

TENNESSEE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION		
SCHOOL CALENDAR		1800
ADOPTED: April 9, 2021	REVISED: July 29, 2022	MONITORING: Review: Annually

Each authorized charter school shall adopt an annual school year calendar that reflects a term of no fewer than 200 days¹, including:

- (1) 180 days for classroom instruction;
- (2) 10 days for vacation with pay (for a 200-day term);
- (3) 5 days for in-service education;
- (4) 1 day for teacher-parent conference; and
- (5) 4 other discretionary days as designated by the school.

~~The length of a school day shall be, at minimum, six and one half (6 ½) hours. The~~ The academic calendar shall be determined by the school and in accordance with state law. Annually, the school shall submit the academic calendar for the next school year in accordance with the Commission's reporting calendar. The school shall offer in-service training in accordance with state law. The school may not change the school calendar from that submitted via the reporting calendar without the prior approval of Commission staff. Any school found to have reduced the number of school days below the 180 minimum day requirement improperly shall add the missed instructional days to the end of the school year calendar.

Pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-6-3004(e)(1), authorized charter schools may exceed the full six and one half (6 ½)

hours of daily instructional time required by law for the full academic year and be credited with the additional instructional time as "stockpiled" days. Extending the school day by one half (1/2) hour daily for the full academic year allows an authorized charter school to stockpile 13 days, which is the maximum number authorized in the law for any school year. Unused stockpiled days shall not carry over to a school year other than the year in which the time was accumulated.

Use of stockpiled days:

Stockpiled days may only be used for purposes specifically outlined in the law. T.C.A. § 49-6-3004(e)(1) authorizes stockpiled days to be used for the following purposes:

- Dangerous or extreme weather conditions;
- Serious outbreaks of illness affecting or endangering students or staff;
- Natural disaster or dangerous structural or environmental conditions rendering a school unsafe for use; or

- Early student dismissal for faculty professional development (PD) and instructional planning meetings.

Authorized charter schools do not need to request approval from the Commissioner of Education for use of stockpiled days to meet instructional time missed due to dangerous or extreme weather conditions or serious outbreaks of illness affecting or endangering students or staff. Authorized charter schools shall notify the Commission within seven (7) calendar days of such closure. Authorized charter schools must update their

calendars in PowerSchool to reflect the change from a regular instructional day to the use of the stockpiled day.

LEAs Authorized charter schools must obtain approval from the Commission and the Commissioner of Education, for the use of stockpiled days to meet

instructional time missed due to natural disaster or dangerous structural or environmental conditions rendering a school unsafe. The Commission will submit requests to the Commissioner of Education on behalf of the authorized charter school. If approval is received, authorized charter schools must update their calendars in PowerSchool to reflect the change from a regular instructional day to the use of the stockpiled day.

The use of stockpiled days for PD or instructional planning must be preapproved by the Commissioner of Education. Authorized charter schools must receive the Commissioner's approval for the use of stockpiled days for PD or instructional planning prior to publishing the days on authorized charter school calendars. Preapproval may be granted by submitting a Stockpiled Professional Development Days Application via the Commission's reporting calendar and will be submitted by Commission staff on the school's behalf.

Legal References:

¹ T.C.A. § 49-6-3004(a)

Cross References:

Department of Education Guidelines for
[Planning Approvable In-Service Education Activities](#)