

691-2-.01 Definitions

The following definitions shall apply to all rules and regulations of the State Charter Schools Commission:

- (a) **Admission lottery** – a random selection process to ensure that all applicants that do not have an enrollment preference have an equal chance of being admitted if the number of applications exceeds the capacity of a state charter school program, class, grade level, or building.
- (b) **Attendance zone** – the geographical area from which a state charter school may enroll students.
- (c) **Charter** – a performance-based contract between the charter authorizer(s) and a charter petitioner. By entering into a charter, a charter petitioner and the charter authorizer(s) shall be deemed to have agreed to be bound to all the provisions of the Charter Schools Act, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-2060 et. seq., and all State Board of Education and State Charter School Commission of Georgia rules and guidelines implementing the Charter Schools Act as if such terms were set forth in the charter.
- (d) **Charter petition** – a proposal or application to establish a charter school.
- (e) **Charter petitioner** – the entity that submits a petition for a charter. The term “charter petitioner” does not include home study programs or schools, sectarian schools, religious schools, private for profit schools, private educational institutions not established, operated, or governed by the State of Georgia, or existing private schools.
- (f) **Governing board** – the governing board of the nonprofit organization which is the charter petitioner for a state charter school and which is the same as the governing board of the state charter school which is involved in school-level governance of the state charter school.
- (g) **Local board of education** – a county or independent board of education exercising control and management of a local school system pursuant to Article VIII, Section V, Paragraph II of the Georgia Constitution.
- (h) **Local Education Agency** – a local school system, school district, or state charter school.
- (i) **State Board of Education (SBOE)** – the authority which defines education policy for the public K-12 education agencies in Georgia.
- (j) **State charter school** – a school authorized by the State Charter Schools Commission pursuant to this article whose creation is authorized as a special school pursuant to Article VIII, Section V, Paragraph VII of the Constitution. A state charter school shall be a public school.
- (k) **State Charter Schools Commission of Georgia** – the state-level charter school authorizer established by O.C.G.A. § 20-2-2082.

(l) **Charter school replication** - the creation of a second (or subsequent) charter school that utilizes the instructional program and/or academic model of an existing charter school but operates under a separate and independent charter contract.

(m) **Charter school expansion** - growth of an existing state charter school by significantly increasing student enrollment above the enrollment limit in the charter through the addition of grades, classes, or campuses/sites. Expansion shall occur by amendment of an existing charter contract.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 20-2-2081; 2091

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