

CONCISE EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

State Board of Education

Amended WACs 180-19-010, 180-19-020, 180-19-030, 180-19-040, 180-19-070, 180-19-080, and 180-19-090

This document has been prepared in compliance with RCW 34.05.325, the concise explanatory statement requirement of the Administrative Procedure Act. Included are: (1) The reasons for adopting the rules; (2) a description of any differences between the text of the proposed rules as published in the Register and the text of the final rules, and (3) a summary of comments received, and responses to the comments by subject matter.

1. Reasons for Adopting the Rules

The SBE reviewed rules that were adopted by the Board to implement Initiative Measure 1240 (Chapter 28A.710 RCW) after approval of the measure by voters in November 2012. The SBE identified needs for amendments to seven sections of Chapter 180-19 WAC (Charter schools). Needs identified were:

- Modify due dates for required actions in the charter school process, in response to input from stakeholders, review of practices in other states, and advice from national experts. The reasons are to provide for sufficient time for charter authorizers and charter applicants to carry out the actions required by Chapter 28A.710 RCW in a way that better supports the intent of high-quality charter schools. The revised due dates in five sections of rule allow for:
 - More time between the posting of the authorizer application by the SBE and the nonbinding notice of intent by school districts to submit authorizer applications.
 - More time for school districts to prepare and submit authorizer applications.
 - More time for districts approved as authorizers to issue completed requests for proposals for charter applicants.
 - More time for charter schools between approval of charter applications and school openings the following year.
- Place the process for SBE review, evaluation and decisions on authorizer applications in rule.
- Clarify WAC 180-19-090 to provide that the lottery for certification of approved charters, when required under RCW 28A.710.150 (3), applies for charters approved for operation in any individual year that are in excess of the maximum number of schools that may be established in any year. The reason for the amendment is to better reflect the intent of RCW 28A.710.150 (Maximum number of charter schools) and eliminate possible uncertainty as to which approved charters would go into a lottery for certification under that section.
- Make deletions and additions to terms defined in WAC 180-19-090 (Definitions).
- Make technical corrections and improvements, particularly to WAC 180-19-020 (Notice of intent to submit an authorizer application), WAC 180-19-030 (Submission of authorizer application), and WAC 180-19-040 (Evaluation and approval or denial of authorizer applications).

2. Differences between Proposed and Final Rules

There are no differences between the proposed rules as published in the State Register and the final rules as adopted by the Board.

3. Summary of All Comments and Responses

The SBE received three written comments on proposed rules to amend Chapter 180-19 WAC. Comments are edited only for brevity and clarity. No testimony was submitted at the public hearing on the rule amendments conducted at North Central Educational Services District in Wenatchee, Washington on September 10.

1. **COMMENT:** We appreciate the attention the State Board has given to the timeline concerning the annual charter school application in the proposed amendments (WAC 180-19-070 and 080). The new timeline allows public charter schools that are authorized to have a full school year to plan in preparation of their opening. Additionally, the Commission supports the proposed changes to WAC 180-19-090, Board certification of charter schools – Lottery. Proposed changes clarify the Board’s lottery process for certifying approved charter schools when the number of charter schools exceeds the number that may be established in any single year.

RESPONSE: The SBE appreciates this comment, and thanks the Commission for its review and thoughtful comments on draft rules, particularly with regard to changes in charter timelines. The SBE is hopeful that enabling at least a full year between charter approval and school opening will enable better preparation and promote better performance in the crucial first year of operation.

2. **COMMENT:** Here is comment we received from some approved charter leaders and staff regarding proposed changes to the authorizer and charter school application cycles.
 - My initial read is that [the last date for charter approval or denial] would be better if it were moved up 1-2 months. Finding out about authorization in September does not give enough time to secure and retrofit a building, and for educator applicants it ideally should be aligned to happen before the start of the school year so they can give enough notice to their employers before the start of the school year.
 - The other big thing is leader hiring. All the good leaders are taken by early summer typically, so you want to know if you should extend an offer to someone ASAP . . . If [the SBE] were willing to move it up further, I could argue that June 1 or late spring would be preferable.

Why do the districts have to submit a letter of intent four months before the application is due?

Is there any way to move up the last date for authorizers to approve or deny charter applications earlier (e.g., June or July) so that schools get more time in their planning year?

RESPONSE: The SBE appreciates this comment. The SBE has learned, in the course of rule-making for the state’s new charter school law, that every timeline chosen to govern the multi-step, charter school process involves tradeoffs, and is likely to be seen as less than optimal by some party to the process. (Including the SBE itself.) The overarching goals of the revised timelines proposed in the amendments to five sections of the law were (1) Provide more time for school districts to consider and prepare authorizer applications; (2) Provide more time between the last date for approval of charter applications and the opening of the next school year. The rule amendments achieve both, extending the time for authorizer applications (from the district notice of intent) from 90 to 120 days, and extending the time after charter approval from 10.5 months to a full year. (It is helpful to keep in mind that these are minimum time spans. In practice the time available to districts and charter operators might be longer.) The SBE recognizes that it would be

advantageous for charter school operators, with regard to staff recruitment, to receive notification of charter approval a month or two sooner than September 1. (Indeed, the SBE has long taken note of the comment in *Principles & Standards for Quality Charter School Authorizing*, 2012 edition, that “A well-planned process might include minimum timeframes such as (1) three months from release of the RFP/application to the [charter] application deadline; (2) three months for evaluation of the application, and (3) nine months, but preferably 12-18 months, from approval to school opening.) The SBE would, however, observe the following:

