

SCSC Comprehensive Performance Framework

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State Charter School
Performance
Accountability



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SCSC Mission

The mission of the State Charter Schools Commission of Georgia is to improve public education throughout the state by approving high quality charter schools that provide students with *better* educational opportunities than they would otherwise be afforded in traditional schools.

SCSC Evaluation Tool: Comprehensive Performance Framework (CPF)

- In 2016, the SCSC adopted a Comprehensive Performance Framework (CPF) to set forth clear, quantifiable, rigorous, and attainable goals in the areas of academic achievement, financial viability, and organizational compliance.
- A school's performance on the CPF informs SCSC decision making over the course of the charter term and at renewal.
- State Charter Schools are expected to meet academic standards during every year of the charter term; however, a school will be considered eligible for renewal if it meets academic, financial, and operational standards at least 75% of the time (in 3 out of the first 4 years of a 5-year charter contract term).
- If a school in its first charter term meets standards in year 4, SCSC staff will recommend an abbreviated charter term of 3 years.

CPF Standards

The three areas of performance covered by the framework—academic achievement, financial management, and organizational compliance—correspond directly with the three components of a strong charter school.

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 fiscally responsible and financially viable?
3. Organizational Performance: Is the organization effective, compliant, and well run?

Academic Metrics Within the CPF

The College and Career Readiness Performance Index (CCRPI):

The CCRPI is the official state accountability metric for public schools in Georgia. CCRPI Achievement Scores and CCRPI Progress Scores are weighted equally within the CPF.

The Value-Added Approach (VAA) and the Beating The Odds (BTO) Measure:

The Value-Added Approach (VAA) and the BTO) are predictive measures used to assess state charter schools based on their ability to positively impact the unique student populations they serve.

Schools may satisfy annual academic requirements by:

Outperforming their comparison district(s) on at least one of the following measures in all relevant grade bands:

- **CCRPI Achievement,**
- **CCRPI Progress (Growth),**
- **Weighted CCRPI Score (“Single Score”),**
- **Value-Added Impact on Student Achievement**

OR by earning a **“Beating The Odds”** designation from GaDOE

Academic Data Example

	Grade Cluster	Achievement Points	Comparison District Score	Outperform?
School A	E	22	24	No
School A	M	26	23	Yes
School A	H	23	22	Yes

Approaches Standards

	Grade Cluster	Progress Points	Comparison District Score	Outperform?
School A	M	26	26	Same
School A	H	23	22	Yes

Approaches Standards

Academic Data Example

	Grade Cluster	Achievement Points	Comparison District Score	Outperform?
School A	E	22	24	No
School A	M	26	23	Yes
	Grade Cluster	Progress Points	Comparison District Score	Outperform?
School A	E	28	27	Yes
School A	M	18	22	No

Does School A, Meet SCSC Academic Standards?

YES!

Academic Indicator Resources

- [State Performance Targets](#)
 - [State Designations](#)
 - [CCRPI Reports](#)
 - [Redesigned CCRPI Resources](#)
 - [CCRPI Progress/Growth \(Student Growth Percentiles\)](#)
 - [Value-Added Model](#)
 - [Beating the Odds](#)
- The SCSC is currently working with GaDOE and GOSA to adjust the SCSC CPF to incorporate changes that have been made to the CCRPI as part of the new ESSA plan.
- <http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Accountability/Pages/default.aspx>
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Financial Metrics Within the CPF

Near Term Measures:

Near term measures assess a school's financial position and viability in the upcoming year. Schools meeting the desired standards demonstrate a low risk of financial distress in the near future.

Sustainability Measures:

Sustainability measures are designed to depict a school's financial position and viability over time. Schools that meet the desired standards demonstrate a low risk of financial distress throughout the remainder of the charter term.

