
Charter School Renewal Policy 6.800

The Background:

Pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-13-121, a Local Education Agency's (LEA's) decision to deny the renewal application of a charter school may be appealed to the State Board of Education. Furthermore, when the State Board is the authorizer, a charter school may submit its renewal application to either the State Board or the applicable LEA.

State Board Policy 6.800 sets forth the process and criteria the State Board will use when considering the appeal of an LEA's decision to deny the renewal of a charter agreement. This policy has been updated to clarify certain aspects of the appeal process, provide clear alignment to other State Board policies, and reflect changes passed in the 111th General Assembly.

Specifically, the significant revisions include:

- Clarifying the appeal process when the local district denies a renewal application
- Deleted references to the option of a State Board authorized charter school to submit its renewal application to either the local board of education or the State Board because this option has been removed from statute given that the State Board's authorized charter schools will move under the Tennessee Public Charter School Commission for renewal.
- Alignment to recent updates in State Board Policy 2.500 – Charter School Appeals.

Policy Justification:

T.C.A. § 4-5-230 requires that justification for adopting an item as a policy instead of a rule be submitted to the chair of the Government Operations Committee. This item is proposed to be adopted as a policy because it defines or explains the meaning of a statute or rule and/or concerns only the internal management of state government that does not affect private rights or privileges.

The Recommendation:

State Board staff recommends acceptance of this item on first reading.

