



OVERVIEW:

Comprehensive Performance Framework for State Charter Schools

PURPOSE

Quality charter school authorizers establish standards for school performance that are clear, quantifiable, rigorous, and attainable. The SCSC Performance Framework includes academic, financial, and organizational performance measures that establish expectations, guide practice, assess progress, and inform decision making over the course of the charter term and at renewal or revocation.

The three areas of performance covered by the frameworks—academic achievement, financial management, and organizational compliance— correspond directly with the three components of a strong charter school application and are the three areas on which a charter school’s performance should be evaluated. In each of the three areas, the framework asks a fundamental question:

1. Academic Performance: Is the educational program offering students a better educational opportunity than they would otherwise receive at a traditional public school?
2. Financial Performance: Is the school financially viable?
3. Organizational Performance: Is the organization effective, compliant, and well run?

SCSC PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS

State Charter Schools are expected to meet academic, financial, and operational standards during every year of the charter term. However, schools that demonstrate a consistent track record of strong performance over multiple years may earn a standard five-year renewal. Additionally, schools that finish their first charter term strong (despite early struggles), and schools that consistently perform on par with the attendance zone they serve may earn an abbreviated three-year charter renewal. The intent of an abbreviated charter term is to assess the school’s ability to sustain the requisite performance level.

ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE:

Fundamental Question:

Is the educational program offering students a better educational opportunity than they would otherwise receive at a traditional public school?

Meeting Goals:

In any year of the charter term, a state charter school will satisfy annual academic accountability requirements by outperforming its attendance zone in all relevant grade bands on *at least one of the* following measures:

- CCRPI Single Score (weighted by grade band enrollment),
- CCRPI Content Mastery (student achievement),
- CCRPI Progress (student growth),
- CCRPI Grade Band Score,
- Value-Added Impact on Student Achievement

OR by earning a “Beating the Odds” designation from Georgia Department of Education.

See Section I of the Comprehensive Performance Framework for complete details on indicators and weighting related to academic performance.

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

Fundamental Question:

Is the school fiscally responsible and financially viable?

Meeting Goals:

In any year of the charter term, a state charter school will satisfy annual financial accountability requirements by meeting the standards presented in Indicators 1-2 (near-term measures as well as sustainability measures).

1. Near Term Measures that include current ratio, unrestricted days cash, enrollment variance, debt to income and default on debt.
2. Sustainability Measures that include efficiency margin and debt to asset ratio.

See Section II of the Comprehensive Performance Framework for complete details on indicators and weighting related to financial performance.

OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE

Fundamental Question:

Is the organization effective, compliant, and well run?

Meeting Goals:

In any year of the charter term, a state charter school will be deemed operationally compliant if it adheres to the requirements of its charter contract as well as all applicable rules and laws as measured by indicators 1-6.

1. The school's educational program, such as adherence to its essential or innovative features and implementation of required programs;
2. Financial oversight such as adherence to GAAP standards;
3. Governance capacity and transparency
4. Protecting students and employees through the appropriate use of compensatory programs and employee qualifications
5. Maintaining a positive school environment by promoting student retention and support services
6. Any additional obligations including the timely remediation of previous noncompliance.

See Section III of the Comprehensive Performance Framework for complete details on indicators and weighting related to operational performance.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS THAT MAY BE CONSIDERED DURING RENEWAL

- Emergency or unforeseen circumstances impacting performance in one or more areas in a given year (such as natural disasters, dynamic external events outside the school's control, etc.)

DATA SOURCES USED TO DETERMINE COMPLIANCE

Academic Performance:

Indicator	Data Source
1.	GaDOE: CCRPI Single Score, FTE System of Residency Report, Student Record
2.	GaDOE: CCRPI Content Mastery Sub-Score, FTE System of Residency Report, Student Record
3.	GaDOE: CCRPI Progress Sub-Score, FTE System of Residency Report, Student Record
4.	Ga:DOE: CCRPI Grade Band Score, FTE System of Residency Report, Student Record
5.	SCSC: Value-Added Impact Score
6.	GaDOE: Beating the Odds designation

Financial Performance:

Indicator	Data Source
1. Near-Term Measures	School Audit Report: Governmental Funds-Balance Sheet School Audit Report: Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance SCSC Annual Enrollment Projection Form GADOE: Data Collections, Student Enrollment by Grade Level School Audit Report: Notes
2. Sustainability Measures	School Audit Report: Statement of Activities/Change in Net Position and Audit Notes School Audit Report: Statement of Net Position

Operational Performance:

Indicator	Data Source
1. Educational Program Compliance	GaDOE: Charter School Annual Report, SEA Program Monitoring SCSC: Monitoring Activities, Complaint Investigations Other: Reports of Noncompliance from a State or Federal Agency, Independent Audit Report
2. Financial Oversight	GaDOE: Charter School Annual Report, SEA Program Monitoring, Financial Reports SCSC: Monitoring Activities, Complaint Investigations Other: Reports of Noncompliance from a State or Federal Agency, Independent Audit Report
3. Governance	GaDOE: Charter School Annual Report, SEA Program Monitoring SCSC: Monitoring Activities, Complaint Investigations, Training Rosters Other: Reports of Noncompliance from a State or Federal Agency, Independent Audit Report
4. Students and Employees	GaDOE: Charter School Annual Report, SEA Program Monitoring, Data Reports SCSC: Monitoring Activities, Complaint Investigations, Other: Reports of Noncompliance from a State or Federal Agency, Independent Audit Report
5. School Environment	GaDOE: Charter School Annual Report, SEA Program Monitoring, Data Reports SCSC: Monitoring Activities, Complaint Investigations, Training Rosters Other: Reports of Noncompliance from a State or Federal Agency, Independent Audit Report
6. Additional and Continuing Obligations	GaDOE: Charter School Annual Report, SEA Program Monitoring SCSC: Monitoring Activities, Complaint Investigations, Training Rosters Other: Reports of Noncompliance from a State or Federal Agency, Independent Audit Report