commission posts charter school appeal guidance for applicants and districts on its website. The timeline for appeal review is posted accordingly. 9. Require and/or examine annual, independent financial audits of charter schools Commission-authorized charter schools submit an annual audit as part of the compliance requirements. The audits are reviewed as part of the annual performance reviews.

Authorizer's Operating Costs and Expenses	<p>The Commission has three FTE assigned exclusively to authorizing work. In addition, the Commission retains independent evaluators to support the review and evaluation of appeals and renewals in the areas of finance, academics and organization.</p> <p>To fund its authorization activities, the Commission collects an administrative fee equaling between 2 and 2.5% of the general revenue funds provided to each school it has authorized. The Commission has a budget dedicated to authorization of charter schools and reported an authorizing budget of \$1.25 million in both FY 2018 and FY 2019.</p>
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**ILLINOIS STATE CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION
Charter School Portfolio**

Status	Total Charter Schools 2017-18	Student Enrollment 2017-18	Total Charter Schools 2018-19	Student Enrollment 2018-19
Approved (not yet open)	—	—	—	—
Operating	8	3661	9	4039
Renewed	—	—	—	—
Transferred	—	—	—	—
Revoked	—	—	—	—
Not Renewed	—	—	—	—
Voluntarily Closed	—	—	—	—
Never Opened	—	—	—	—
Total	8	3661	9	4039

Charter Authorizer	MCLEAN COUNTY UNIT DISTRICT 5 (MCLEAN COUNTY UNIT 5)
Superintendent	Dr. Mark Daniel
Address	1809 West Hovey Avenue Normal, IL 61761
Published Mission/Vision for Authorizing	<p>McLean County Unit 5 did not report a mission for authorizing. However, the District outlined the goals and objectives of the District's one charter school — YouthBuild McLean County Charter School — as follows:</p> <p>It shall be the Charter School's mission to engage and re-engage educationally and economically disadvantaged students. The Charter School will focus on drop-out recovery and at-risk students as identified by a school or parent and will endeavor to serve a unique population of very low-income young people (eligible for free and reduced-price lunch) aged 16-21 who have had educational problems in the public or other school systems they have attended.</p> <p>The Charter School's goals and objectives are: to provide rigorous and relevant educational training in core subjects in alignment with ISBE standards in order to quickly bring a disadvantaged population of students into educational and vocational alignment with their graduating peers; and for all students enrolled in the Charter School to attain a high school diploma by demonstrating mastery of high school education standards and proving college readiness.</p>

	<p>Charter School students may obtain a diploma in one of the following ways:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Completion of courses that substantially meet the graduation requirements laid out by the Illinois State Board of Education; (2) Completion of college entrance exams (e.g., Compass) at a level permitting entrance into credit-bearing college coursework; or (3) Completion of a Graduation Portfolio containing a project that demonstrates mastery of 80% of the Common Core Standards. <p>Additionally, the Charter School will strive to meet the pupil performance standards set forth in the YouthBuild Program Performance Standards[.] The Charter School shall meet a minimum of seven of the nine performance measures at a level of “satisfactory,” with the goal of meeting all nine performance measures at a level of “excellent” or the highest level attainable. Goals, objectives, and pupil performance standards of the Charter School shall at all times remain in compliance with Section 2-3.64 of the Illinois School Code, 105 ILCS 5/2-3.64.</p>
<p>Key Policies & Practices</p>	<p>McLean County Unit 5 identified one policy or practice that it pursues to achieve its authorizing goals: setting enrollment targets.</p> <p>The District’s charter school serves a population of young people ages 16-21 that is 100 percent educationally high-risk and at a minimum 50 percent free and reduced-price lunch eligible. The District noted that while the charter school was initially designed to re-enroll high school dropouts and it served this population exclusively for four years, enrollment was later expanded to serve transferred students <i>at risk of</i> not graduating. This was reportedly done with the support of the District. Graduation rates for these at-risk students reportedly improved from 0 to 75 percent.</p>
<p>Academic Performance</p>	<p>Refer to Section 5 of this Charter School Biennial Report.</p>
<p>Financial Performance</p>	<p>McLean County Unit School District No. 5 reported that it pays the YouthBuild McClean County Charter School a per capita tuition cost per student, and the school operates with diverse funding streams that include federal, state, local, and private organizations.</p> <p>The District further reported that the charter operator — YouthBuild McClean County (YBMC) — is a low-risk auditee and participates in an A133 Audit annually. The organization’s overall financial health is reportedly strong and can support the fiscal needs of the charter school with the per capita tuition.</p> <p>YBMC often supplements the activities of the charter school with other grant funds to offer additional services to its students, such as case management services, occupations skills training, and access to postsecondary education opportunities after graduation.</p>
<p>Authorizer Functions</p>	<p>McLean County Unit 5 reported that it currently performs or will in the future perform the following nine authorizer functions listed in the authorizer survey:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Negotiating and executing sound charter contracts with each approved charter school The District recently revised and renegotiated the Contract with YouthBuild McClean County Charter School and is in the process of submitting it to ISBE. 2. Conducting a formal site visit/audit of all charter schools in your portfolio The District does not currently conduct a formal site visit/audit but is planning to put this into practice in the future. 3. Conducting a formal renewal and revocation process The District is in the process of submitting a renewal to ISBE.

