
Charter School Authorizer Evaluations Policy 6.113

The Background:

Pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-13-145, the State Board is charged with ensuring the effective operation of authorizers in the state and shall evaluate authorizer quality. The State Board shall conduct periodic evaluations of authorizers to determine compliance with state law, state board rules, and State Board policy 6.111 – Quality Charter Authorizing Standards. An authorizer’s failure to remedy non-compliance may result in the reduction of the authorizer fee.

This policy is presented as a companion policy to State Board Rule 0520-14-01-.08, which is on final reading at this board meeting. This policy provides further explanation and detail regarding authorizer evaluation cohorts and timeline, the evidence considered in an evaluation, and the evaluation ratings and corresponding follow-up actions to ensure authorizer compliance with the requirements of state law, the rules and regulations of the State Board, and the State Board Policy 6.111. Additionally, this policy includes the charter school authorizer evaluation rubric as an attachment.

State Board staff worked in collaboration with SchoolWorks, an education consulting group, as well as with charter authorizers and other stakeholders and considered the outcomes of the evaluation pilot to develop this policy.

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.