Schools may satisfy annual financial requirements by:

Demonstrating adequate performance on the following near term measures:

- **current ratio**
- **unrestricted days cash**
- **enrollment variance**, and
- **default**

AND on the following sustainability measures:

- **Aggregated efficiency margin**, and
- **debt to asset ratio.**

Financial Measures – Source

- Financial data is gathered from each school's annual independent audit report
- Enrollment Variance data is gathered from the schools enrollment projections submitted to the SCSC and from the school's self reported FTE data

Financial Measures – Short Term

- Current Ratio-measures the ability of the school to cover short-term financial obligations
 - Short term=less than 1 year
 - 20 out of 60 points
- Unrestricted Days Cash-the school's ability to maintain an appropriate balance of cash on hand to cover expenses
 - Unrestricted cash=cash that is not used as collateral or appropriated for a specific purpose by the school's board
 - 20 out of 60 points
- Enrollment Variance-measures the school's ability to project their upcoming enrollment figures
 - This is key for schools to successfully budget and plan
 - 10 out 60 points
- Default-did the school default on any loans during the period?
 - Yes or No question
 - 10 out 60 points

Financial Measures – Long Term

- Aggregate Efficiency Margin-measures the schools ability to efficiently manage cost over time
 - This is known as a profit margin in the private sector
 - Measured over 3 years or as many years of data available up to 3 years
 - Output is a percentage that tells us how much of their earnings(rev-exp) the school retains for every dollar they receive from the state
 - 20 out of 40 points
- Debt to Asset Ratio-compares everything the school owns vs what they owe
 - Measured in %
 - 100% means that if the school liquidated all of their assets they would have enough cash to pay off their debt but they wouldn't have a dollar more
 - 20 out of 40 points

Common Financial Trends

- % of schools meeting standards by year
 - FY2015-36%
 - FY2016-42%
 - FY2017(Preliminary)-55%
 - FY2017(Preliminary) performance by indicator
 - Indicator 1-59% of schools meeting standards
 - Most Deficient Area
 - Enrollment Variance
 - Average score-3.7 out of 10
 - Indicator 2-50% of schools meeting standards
 - Most Deficient Area
 - Debt to Asset Ratio
 - Average score-11.6 out of 20

Operational Performance

- In any year of the charter term, a state charter school meets operational expectations if it adheres to the requirements of its charter contract as well as all applicable rules and laws as measured by the CPF indicators.
- Data for this measure is gathered through annual SCSC on-site monitoring activities, monitoring through programs GaDOE and any other state agency oversees, data from a school's annual audit, and data reporting metrics.
- Unlike Academic and Financial measures of the CPF, operational compliance on a measure is largely an all-or-nothing proposition.
 - A school either complies with applicable law or not. There is not a range of compliance.
 - However, beginning with FY18, SCSC staff will propose the awarding of partial points on an operational compliance indicator if the school demonstrates timely remedial action.

Operational Metrics Within the CPF

Charter Contracts, SBOE Rule, SCSC Rule, and State and Federal Law:

Schools are expected to operate in compliance with their charter contracts, and they may not waive certain portions of rule and law.

Schools may satisfy annual operational requirements by adhering to the requirements of their charter contracts and all applicable rules and laws as measured by:

- the school's **educational program** (adherence to its essential or innovative features and implementation of required programs);
- **financial oversight** (adherence to GAAP standards);
- **governance capacity and transparency**;
- **protecting students and employees** through the appropriate use of compensatory programs and employee qualifications;
- **maintaining a positive school environment** by promoting student retention and support services;

AND any additional obligations including:

- **the timely remediation of previous noncompliance.**

Common Operational Trends

- Data Reporting
- Implementing and complying with financial policies that are consistent with the LUA Financial Management Manual
- Adopting and adhering to required policies for special populations – students with disabilities, English learners, and homeless students.
- Ensuring appropriate due process when disciplining students
- Providing required legal notices

CPF Results-SCSC Accountability Website

The [SCSC CPF Accountability Website](#) provides school-level performance results in academics, finance and operations for all state charter schools. The purpose of the website is to help parents, students, educators and communities understand how their state charter school is performing and track their school's progress toward charter renewal.

Questions?

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