	<p>4. Centralizing the lottery for all choice schools YBMC Charter School has a formalized lottery system. Because the District has only one charter school, it stated it does not need to centralize this process. Further, at this time the lottery system has not been used as the maximum number of slots have not been filled.</p> <p>5. Encouraging the sharing of best practices between charters and traditional schools The District and the charter school intend to focus more on sharing of best practices in the coming year.</p> <p>6. Centralizing student accounting (i.e., record school placements and student progress) YBMC Charter School works with the District to coordinate student records using the Infinite Campus system, which provides seamless communication of school records, placements, attendance, and progress.</p> <p>7. Adjudicating disputes related to student transfers The District and its charter school work to resolve any disputes related to student transfers.</p> <p>8. Treatment of specialized populations (e.g., students with disabilities, English Language Learners, Homeless children and youth, etc.) The District provides special education services and special education testing facilities in accordance with District policies, which have been approved by ISBE. District staff and YBMC staff coordinate the facilitation of special education services for charter school students assuring that needed services are identified, provided for in an IEP, and carried out accordingly.</p> <p>9. Require and/or examine annual, independent financial audits of charter schools YBMC provides an annual, independent financial audit of the charter school. The charter school has had no findings and retains its status as a low-risk grantee.</p>
<p>Authorizer’s Operating Costs and Expenses</p>	<p>McLean County Unit 5 does not have any FTE assigned exclusively or for at least .25% of their time to authorizing work.</p> <p>The District does not delegate any of its core authorizing functions to contractors.</p> <p>McLean County Unit 5 relies on Evidence Based Funding and local property taxes to support its authorizing work.</p> <p>The District does not have a budget dedicated to authorizing work and did not report a direct cost amount related to authorizing work for FY 2018. It reported \$0 in FY 2019.</p>

**MCLEAN COUNTY UNIT DISTRICT 5
Charter School Portfolio**

Status	Total Charter Schools 2017-18	Student Enrollment 2017-18	Total Charter Schools 2018-19	Student Enrollment 2018-19
Approved (not yet open)	—	—	—	—
Operating	1	52	1	42
Renewed	—	—	—	—
Transferred	—	—	—	—
Revoked	—	—	—	—
Not Renewed	—	—	—	—
Voluntarily Closed	—	—	—	—
Never Opened	—	—	—	—
Total	1	52	1	42

Charter Authorizer	NORTH CHICAGO SCHOOL DISTRICT 187 (NORTH CHICAGO SD 187)
Chief Education Officer	Mr. John P. Price
Address	2000 Lewis Ave. North Chicago, IL 60064
Published Mission/Vision for Authorizing	North Chicago SD 187 does not currently maintain a strategic vision for chartering; however, the District reported that a mission is currently under development.
Key Policies & Practices	North Chicago SD 187 did not identify any specific policies and practices that it pursues to achieve its authorizing goals.
Academic Performance	Refer to Section 5 of this Charter School Biennial Report.
Financial Performance	North Chicago SD 187 reported that based on the information it had received from the two charter schools in the District — LEARN 6 and LEARN 10 — the financial health of both schools appears to be satisfactory. The District does not have plans to consider revocation or non-renewal of either of the charter schools in 2019 due to insolvency.
Authorizer Functions	<p>North Chicago SD 187 reported that it performs the following five authorizer functions listed in the authorizer survey:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Negotiating and executing sound contracts with each approved charter school The North Chicago School District 187 Independent Authority negotiated a contract with the charter schools and the District maintains its commitments under the contract. 2. Conducting formal site visits of all charter schools in the portfolio The District conducts formal and informal site visits. Members of the District’s audit team schedule a time and inform the charter school of the focus ahead of time. Audits are reportedly a collaborative process, and findings are provided once the audit is complete. 3. Treatment of specialized populations (e.g., students with disabilities, English Language Learners, Homeless children and youth, etc.) The District provides supports and procedures for the IEP creation process and has held its charter schools accountable for complying with this process.

	<p>4. Providing technical assistance The District provides technical assistance with IEPs, student information systems, and technology.</p> <p>5. Require and/or examine annual, independent financial audits of charter schools Item was checked off, but no response or explanation was provided.</p>
Authorizer's Operating Costs and Expenses	<p>North Chicago SD 187 does not have any FTE assigned exclusively or for at least .25% of their time to authorizing work. The District does not delegate any of its core authorizing functions to contractors.</p> <p>North Chicago SD 187 relies on its general operating budget to support its authorizing work. The District does not maintain a budget dedicated to authorizing of charter schools and did not report a direct cost amount related to authorizing work for FY 2018 or FY 2019.</p>

**NORTH CHICAGO SCHOOL DISTRICT 187
Charter School Portfolio**

Status	Total Charter Schools 2017-18	Student Enrollment 2017-18	Total Charter Schools 2018-19	Student Enrollment 2018-19
Approved (not yet open)	—	—	—	—
Operating	2	643	2	654
Renewed	—	—	—	—
Transferred	—	—	—	—
Revoked	—	—	—	—
Not Renewed	—	—	—	—
Voluntarily Closed	—	—	—	—
Never Opened	—	—	—	—
Total	2	643	2	654

Charter Authorizer	PEORIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT 150 (PEORIA SD 150)
Superintendent	Dr. Sharon Desmoulin-Kherat
Address	3202 N. Wisconsin Ave. Peoria, IL 61603
Published Mission/Vision for Authorizing	<p>Peoria SD 150 reported the following Mission and Goals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To improve pupil learning by creating schools with the high, rigorous standards for pupil performance; 2. To increase learning opportunities for all pupils, with special emphasis on expanded learning experiences for at-risk pupils; 3. To encourage the use of innovative teaching methods; 4. To allow for the development of innovative forms of measuring pupil learning and achievement; 5. To create new professional opportunities for teachers, including the opportunity to be responsible for the learning program at the school site; 6. To provide parents and pupils with expanded choices within the school system; 7. To encourage parental and community involvement with public schools;

	<p>8. To hold charter schools accountable for meeting rigorous school content standards and to provide those schools with the opportunity to improve accountability.</p> <p>ISBE notes that this statement of Mission and Goals is nearly identical to the purpose statement outlined by the General Assembly in the Illinois Charter Schools Law [105 ILCS 5/Art. 27A].</p>
Key Policies & Practices	<p>Peoria SD 150 identified the following two policies and practices that it pursues to achieve its authorizing goals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Setting enrollment targets The District stated that enrollment goals are set relative to the charter school’s capacity and for funding purposes. Defining the term “high-quality charter school” to guide authorization decisions The District referred to its statement of Mission and Goals for its definition of a high-quality charter school.
Academic Performance	Refer to Section 5 of this Charter School Biennial Report.
Financial Performance	Peoria SD 150 reported that its one charter school — Quest Charter Academy — is in good standing financially.
Authorizer Functions	Peoria SD 150 did not report any specific authorizer functions that it provides.
Authorizer’s Operating Costs and Expenses	<p>Peoria SD 150 did not respond to the authorizer survey question regarding how many FTE it has assigned to authorizing work or to the question asking if the authorizer delegates any of its core authorizing functions to contractors.</p> <p>Peoria SD 150 relies on its general operating budget to support its authorizing work. The District does not have a budget dedicated to authorizing work and did not report a direct cost amount related to authorizing work for FY 2018. It reported \$0 in FY 2019.</p>

**PEORIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT 150
Charter School Portfolio**

Status	Total Charter Schools 2017-18	Student Enrollment 2017-18	Total Charter Schools 2018-19	Student Enrollment 2018-19
Approved (not yet open)	—	—	—	—
Operating	1	568	1	596
Renewed	—	—	—	—
Transferred	—	—	—	—
Revoked	—	—	—	—
Not Renewed	—	—	—	—
Voluntarily Closed	—	—	—	—
Never Opened	—	—	—	—
Total	1	613	1	577

Charter Authorizer	ROCKFORD PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT 205 (ROCKFORD SD 205)
Superintendent	Dr. Ehren Robert Jarrett
Address	501 Seventh Street Rockford, IL 61104
Published Mission/Vision for Authorizing	Rockford SD 205’s goal in authorizing is found in the District's vision: “To Be the Schools of 1st Choice.” Consistent with that vision statement, the District works to authorize providers who will give parents high quality options. The District’s authorizing goal for FY 2019 was to renew two charters with firm improvement targets, and it reported that it achieved this goal. Their goal for 2020 is to develop a protocol for RFPs.
Key Policies & Practices	<p>Rockford SD 205 reported that it pursues the following three policies and practices to achieve its authorizing goals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Setting enrollment targets. The District follows the contract on allowable enrollments and will include each operator's utilization as part of its annual review. 2. Defining the term “high-quality charter school” to guide authorization decisions. The District now has a "Renewal Performance Report" that will be updated annually and a "Two Tier Quality Matrix" that will guide future renewal terms and decisions. 3. Promoting the replication and expansion of existing charter schools with clear guidelines to do so. The District highlights this practice in its "Two Tier Renewal Matrix," but reported that it has not happened yet. <p>The District further reported that that it envisions promoting the conversion of low-performing neighborhood or other school types to charter schools as part of its future RFP work.</p>
Academic Performance	Refer to Section 5 of this Charter School Biennial Report.
Financial Performance	Rockford SD 205 reported that each of its three charter schools — Galapagos Rockford Charter, Legacy Academy of Excellence Charter School, and Jackson Charter School — has a positive cash flow and a solid financial standing. The District’s renewal performance report provides a rolling three-year view.
Authorizer Functions	<p>Rockford SD 205 reported that it performs the following seven authorizer functions listed in the authorizer survey:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Negotiating and executing sound charter contracts with each approved charter school The District does this as part of the renewal cycle with both internal and external general counsel. The District utilizes feedback from ISBE personnel to refine its contracting. 2. Conducting a formal site visit/audit of all charter schools in your portfolio In FY 2019, the District engaged SchoolWorks to perform this function. The District provided its protocols and metrics as an attachment to its survey response. 3. Conducting a formal renewal and revocation process The District conducted a formal renewal process. A protocol toward revocation is included in the District’s "Charter School Quality Renewal Protocol." 4. Providing an information system that details school characteristics and performance The District’s new Renewal Performance Report provides a consistent review of key metrics. 5. Providing transportation

	<p>All three charter schools authorized by Rockford SD 205 have opted to use district transportation.</p> <p>6. Treatment of specialized populations (e.g., students with disabilities, English Language Learners, Homeless children and youth, etc.) The District has shared its Special Education Procedures Manual and provides support personnel on legal requirements.</p> <p>7. Require and/or examine annual, independent financial audits of charter schools Each charter operator has an annual, external audit completed and published.</p>
Authorizer's Operating Costs and Expenses	<p>Rockford SD 205 has one FTE assigned to authorizing work for .25% of their time; it has no FTE assigned exclusively to authorizing work. Although the District checked a box indicating that it does not delegate any of its core authorizing functions to contractors, in a separate section of the survey it did recognize utilizing SchoolWorks for formal site visits/audits.</p> <p>Rockford SD 205 supports its authorizing work through its general operating budget. The District does not maintain a budget dedicated to authorization of charter schools and reported \$0 for direct authorizing costs in both FY 2018 and FY 2019.</p>

**ROCKFORD PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT 205
Charter School Portfolio**

Status	Total Charter Schools 2017-18	Student Enrollment 2017-18	Total Charter Schools 2018-19	Student Enrollment 2018-19
Approved (not yet open)	—	—	—	—
Operating	3	1033	3	1009
Renewed	—	—	2	—
Transferred	—	—	—	—
Revoked	—	—	—	—
Not Renewed	—	—	—	—
Voluntarily Closed	—	—	—	—
Never Opened	—	—	—	—
Total	3	1033	3	1009

Charter Authorizer	SPRINGFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT 186 (SPRINGFIELD SD 186)
Superintendent	Dr. Jennifer E. Gill
Address	1900 West Monroe Springfield, IL 62704
Published Mission/Vision for Authorizing	<p>Springfield SD 186 provided the following mission statement for its authorizing work: The creation of a safe, nurturing environment that fosters learning through the development of high-quality, research-based academic programs, attention to the learning needs of individual children, and the involvement of parents in their children's education.</p> <p>ISBE notes that this mission statement also appears on the webpage for Springfield Ball Charter School (Ball Charter) as Ball Charter's mission statement.</p>
Key Policies & Practices	Springfield SD 186 reported that it pursues the following two policies and practices to achieve its authorizing goals:

