

# FundEd: Charters

## Charter School Policies in Each State



## Authorizer

Charter schools require authorization by some state/local government or third-party entity to open. Charter funding policies and reporting practices may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. This report indicates the types of entities which may authorize charter schools in each state.

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| <b>Alabama</b>              | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in Alabama may be authorized by local school districts and the Alabama Charter School Commission.   |
| <b>Alaska</b>               | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in Alaska may be authorized by local school districts, with approval of the State Board of Education.   |
| <b>Arizona</b>              | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in Arizona may be authorized by the State Board of Education, the State Board for Charter Schools, or other entities, like institutions of higher education.            |
| <b>Arkansas</b>             | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in Arkansas may be authorized by the Department of Education and the State Board of Education.  |
| <b>California</b>           | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in California may be authorized by local school districts, the State Board of Education, or other entities, like county boards of education.                            |
| <b>Colorado</b>             | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in Colorado may be authorized by local school districts or the State Charter School Institute.  |
| <b>Connecticut</b>          | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in Connecticut may be authorized by both the local or regional school district and the State Board of Education, or by the State Board of Education only.               |
| <b>Delaware</b>             | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in Delaware may be authorized by local school districts and the State Department of Education.  |
| <b>District of Columbia</b> | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in the District of Columbia may be authorized by the board of education, the Public School Board, and any other entities designated as authorizers by the D.C. Council. |
| <b>Florida</b>              | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in Florida are authorized by local school districts. Universities have limited authority to authorize charter lab schools.  |
| <b>Georgia</b>              | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in Georgia may be authorized by local school districts, the State Board of Education, and the Charter Schools Commission.   |

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| <b>Hawaii</b>        | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in Hawaii may be authorized by State Public Charter Commission, and other entities approved by the board, including institutions of higher education, county or state agencies, and nonprofit organizations.          |
| <b>Idaho</b>         | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in Idaho may be authorized by local school districts, the Public Charter School Commission, and other entities such as institutions of higher education.  |
| <b>Illinois</b>      | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in Illinois may be authorized by local school districts or the State Charter School Commission.   |
| <b>Indiana</b>       | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in Indiana may be authorized by local school boards with the authority to do so, the Indiana Charter School Board, and other entities, such as institutions of higher education or executives of consolidated cities. |
| <b>Iowa</b>          | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in Iowa must be authorized by both the local school district and the State Board of Education.  |
| <b>Kansas</b>        | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in Kansas must be authorized by both the local school district and the State Board of Education.  |
| <b>Kentucky</b>      | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in Kentucky may be authorized by local school districts and other entities, like certain chief executives of local governments or a collaborative of local school districts.  |
| <b>Louisiana</b>     | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in Louisiana may be authorized by local school districts or the State Board of Education.   |
| <b>Maine</b>         | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in Maine may be authorized by local school districts, the State Charter School Commission, or other entities, such as a collaborative of local school districts.  |
| <b>Maryland</b>      | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in Maryland may be authorized by local school districts.  |
| <b>Massachusetts</b> | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in Massachusetts may be authorized by the State Board of Education.   |
| <b>Michigan</b>      | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in Michigan may be authorized by local school districts and other entities, such as intermediate school districts, community colleges, and state public universities.   |
| <b>Minnesota</b>     | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in Minnesota may be authorized by local school districts and other entities, such as intermediate school districts, nonprofit organizations, and institutions of higher education.                                    |
| <b>Mississippi</b>   | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in Mississippi may be authorized by the Mississippi Charter School Authorizer Board.  |

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| <b>Missouri</b>       | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in Missouri may be authorized by local school districts, the Missouri Charter Public School Commission, and other entities, such as institutions of higher education.  |
| <b>Montana</b>        | Montana does not have a law establishing charter schools.  |
| <b>Nebraska</b>       | Nebraska does not have a law establishing charter schools.   |
| <b>Nevada</b>         | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in Nevada may be authorized by local school boards (with approval from the state Department of Education), State Public Charter School Authority, and a college or university within the Nevada System of Higher Education (with approval from the state Department of Education). |
| <b>New Hampshire</b>  | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in New Hampshire may be authorized by local school districts, with the approval of the State Board of Education or State Board of Education alone.   |
| <b>New Jersey</b>     | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in New Jersey may be authorized by the State Commissioner of Education.  |
| <b>New Mexico</b>     | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in New Mexico may be authorized by local school districts and the New Mexico Public Education Commission.  |
| <b>New York</b>       | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in New York may be authorized by local school districts, the Board of Regents of the New York State Department of Education, and other entities such as the State University of New York or the chancellor of a city school district in a city of over one million.                |
| <b>North Carolina</b> | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in North Carolina may be authorized by the State Board of Education.   |
| <b>North Dakota</b>   | North Dakota does not have a law establishing charter schools.   |
| <b>Ohio</b>           | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in Ohio may be authorized by local school districts and other entities, such as state universities, qualified tax-exempt entities or mayors of cities.   |
| <b>Oklahoma</b>       | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in Oklahoma may be authorized by local school districts, the State Board of Education on appeal, and other entities, such as institutions of higher education. Virtual charter schools may be authorized by the Statewide Virtual Charter School Board                             |
| <b>Oregon</b>         | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in Oregon may be authorized by local school districts and the State Board of Education, on appeal.   |
| <b>Pennsylvania</b>   | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in Pennsylvania may be authorized by local school districts, and virtual charter schools may be authorized by the state Department of Education.   |
| <b>Rhode Island</b>   | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in Rhode Island may be authorized by the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education.  |

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| <b>South Carolina</b> | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in South Carolina may be authorized by local school districts, the State Board of Education, or another entity, such as institutions of higher education.         |
| <b>South Dakota</b>   | South Dakota does not have a law establishing charter schools.  |
| <b>Tennessee</b>      | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in Tennessee may be authorized by local school districts or, in certain circumstances, the State Board of Education.  |
| <b>Texas</b>          | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in Texas may be approved by local school districts or the State Commissioner of Education.  |
| <b>Utah</b>           | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in Utah may be authorized by local school districts, the State Charter School Board, or another entity, such as institutions of higher education.                 |
| <b>Vermont</b>        | Vermont does not have a law establishing charter schools.   |
| <b>Virginia</b>       | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in Virginia may be authorized by local school districts, with approval from the State Board of Education.   |
| <b>Washington</b>     | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in Washington may be authorized by the Washington State Charter School Commission, and local school districts, with the approval of the State Board of Education. |
| <b>West Virginia</b>  | West Virginia does not have a law establishing charter schools.   |
| <b>Wisconsin</b>      | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in Wisconsin may be authorized by local school districts, as well as other entities, such as institutions of higher education and eligible cities and counties.   |
| <b>Wyoming</b>        | Charter funding policies and reporting practices within each state may vary depending on the entity that authorized the charter school. Charter schools in Wyoming may only be authorized by local school districts.  |

For a complete list of primary sources, please see the appropriate state page at [charters.funded.edbuild.org](http://charters.funded.edbuild.org)

