

OCS Guidance for Charter Schools



- SB681/Session Law 2020-78 Ratified 7/1/2020
- Assessment Memo 7/13
- Cares Act for Charters

<https://www.ncleg.gov/Sessions/2019/Bills/Senate/PDF/S681v6.pdf>

Part II. Education.

Please note: [Public School Unit \(PSU\)](#) is a bucket term that includes charter schools, lab schools, and district schools. [Local School Administrative Unit](#) specifically applies to districts and **NOT** to charter schools.

Session Law

Note: There are many parts of this bill that apply only to public school districts and not to charter schools. If there is an item you see in the bill not noted in this document it is most likely that it does not apply to charter schools but do feel free to reach out to our office if you are uncertain.

BROADEN CERTAIN CHARTER SCHOOL ENROLLMENT PRIORITIES

SECTION 2.3.(a) G.S. 115C-218.45(f) reads as rewritten: "(f) The charter school may give enrollment priority to any of the following: (1) Siblings of currently enrolled students who were admitted to the charter school in a previous year. For the purposes of this section, the term "siblings" includes any of the following who reside in the same household: half siblings, stepsiblings, and children residing in a family foster home. (1a) Siblings who apply to the charter school for admission beginning in the same school year, such as when a sibling was not initially admitted due to grade level capacity. . . AND

(3) Limited to no more than fifteen percent (15%) of the school's total enrollment, unless granted a waiver by the State Board of Education, the following: a. Children of the school's full-time employees. persons (i) employed full time by the charter school or (ii) working full time in the daily operation of the charter school, including children of persons employed by an education management organization or charter

management organization for the charter school. b. Children of the charter school's board of directors

(7) A student who was enrolled in another charter school in the state in the previous school year (and some more specific and restricted variations of this, listed in Section 2.3.(a)).

BROADEN CERTAIN CHARTER SCHOOL ENROLLMENT PRIORITIES

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- "(f) The charter school may give enrollment priority to any of the following:
- (1) Siblings of currently enrolled students who were admitted to the charter school in a previous year. For the purposes of this section, the term "siblings" includes any of the following who reside in the same household: half siblings, stepsiblings, and children residing in a family foster home.

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- (1a) Siblings who apply to the charter school for admission beginning in the same school year, such as when a sibling was not initially admitted due to grade level capacity.
 - (2) Siblings of students who have completed the highest grade level offered by that school and who were enrolled in at least four grade levels offered by the charter school or, if less than four grades are offered, in the maximum number of grades offered by the charter school.
 - (2a) A student who was enrolled in a preschool program operated by the charter school in the prior year.
 - (3) Limited to no more than fifteen percent (15%) of the school's total enrollment, unless granted a waiver by the State Board of Education, the following:
 - a. Children of the school's full-time employees persons (i) employed full time by the charter school or (ii) working full time in the daily operation of the charter school, including children of persons employed by an education management organization or charter management organization for the charter school.
 - b. Children of the charter school's board of directors.
 - (4) A student who was enrolled in the charter school within the two previous school years but left the school (i) to participate in an academic study abroad program or a competitive admission residential program or (ii) because of the vocational opportunities of the student's parent.
 - (5) A student who was enrolled in another charter school in the State in the previous school year that does not offer the student's next grade level.
 - (6) A student who was enrolled in another charter school in the State in the previous school year that does not offer the student's next grade level and both of the charter schools have an enrollment articulation agreement to accept students or are governed by the same board of directors.
 - (7) A student who was enrolled in another charter school in the State in the previous school year."

SECTION 2.3.(b) This section is effective when it becomes law and applies beginning with the 2020-2021 school year.

ARTS EDUCATION GRADUATION REQUIREMENT

Beginning in 2022:

2.5.(a) The State Board of Education shall modify the State graduation requirements to include **one required credit in arts education to be completed by each student at any time in grades six through 12**. The State Board of Education shall implement the arts education graduation requirement beginning with **students entering the sixth grade in 2022**. The State Board shall include an exemption from the arts education graduation requirement for students transferring into a North Carolina public school beginning in the ninth grade or later, if such requirement would prevent a student from graduating with the graduation cohort to which the student was assigned when transferring.

(b) The State Board of Education shall do the following: (1) Establish **procedures and a timeline** for a phased-in implementation of the arts education graduation requirement. (2) Establish the minimum criteria to meet the arts education graduation requirement. (3) By December 15, 2022, report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee on the following: a. The statewide implementation of the three interdependent components of comprehensive arts education (arts education, arts integration, and arts exposure). b. The graduation requirement set forth in subsection (a) of this section.

A student must complete ONE arts credit (music, visual art, theatre arts, dance) between Grade 6 and Grade 12 in order to graduate from high school, beginning with those students entering Grade 6 in 2022.

- **Comprehensive Arts Education** (arts education, arts integration, and arts exposure)

ARTS EDUCATION GRADUATION REQUIREMENT

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The State Board of Education shall implement the arts education graduation requirement beginning with students entering the sixth grade in 2022. The State Board shall include an exemption from the arts education graduation requirement for students transferring into a North Carolina public school beginning in the ninth grade or later, if such requirement would prevent a student from graduating with the graduation cohort to which the student was assigned when transferring.

SECTION 2.5.(b) The State Board of Education shall do the following:

- (1) Establish procedures and a time line for a phased-in implementation of the arts education graduation requirement.
- (2) Establish the minimum criteria to meet the arts education graduation requirement.
- (3) By December 15, 2022, report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee on the following:
 - a. The statewide implementation of the three interdependent components of comprehensive arts education (arts education, arts integration, and arts exposure).
 - b. The graduation requirement set forth in subsection (a) of this section.

ASSESSMENT MEMO

[Full 7/13 Memo link](#)

For the 2020-21 school year:

- Charter schools can use Istation, NWEA, Renaissance Learning, and, pending July 27th EVAAS data verification, Curriculum Associates for specified student assessments.
- No later than the 10th day that school buildings are open to students, All 4th Grade students must be given a one time reading assessment that would normally have been used to assess 3rd graders at the end of the school year (If your school does not serve 3rd grade use the assessment that is used by your local district). The results are to be used by the school to inform instruction and any necessary recommendation.
- PRC085 Funding is available for SBE approved assessments, all expenses associated with the assessments, and instructional supports/services to address reading deficiencies.

CARES ACT RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO CHARTER SCHOOLS

Cares Act extract

- **One year subscription purchase to any high quality standards aligned digital curriculum package selected by the charter school.**
 - **Charter schools ineligible or waived Title I, for providing equitable services to students in need.**
 - **Reimbursement for purchasing safety & sanitation posters**
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[Please rate the clarity of this guidance document for OCS purposes.](#)