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Setting enrollment targets The District noted that at its existing charter school maximum enrollment may not exceed 396 students. 2. Defining the term “high-quality charter school” to guide authorization decisions The District’s authorization decisions are based on the following areas of focus: literacy, mathematics, multi-aged grouping, and professional development.
Academic Performance	Refer to Section 5 of this Charter School Biennial Report.
Financial Performance	The District reported that its one charter school — Springfield Ball Charter School — continues to be in sound financial health while continuing to offer Springfield SD 186 residents with a quality school of choice option for K-8 students. The charter school has reportedly been able to maintain a strong fund balance while ensuring that the dollars coming from the District are spent wisely on programs and staff that strives to engage and challenge student learning.
Authorizer Functions	<p>The authorizer reported that it provides the following 11 authorizer functions listed in the authorizer survey:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Negotiating and executing sound charter contracts with each approved charter school Springfield Ball Charter provides an annual report to the District’s Board of Education each year. The District negotiates and executes the contract with the charter school during the renewal process every five years. 2. Conducting formal site visit/audits of all charter schools in the portfolio The District conducts informal visits at the charter school monthly and formal visits at least twice per year. This is consistent with its site visit scheduled for district-managed schools. The District also names a district administrator to the charter school’s governing board. This designee acts as the liaison between the District and the charter school. All district-level administrators visit the charter school routinely. 3. Conducting a formal renewal and revocation process The District conducts a formal renewal process every five years. The charter school presents its requests to the District and the Board of Education. The parties hold negotiation sessions to address funding changes, enrollment, and other significant factors. The updated contract is approved formally by both boards. 4. Centralizing the lottery for all choice schools Springfield Ball Charter holds its own lottery. 5. Centralizing student accounting (i.e., record school placements and student progress) Springfield Ball Charter uses the District’s information system for maintaining school records, attendance, and grades. 6. Providing an information system that details school characteristics and performance Springfield Ball Charter uses the District’s website and information system to detail school characteristics and performance. 7. Providing transportation The District routinely provides charter school student transportation to and from school each day, the same as all other schools within the District. 8. Treatment of specialized populations (e.g., students with disabilities, English Language Learners, Homeless children and youth, etc.) The District provides qualified special education teachers and services for students with disabilities and other specialized groups. 9. Providing technical assistance The District provides technical assistance for the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Network ▪ Student Information System ▪ Website

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ District-owned computers, such as computers assigned to students with assistive technology needs <p>10. Providing a publicly published application timeline and materials The District received a charter school proposal that did not include the most fundamental elements, including site identification or a realistic financial plan. The District asked for clarification but received little. Subsequently, the District tasked legal counsel with developing a policy based on Section 27A-7, which will serve as a base for a model application and timeline. That work is in progress.</p> <p>11. Require and/or examine annual, independent financial audits of charter schools The District receives a copy of the independent financial audit each year.</p>
Authorizer’s Operating Costs and Expenses	<p>Springfield SD 186 does not have any FTE assigned exclusively or for at least .25% of their time to authorizing work. The District does not delegate any of its core authorizing functions to contractors.</p> <p>Springfield SD 186 did not identify any specific funding sources that it relies upon to support its authorizing work. The District does not maintain a budget dedicated to authorizing of charter schools and did not report an estimated amount of direct costs of authorizing for either FY 2018 or FY 2019.</p>

**SPRINGFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT 186
Charter School Portfolio**

Status	Total Charter Schools 2017-18	Student Enrollment 2017-18	Total Charter Schools 2018-19	Student Enrollment 2018-19
Approved (not yet open)	—	—	—	—
Operating	1	398	1	396
Renewed	—	—	—	—
Transferred	—	—	—	—
Revoked	—	—	—	—
Not Renewed	—	—	—	—
Voluntarily Closed	—	—	—	—
Never Opened	—	—	—	—
Total	1	398	1	396

Illinois Charter Schools Department Contact Information

**Illinois State Board of Education
Attn: David Turovetz, Acting Director
100 West Randolph Street
Suite 14-300
Chicago, IL 60601
(312) 814-2220**

- ⁱ Seven other states passed a charter school law in the same year as Illinois. See “National Charter Schools Law Rankings & Scorecard—2018”, Center for Education Reform (March 2018), available at https://edreform.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/CER_National-Charter-School-Law-Rankings-and-Scorecard-2018_screen_1-30-19.pdf.
- ⁱⁱ Until 2019, the law allowed a state appeal route when a local school board denied an application to open a new charter school. Public Act 101-0543, effective August 23, 2019, specifies that local school board decisions to deny an application for a new charter school can only be appealed in circuit court. ISBE is currently updating its Part 650 rules to reflect this and other changes under the new legislation.
- ⁱⁱⁱ ISBE became responsible on August 23, 2019, for hearing and deciding appeals of local school board revocation decisions. Beginning July 1, 2020, ISBE will also be responsible for hearing and deciding appeals of local school board non-renewal decisions.
- ^{iv} Enrollment numbers cited in this report do not include students enrolled in preschool programs. Some charter school operators offer preschool, but by law the preschool is not considered part of the charter school and the charter school cannot grant automatic preference in its kindergarten lottery to students matriculating from the associated preschool.
- ^v To receive an annual designation, the school must have a student population of sufficient size to meet the following calculation criteria: minimum student group size of 20 students worth of data in 5 out of the eight scored indicators, one of which must be a student success and school quality indicator.
- ^{vi} ISBE’s ESSA State Plan specifies that schools that span the two accountability bands (K-8 and 9-12) “will be reported for purposes of accountability at the highest complete grade band configuration, although a school would receive two designations, so that supports can be provided as appropriate given the applicable designations. Thus, a P-12 school would be held accountable under the structure of the high school grade band accountability system. All grade level results for all indicators would be reported for these schools.” The list of schools that receive two designations can be found at <https://www.isbe.net/Documents/Two-Designations.pdf>. The “Charter School Performance Snapshot” section of this Biennial Report lists only the summative designation assigned to the highest complete grade band configuration.
- ^{vii} 2018-19 Summative Designations are as of the date of report publication.
- ^{viii} The use of N/A in any table in this report denotes that the school was not yet opened or had been closed during that school year.
- ^{ix} The corporation’s current official name in Noble Network of Charter Schools. It was previously named Noble Street Charter School, the name still used in ISBE’s Entity Profile System. Therefore, throughout the rest of this report, campuses associated with the Noble Network of Charter Schools will start with “Noble Street.”
- ^x The category “Other” as used here includes Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, American Indian, and Multi-racial students. These student subgroups been collapsed due to student n-sizes and space limitations.
- ^{xi} Examples of applicable School Code requirements include Sections [10-21.9](#) and [34-18.5](#) regarding criminal background checks of applicants for employment, and Sections [24-24](#) and [34-84A](#) regarding student discipline.
- ^{xii} Out of 20 charter schools responding. Charter school networks operating under a single charter contract report using the same areas of flexibility across all campuses. Networks are therefore counted one time only in this table, although a single network may represent up to 19 charter school campuses.
- ^{xiii} Great Lakes Academy Charter School reported that it did not use teacher licensure flexibility in 2018-19, but also reported having one teacher who was not fully licensed on staff in 2018-19.
- ^{xiv} Out of 20 charter schools responding. Charter school networks operating under a single charter contract report the same legislative priorities across all campuses. Networks are therefore counted one time only in this table, although a single network may represent up to 19 charter school campuses.



