FundEd: Charters

A Detailed Look at Pennsylvania's Charter Funding Policies

edbuild

Pennsylvania

Funding Basics

Authorizer

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.

Funding Formula

Funding for charter schools in Pennsylvania is calculated based on local school district expenditures.

Charter schools receive payments based on the per student expenditures in the charter students' district(s) of residence, including funding raised from local taxes. The per student expenditure includes all general fund expenditures, excluding expenditures for special education, adult education, transportation, facilities acquisition, construction or improvement, and other costs. For students with disabilities, the charter school receives the per student payment for non-students with disabilities, plus an additional amount based on the district's special education expenditure.

Funding Distribution

Funding Distribution

Charter schools in Pennsylvania receive all funding through local school districts.

Charter schools receive funding from the local school district(s) where charter students reside.

Withholdings

State law in Pennsylvania does not specify that a share of charter funding is withheld.

Local Taxes

All charter schools in Pennsylvania receive a share of local tax revenue.

Charter schools are funded based on local school district expenditures, including funding raised through local taxes.

Data and Reporting

Legal Status

Charter schools in Pennsylvania constitute their own local education agencies.

Student Count

Charter school students in Pennsylvania are counted as students of the school district(s) where the students reside for most state reporting purposes.

Charter school students are counted as students of the charter, but are then attributed to the district(s) where they reside.

Funding

State funding for charter schools in Pennsylvania is reported as part of state funding for the school district(s) where charter students reside.

Expenditures

Charter school expenditures in Pennsylvania are reported separately from expenditures of any school district.

For a complete list of primary sources, please see the appropriate state page at charters.funded.edbuild.org