



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 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).

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 meeting standards outlined in indicators 1 and 2 (First Look) OR by meeting standards outlined in indicators A, B, or C below (Second Look).

1. The state charter school meets federal accountability requirements.
2. The state charter school exceeds the average performance level of the district(s) within its attendance zone in terms of student achievement (grade-band CCRPI Achievement Score) OR in terms of student growth (grade-band CCRPI Growth Score).

OR

- A. The state charter school has a higher CCRPI single score than the average CCRPI single score of the district(s) it serves.
- B. The state charter school has a higher value-add impact score in relation to value-add impact score of the district(s) it serves in all relevant grade bands.
- C. The school receives a “beating the odds” designation as determined by the 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, and enrollment variance.
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:

Indicator	Data Source
1. State and Federal Accountability Systems	GaDOE: Priority, Focus, Alert, and Reward School Lists
2. Student Achievement	GaDOE: CCRPI Achievement Sub-Score
3. Student Progress	GaDOE: CCRPI Progress Sub-Score
4. Second-Look	GaDOE: CCRPI Single Score SCSC: Value-Added Impact Score GaDOE: Beating the Odds designation

FINANCIAL:

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 School Audit Report: Statement of Net Position

OPERATIONAL:

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