Illinois State Board of Education

100 North First Street, S-405
Springfield, Illinois 62777-0001

2018-2019 CHARTER SCHOOL REPORT INFORMATION

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION DIVISION

Instructions: Complete this form for each campus of your charter school and return by July 1, 2019. You may mail to the attention of Camille Franklin at the above address, fax to (312) 814-3222, or e-mail to cfrankli@isbe.net. Please do not type beyond the space provided.

A. DIRECTORY INFORMATION. Provide the most recent information in each box.

NAME OF CHARTER SCHOOL	TELEPHONE (Include Area Code)	FAX (Include Area Code)
STREET ADDRESS (Number, Street, City, State, 9 Digit Zip Code)	NUMBER OF CAMPUSES 2018-2019 To the extent the information is different, please complete a separate ISBE Form 87-13 for each campus in operation in 2018-2019.	
NAME OF PERSON COMPLETING THIS FORM	TELEPHONE OF PERSON COMPLETING THIS FORM (Include Area Code)	
NAME OF CHARTER SCHOOL DIRECTOR	EMAIL OF CHARTER SCHOOL DIRECTOR	
NAME OF CHARTER SCHOOL GOVERNING BOARD PRESIDENT	SCHOOL'S WEBSITE ADDRESS	
OTHER SOCIAL MEDIA (Please check appropriate box and give username.)		
Facebook Username: _____ Twitter Username: _____ Other Username: _____		

B. STUDENT DATA

- Did your school hold an enrollment lottery for 2018-2019? Yes No
- How many student enrollment applications were received for 2018-2019? _____
- From these applications, how many students were selected via lottery? _____
- How many students were on waiting list 2018-2019 on the 20th day of school? _____
- Grades served in 2018-2019: _____
- Number of out-of-district students served in 2018-2019 on a tuition basis: _____
- School day in 2018-2019: From _____ a.m. to _____ p.m.
Average number of instructional minutes per day: _____
- Number of students who attended during 2017-2018 but did not return at the beginning of the 2018-2019 school year: # Male _____ # Female _____
Do not include students who completed last grade available at charter school.
- Student discipline during 2018-2019. Note: Any student who is suspended or expelled multiple times from the same school during the same school year should be counted only once toward that school's total number of students suspended and expelled. "Total Number of Suspension Days Served" for the school should include all suspension days served by students during the school year, including all days served by any one student who has been suspended multiple times during the same school year.

NUMBER/PERCENT OF STUDENTS DISCIPLINED		
Number and % Suspended	Number and % Expelled	Total Number of Suspension Days Served
_____ / _____ %	_____ / _____ %	
Raw # Male _____ # Female _____	Raw # Male _____ # Female _____	Raw # Male _____ # Female _____

10. Student Retention during 2018-2019. Note: Transfer should be included whether the withdrawal occurred during the school year or at the end of the school year.

NUMBER OF STUDENTS LEAVING THE CHARTER SCHOOL		
TRANSFERRING TO ANOTHER SCHOOL IN THE DISTRICT	TRANSFERRING TO ANOTHER SCHOOL OUTSIDE THE DISTRICT	NO LONGER ATTENDING SCHOOL
_____	_____	_____
Raw # Male _____ # Female _____	Raw # Male _____ # Female _____	Raw # Male _____ # Female _____

11. Does your school require community service as a graduation requirement? Yes No

12. How many hours of community service are required each year? _____

13. Average entering test scores at lowest grade served or lowest grade tested.

Grade: _____ Name of test: _____ (IAR, NWEA, PSAT/SAT, etc.) Score: _____

14. Average comparable exiting test scores at highest grade served or highest grade tested.

Grade: _____ Name of test: _____ (IAR, NWEA, PSAT/SAT, etc. Should be the same as above.) Score: _____

C. STAFF DATA

1. Total number of instructional personnel (in FTE) in 2017-2018: _____
2. Total number of instructional personnel (in FTE) in 2018-2019: _____
3. Total number of 2017-2018 staff who remained at school for 2018-2019 school year: _____
4. Of the instructional staff at school in 2018-2019, how many maintain Illinois teaching certificates? _____
5. Number of 2018-2019 instructional personnel who entered classroom via an alternative certification program.
List name of program.: _____
6. Number of instructional personnel who completed neither alternative nor traditional certification: _____
7. Number and percentage of instructional personnel with at least a Master's degree in a relevant field: _____ / _____ %
8. Number and percentage of instructional personnel with at least a PhD in relevant field: _____ / _____ %
9. Average number of years experience in classroom for instructional staff: _____
10. Average number of years experience in classroom at current charter school for instructional staff: _____

C. STAFF DATA (continued)

11. Is your staff unionized?
If Yes, what union? _____

Yes No

12. Number of full staff development days included in 2018-2019 school year: _____

13. Did your charter school distribute performance bonuses for instructional staff for the 2018-2019 school year?

Yes No

14. Number of non-clerical administrative personnel (in FTE) in 2018-2019.

- Please list positions included in count:

- Of these, how many (in FTE) maintain Illinois administrative certificates?

