Today’s Agenda

• **Wednesday, September 15**
  • 1 - 1:30 p.m. – Florida Standard Charter Contract
  • 1:30 - 2 p.m. – Contract Negotiations
  • 2 - 2:45 p.m. – Compliance Monitoring
  • 2:45-3 p.m. – Break
  • 3 - 3:30 p.m. – Site Visits
  • 3:30 - 4 p.m. – Annual Reports
Florida Standard Contract and Pre-Opening Requirements

Florida Authorizer Bootcamp
Bootcamp Norms

- Remember to mute yourself
- Utilize the chat for questions and comments
- Respond to the survey
Bootcamp Engagement

We want you to be an active participant!

- Group Discussion
- Poll Question
- Authorizer Example
- Chat Question
Session Agenda

• Statutory Requirements
• FDOE Standard Contract Components
• Pre-opening Requirements
Bootcamp Overview

1. Application Stage
2. Review Process
3. Decision Making
4. Contract Negotiation and Finalization
5. Ongoing Monitoring
6. Annual Report and Site Visits
7. Renewal Process

You are here
Objectives

• Authorizers will review the standard contract from FDOE.

• Authorizers will review common modifications to the FDOE standard contract.

• Authorizers will understand some of the key components that need to be in place before schools are ready to open.
Discussion

What is the purpose of a contract?

What is the importance of a contract?
Statutory Requirements for Initial Contract (1)

F.S § 1002.33(7)

“The terms and conditions for the operation of a charter school shall be set forth by the sponsor and the applicant in a written contractual agreement called a charter.”

The sponsor must use the standard charter contract adopted by the State Board of Education.

Any differences from the standard contract are presumed to be a limitation on charter flexibility and “the sponsor may not impose unreasonable rules or regulations that violate the intent of giving charter schools greater flexibility to meet educational goals.”
Statutory Requirements for Initial Contract (2)

F.S § 1002.33(19)(b)

- Propose Initial Contract: 30 days after approval
- Negotiate: 40 days
- Provide Contract to School: 7 days before public meeting

FDOE will provide mediation services for disputes related to the charter.
• **Section 1: General Terms**
  - General application approval
  - Charter term, charter renewal, nonrenewal, and termination
  - Educational program
  - Other general statutory requirements

• **Section 2: Academic Accountability**
  - Annual academic objectives
  - Assessment information
  - Student graduation and data requirements
• **Section 3: Students**
  - Grade levels, recruitment, class sizes
  - Racial/ethnic balance
  - ESE administrative services, EL services, and student discipline procedures

• **Section 4: Financial Accountability**
  - State, local, federal, and grant funding
  - Capital outlay funds
  - Restricting charging tuition or fees in charter schools
  - Financial record-keeping and oversight requirements
Florida Standard Charter Contract (3)

• **Sections 5–12**
  • Other topics covered in the contract include:
    - Facilities
    - Transportation
    - Food Services
    - Insurance and Indemnification
    - Governance
    - Human Resources
    - Required Reports and Documents
    - Miscellaneous Provisions
Authorizer Discussion

- What modifications are included in your charter contracts?
- How do you ensure no unreasonable rules or regulations are imposed that impact the school’s flexibility?
Pre-Opening Requirements

- A set of actions that a school must complete before opening
- Ensure schools are ready to serve students on day one
- Authorizers should formally adopt a set of pre-opening requirements that all new schools must meet

NACSA, Core Pre-Opening Monitoring Guidance and Sample Pre-Opening Requirements
Monitoring Pre-Opening Requirements

- Authorizers should have a pre-opening checklist for schools to submit
- The checklist should include key components in areas such as operations, finance, staff, safety, and academics
- The checklist should also include due dates
- Schools will need to submit compliance documentation
- Authorizers may also choose to do site visits

NACSA, Core Pre-Opening Monitoring Guidance and Sample Pre-Opening Requirements
# New Charter School Pre-Opening Checklist

**School:** [Name]

**Reviewer(s):** [Name]

**Principal:** [Name]

**Chairperson:** [Name]

**Opening Date:** [Date]

**Other Contacts:**

## ON SITE PRE-OPENING INSPECTION(S)

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<th>FACILITIES</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
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<th>Comments</th>
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<td>No religious symbols, statues, artifacts, etc. on or about the property and facility where the school operates.</td>
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<td>Food service facilities are clean, operational and well maintained.</td>
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Questions?
Reactions?
Ideas?