15. Did your charter school distribute performance bonuses for non-clerical administrative personnel for the 2018-2019 school year?

Yes No

Please do not type beyond the space provided.

D. CHARTER SCHOOL EXEMPTIONS

Charter schools are exempt from much of the School Code. Indicate the areas of flexibility used by your school in 2018-2019. **Check all that apply.** For each area you check, please include a brief explanation of how that exemption assisted or impeded your ability to meet your stated goals and objectives.

- 1. Teacher certification.

- 2. Autonomy to set educational priorities.

- 3. Autonomy to design curriculum independent from school district.

- 4. Autonomy to allow teaching methods that are new or different from the school district.

- 5. Autonomy to design different, additional performance standards.

- 6. Autonomy to set unique school day and school year schedules.

- 7. Autonomy to manage fiscal affairs independent of school district.

- 8. Autonomy to set employee compensation rates and/or provide bonuses.

- 9. Autonomy to contract with external providers for various services (please list).

- 10. Other (please describe):

E. SUGGESTED CHANGES IN THE LAW

Please check off the suggested changes in the law that you would like to see take place and explain the reasoning for your selection.

Charter School and Authorizer Finances

- 1. Allocate additional operating funds to charter schools beyond the per capita assistance from the authorizing district.

- 2. Increase the amount of state start-up grants to up to \$1,000 per enrolled student.

- 3. Provide state grants to all schools including those in renewal periods.

- 4. Appropriate funds sufficient to fully fund state start-up grants as well as transition impact aid to districts.

- 5. Allocate funds to provide incentive grants to districts that approve charter schools.

- 6. Provide transportation funding.

- 7. Provide facilities financing.

- 8. Prohibit districts from charging rent for district buildings used by charter schools.

E. SUGGESTED CHANGES IN THE LAW (Continued)

Admissions/Enrollment

1. Allow children classified as “at-risk” to have preference in the lottery in all charter schools.

2. Allow children of employees to attend regardless of their home District.

3. Allow additional enrollment preferences (specify).

Authorization

1. Allow statewide RFPs for charter schools.

2. Lengthen the 75 days currently allowed for authorizers to respond to charter school applications.

Please do not type beyond the space provided.

E. SUGGESTED CHANGES IN THE LAW (Continued)

Expansion of Charter Schools

1. Allow multiple campuses for all schools.

2. Prohibit multiple campuses for all schools.

Increased Autonomy/Flexibility

Other (please specify, attach additional pages as necessary):

Please do not type beyond the space provided.

F. MANAGEMENT RELATIONSHIPS

Indicate the relationship of your school to charter or educational management organizations (CMOs or EMOs). **Check all that apply.** Use space below to indicate the name of the management organization as appropriate. Charter Management Organization (CMO) is a non profit organization that operates or manages multiple charter schools (i.e., either through a contract with the charter schools or as the charter holder) linked by centralized support, operations and oversight. Education Management Organization is a for profit entity that contracts with new or existing public school districts, charter school districts, and charter schools to manage charter schools by centralizing support, operations and oversight.

1. The school had a contract with a not-for-profit CMO or EMO for the first time in 2018-2019 (specify years: _____).

Name the EMO/CMO: _____

2. The school has had a contract with a not-for-profit CMO or EMO in the past (specify years: _____).

Name the EMO/CMO: _____

3. The school had a contract with a for-profit CMO or EMO for the first time in 2018-2019 (specify years: _____).

Name the EMO/CMO: _____

4. The school has had a contract with a for-profit CMO or EMO in the past (specify years: _____).

Name the EMO/CMO: _____

5. The school has never had a contract with a CMO or EMO, either for-profit or not-for-profit.

Comments:

Please do not type beyond the space provided.

G. ACCOUNTABILITY

Indicate how your school is held accountable by the charter authorizer. **Check all that apply.**

Yes No

1. Does the school submit a written performance report to the authorizer each year?
2. Does the school submit a written performance report to the authorizer only for renewal?
3. Does the school communicate the results of its performance reports to student families each year?
If Yes, give the date and nature of communication: _____
4. Does the school communicate the results of its performance reports to community members each year? If Yes, give date and nature of communication: _____
5. Does the authorizer make an on-site visit to the school each year?
If Yes, list the dates of 2018-2019 visits: _____
6. Does the authorizer make an on-site visit to the school only for renewal?
7. Does your school have a board of directors?
If Yes, how many members are on the board? _____
What is the frequency of board meetings? _____

Please explain your satisfaction or dissatisfaction with the support given from your authorizer.

Please explain your satisfaction or dissatisfaction with the process of renewal with your authorizer.

I. BEST PRACTICES

1. Name three to four “best practices” used by your school and describe how each benefits your student population. How could these best practices benefit other schools in your neighborhood or other districts with similar demographics?
Attach additional pages as necessary.

For example:

- Teacher evaluation methods
- Teacher and administrator incentive pay structures
- Benefit structure available to staff
- Student performance data management and school level performance management practices
- Internal accountability programs
- Successful partnerships with outside organizations
- Parent and community engagement / outreach strategies
- Professional development
- Professional culture / recruitment and retention strategies
- Extended school day / school year

Comments:

J. BUDGET

List the total amounts of your school's funding streams for the categories below as well as what each category represents as a percentage of your total operating budget. **Please report actuals for Fiscal Year 2019 rather than budgeted.**

- | | | |
|---|--|---------|
| 1. Public funds from federal government. | \$ _____ | _____ % |
| 2. Public funds from state government. | \$ _____ | _____ % |
| 3. Public funds from local government. | \$ _____ | _____ % |
| 4. Private donations from individuals. | \$ _____ | _____ % |
| 5. Private donations from corporations. | \$ _____ | _____ % |
| 6. Private donations from non-profits or foundations. | \$ _____ | _____ % |
| 7. Other sources (please explain). | \$ _____ | _____ % |
| 8. Total revenue/funding. | \$ _____ | _____ % |
| 9. Are your facilities independent from district ownership? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | |

Provide a top-level breakdown of your budget based on the following categories. Please list both the amount spent as well as what each category represents as a percentage of total outlays.

- | | | |
|---|----------|---------|
| 10. Administrative costs (clerical supplies, office machine rental/use, etc). | \$ _____ | _____ % |
| 11. Facilities rental/lease. | \$ _____ | _____ % |
| 12. Facilities maintenance and upkeep. | \$ _____ | _____ % |
| 13. Instructional personnel salaries. | \$ _____ | _____ % |
| 14. Instructional personnel performance based bonuses. | \$ _____ | _____ % |
| 15. Administrative non-clerical personnel salaries. | \$ _____ | _____ % |
| 16. Administrative, non-clerical personnel performance bonuses. | \$ _____ | _____ % |
| 17. Support staff salaries (maintenance, clerical, etc.). | \$ _____ | _____ % |
| 18. Program supplies (books, computers, student instructional aides). | \$ _____ | _____ % |
| 19. Professional development. | \$ _____ | _____ % |
| 20. Public relations / advertising. | \$ _____ | _____ % |
| 21. Student programs and activities (non-athletic). | \$ _____ | _____ % |
| 22. Student programs and activities (athletic). | \$ _____ | _____ % |
| 23. Other (please explain briefly): | \$ _____ | _____ % |
| 24. Total expenses. | \$ _____ | _____ % |

K. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please attach additional pages as necessary for addressing the following questions.

- Describe the need for changes in the approval process.
- Describe any “success stories” from your school.
- Describe the greatest challenge your school faced in the past year.
- Provide any additional information not covered above.

Comments:



Illinois State Board of Education

100 West Randolph Street, Suite 14-300
Chicago, Illinois 60601-3268

2017-2018 and 2018-2019 AUTHORIZER REPORT INFORMATION

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION DIVISION

DIRECTORY INFORMATION

Instructions: Complete this form and return by August 1, 2019. You may mail to the attention of Jennifer Thomas at the above address or email to jthomas@isbe.net. Please do not type beyond the space provided. Attach additional pages or documentation as necessary.

NAME OF AUTHORIZING ORGANIZATION	TELEPHONE (Include Area Code)	FAX (Include Area Code)
ADDRESS (Street, City, State, Zip Code)		
NAME OF PERSON COMPLETING THIS FORM	TITLE	EMAIL
NAME OF PRINCIPAL CHARTER LIAISON	TITLE	EMAIL
NAME OF GOVERNING BOARD CHAIR/PRESIDENT	WEBSITE ADDRESS	

OTHER SOCIAL MEDIA:

Twitter: _____ Facebook: _____ Other: _____

A. CHARTER SCHOOL GENERAL DATA

1. Total number of operating charter schools open on October 1, 2017 _____
 - a. Number of multi-campus charter schools (i.e., charter schools operating more than one campus under a single charter agreement). _____
 - b. Number of virtual charter schools. (** See description below*) _____
 - c. Number of charter schools devoted exclusively to students from low-performing or overcrowded schools. (See 105 ILCS 5/27A-4(b).) _____
 - d. Number of charter schools devoted exclusively to re-enrolled high school dropouts and/or students at risk of dropping out. (See 105 ILCS 5/27A-4(b).) _____

2. Total number of operating charter schools open on October 1, 2018 _____
 - a. Number of multi-campus charter schools (i.e. charter schools operating more than one campus under a single charter agreement). _____
 - b. Number of virtual charter schools. (** See description below*) _____
 - c. Number of charter schools devoted exclusively to students from low-performing or overcrowded schools. (See 105 ILCS 5/27A-4(b).) _____
 - d. Number of charter schools devoted exclusively to re-enrolled high school dropouts and/or students at risk of dropping out. (See 105 ILCS 5/27A-4(b).) _____

3. Charter school student enrollment in 2017-2018, as collected by September 30, 2017. _____

4. Charter school student enrollment in 2018-2019, as collected by September 30, 2018. _____

* IL law defines "virtual schooling" as the teaching of courses through online methods with online instructors rather than the instructor and student being at the same physical location. This includes, without limitation, instruction provided by full-time, online virtual schools.

B. NEW CHARTER APPLICATION PROCESSES

1. Does your organization release a request for new charter school applications annually? Yes No

If Yes, specify when the organization completed its application review process in each of the last two school years:

- a. School Year 2017-2018 (August 1, 2017 through July 31, 2018) _____
- b. School Year 2018-2019 (August 1, 2018 through July 31, 2019) _____

If No, specify when the organization completed its most recent charter review process. _____

Please do not include review of charter renewal applications, as this will be addressed in a separate section.

2. List the total number of applications for new charter schools that your authorizing office received between August 1, 2017 and July 31, 2018. _____

Of this total, how many applications:

- a. Were withdrawn by the applicant after submission? _____
- b. Were approved by your organization?
(Please attach a list of newly approved schools that includes contact information and the charter school's term.) _____
- c. Were denied by your organization? _____
- d. Other: _____

3. List the total number of applications for new charter schools that your authorizing office received between August 1, 2018 and July 31, 2019. _____

Of this total, how many applications:

- a. Were withdrawn by the applicant after submission? _____
- b. Were approved by your organization?
(Please attach a list of newly-approved schools that includes contact information and the charter school's term.) _____
- c. Were denied by your organization? _____
- d. Other: _____

4. List the total number of applications approved to open in fall 2017 that did not open. _____
Please provide an explanation for the decision, including the new planned opening date, if applicable. For schools scheduled to open at a later date, please also list the targeted student population and community to be served; the planned location or address; the projected enrollment and grades to be served; and the names and contact information for the governing body. (Include attachments, if necessary.)

5. List the total number of applications approved to open in fall 2018 that did not open. _____
Please provide an explanation for the decision, including the new planned opening date, if applicable. For schools scheduled to open at a later date, please also list the targeted student population and community to be served; the planned location or address; the projected enrollment and grades to be served; and the names and contact information for the governing body. (Include attachments, if necessary.)

C. CHARTER SCHOOL RENEWAL AND CLOSURE DECISION-MAKING

RENEWAL

1. During the 2017-2018 school year (August 1, 2017 through July 31, 2018), did your office renew any charter schools? Yes No

If Yes, please list the names of any renewed charter schools, the dates of renewal, and their renewal terms:

_____	_____	_____
<i>Name</i>	<i>Date of Renewal</i>	<i>Term</i>
_____	_____	_____
<i>Name</i>	<i>Date of Renewal</i>	<i>Term</i>
_____	_____	_____
<i>Name</i>	<i>Date of Renewal</i>	<i>Term</i>
_____	_____	_____
<i>Name</i>	<i>Date of Renewal</i>	<i>Term</i>

2. During the 2018-2019 school year (August 1, 2018 through July 31, 2019), did your office renew any charter schools? Yes No

If Yes, please list the names of any renewed charter schools, the dates of renewal, and their renewal terms:

_____	_____	_____
<i>Name</i>	<i>Date of Renewal</i>	<i>Term</i>
_____	_____	_____
<i>Name</i>	<i>Date of Renewal</i>	<i>Term</i>
_____	_____	_____
<i>Name</i>	<i>Date of Renewal</i>	<i>Term</i>
_____	_____	_____
<i>Name</i>	<i>Date of Renewal</i>	<i>Term</i>

3. Do you have a charter renewal application? If so, please attach.

C. CHARTER SCHOOL RENEWAL AND CLOSURE DECISION-MAKING (Continued)

NONRENEWAL/REVOCAION (Continued)

- 8. Please list criteria used to make nonrenewal or revocation decisions. Separate documentation (including a performance framework or similar instrument) may be submitted in addition to a response below.

NONRENEWAL/REVOCAION

- 9. During the 2017-2018 school year (August 1, 2017 through July 31, 2018), did any charter schools voluntarily close? Yes No

If Yes, please list the names of any charter schools that surrendered their charters, the effective date of closure, and a very brief explanation of the primary reason for the surrender:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Effective Date of Nonrenewal or Revocation</i>	<i>Reason</i>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

- 10. During the 2018-2019 school year (August 1, 2018 through July 31, 2019), did any charter schools voluntarily close? Yes No

If Yes, please list the names of any charter schools that surrendered their charters, the effective date of closure, and a very brief explanation of the primary reason for the surrender:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Effective Date of Nonrenewal or Revocation</i>	<i>Reason</i>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

CHARTER SCHOOLS BEST PRACTICES

- 11. Have you noticed sustainability of best practices over three years or more in any of the charter schools that you granted renewals to in school years 2017-18 and 2018-19? (Data collection, innovative curriculum, unique school culture, etc.) Explain:

- 12. Are there any examples of best practice sharing between district schools and charter schools in your district? If so, please explain. If not, please explain how you will encourage best practice sharing between charters and district schools in your district.

E. MISSION AND GOALS (Continued)

- 4. Have you visited the Charter School Authorizer Dashboard on the ISBE website's charter schools page? The dashboard tracks key standards, created by the National Association of Charter School Authorizers (adopted by ISBE). Have you found this dashboard helpful in your development as an authorizer? What other information would you like to see measured on the Charter School Authorizer Dashboard?

Visit the dashboard at: <https://www.isbe.net/Pages/CharterSchoolAuthorizerCriteriaDashboard.aspx>

- 5. Summarize the financial health of your charter sector. In your response, please identify the number of charter schools that have closed or may be subject to revocation or nonrenewal in the 2018 or 2019 school years on the basis of financial insolvency. If the authorizer utilizes a financial rating system with its charter schools, please include in your response an explanation of the methodology and the number or percentage of charter schools within the authorizer's portfolio that fall within each rating.

- 6. Summarize the academic performance of your charter schools in the 2018 and 2019 school years in one or more of the following key performance indicators (feel free to provide your own attachments that summarize the desired indicators.):

- a. PARCC Scores (if applicable): _____
- b. SAT average: _____
- c. College readiness _____
- d. Achievement Gap: _____
- e. Graduation rate: _____
- f. College acceptance: _____
- g. Freshman on track: _____
- h. Attendance: _____

- 7. List the funding streams/allocations including the percentage of Per Capita Tuition Charge your charter schools receive.

G. AUTHORIZER'S OPERATING COSTS AND EXPENSES

1. How many FTE in your organization are assigned to authorizing work? # Exclusive _____

Please include only FTE assigned exclusively to authorizing work and auxiliary personnel assigned to work at least .25 percent time in charter authorization functions. #> 0.25% _____

2. Does your authorizing office delegate any of its core functions to contractors? Yes No

If Yes, please identify what functions have been delegated and identify the contractor(s):

3. What funding sources support the work of your authorizing office?

Check all that apply:

- a. Authorization fees deducted from each charter school's revenue (specify amount) \$ _____
- b. Transition Impact Aid
- c. State appropriations designated for authorizer functions
- d. The authorizer's general operating budget
- e. State or federal grants
- f. Foundation grants
- g. Other: _____

4. Does your organization have a budget dedicated to authorization of charter schools? Yes No

Please include only expenditures related to authorizer powers and duties listed in 105 ILCS 5/27A-7.10(a) and other authorizer functions as may be defined in individual charter contracts. Do not include funds paid to charter schools for their operations, such as per capita funds, federal or state categorical funds, etc.

If Yes, separately attach a breakdown of such budgets for FY18 and FY19. FY18 \$ _____

If No, provide an estimate of your organization's direct costs for authorizing in FY18 and FY19. FY19 \$ _____

H. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Describe any support services or trainings you would like to see in terms of operating as an authorizer. Please be specific.

Providing information on the points below is optional. Please attach additional pages, as necessary, if you choose to address the issues noted.

- Describe any need for changes in the charter approval process as defined in law.
- Describe any "success stories" from the previous two years of authorization.
- Describe any "lessons learned" for local school boards considering a charter proposal.
- Describe the greatest challenges you have faced in the past two years as an authorizer.