- September 1 is the last date for charter approval. Approval could still take place before the beginning of the school year, depending on the practices and policies of charter authorizers.
- Charter operators would have the full school year and the next summer in which to recruit staff. While not ideal, it appears to the SBE to be sufficient.
- Moving the September 1 date to an earlier date (e.g., June or July) either defeats the intent of enabling more time for districts wishing to be authorizers or inviting other difficulties, such as review and approval processes by district authorizers conflicting with district end-of-school-year duties and activities.

The state’s charter school law is still early in its implementation. The setting of timelines for charter actions inevitably involves compromises. SBE believes it has reached a reasonable one. It remains the intent of the SBE to monitor the efficacy of adopted rules against experience in the field, and identify needs for adjustments as they may become evident.

3. **COMMENT:** Please accept our offer of support for the proposed changes to WAC 180-19. The items brought to our attention will significantly assist both authorizers and charter school applicants in the process of charter authorization and implementation. By adjusting various timelines and clarifying the lottery process in the event the number of approved charters exceeds the maximum, the state will pave the way for a smoother and more reasonable process for both authorizers and charter operators.

RESPONSE: The SBE appreciates this comment, and is hopeful that the rule amendments will have the desired results. The SBE will maintain ongoing communication and consultation with authorizers to seek to ensure the best feasible process is in place, within the law, to facilitate the best outcomes for students enrolled in public charter schools.



RULE-MAKING ORDER

CR-103P (May 2009)
(Implements RCW 34.05.360)

Agency: State Board of Education

Permanent Rule Only

Effective date of rule:

Permanent Rules

31 days after filing.

Other (specify) _____ (If less than 31 days after filing, a specific finding under RCW 34.05.380(3) is required and should be stated below)

Any other findings required by other provisions of law as precondition to adoption or effectiveness of rule?

Yes No If Yes, explain: A fiscal impact statement was prepared by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction and presented per RCW 28A.305.135.

Purpose:

This filing amends seven sections of Chapter 180-19 WAC (Charter schools). The purposes of the amendments are:

- Modify due dates, in five sections (WAC's 180-19-020, -.030, -.040, -.070, and -.080), for various charter actions to ensure sufficient time for charter authorizers, entities applying to be charter authorizers, and charter applicants to carry out their responsibilities in a high-quality way.
- Set in rule (WAC 180-19-040) the process for evaluation of authorizer applications and decisions to approve or deny.
- Clarify WAC 180-19-090 to provide that the lottery for certification of approved charters, when required under RCW 28A.710.150, applies to charters approved for operation in any single year that are in excess of the maximum that may be established in any single year.
- Make technical corrections and improvements, particularly to WAC 180-19-020 and WAC 180-19-030; and deletions and amendments to terms defined in WAC 180-19-010.

Citation of existing rules affected by this order:

Repealed:

Amended: WACs 180-19-010 through -040 and 180-19-070 through 180-19-090

Suspended:

Statutory authority for adoption: RCW 28A.710.090, RCW 28A.710.130, RCW 28A.710.140, RCW 28A.710.150

Other authority :

PERMANENT RULE (Including Expedited Rule Making)

Adopted under notice filed as WSR 14-16-103 on August 5, 2014 (date).

Describe any changes other than editing from proposed to adopted version:

There are no changes from proposed to adopted version.

If a preliminary cost-benefit analysis was prepared under RCW 34.05.328, a final cost-benefit analysis is available by contacting:

Name: _____ phone () _____
Address: _____ fax () _____
e-mail _____

Date adopted: September 10, 2014

NAME (TYPE OR PRINT)

Ben Rarick

SIGNATURE

TITLE
Executive Director

CODE REVISER USE ONLY

OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER
STATE OF WASHINGTON
FILED

DATE: September 16, 2014
TIME: 5:53 PM

WSR 14-19-107

**Note: If any category is left blank, it will be calculated as zero.
No descriptive text.**

**Count by whole WAC sections only, from the WAC number through the history note.
A section may be counted in more than one category.**

The number of sections adopted in order to comply with:

Federal statute:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
Federal rules or standards:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
Recently enacted state statutes:	New	_____	Amended	<u>7</u>	Repealed	_____

The number of sections adopted at the request of a nongovernmental entity:

New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
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The number of sections adopted in the agency's own initiative:

New	_____	Amended	<u>7</u>	Repealed	_____
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The number of sections adopted in order to clarify, streamline, or reform agency procedures:

New	_____	Amended	<u>7</u>	Repealed	_____
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The number of sections adopted using:

Negotiated rule making:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
Pilot rule making:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
Other alternative rule making:	New	_____	Amended	<u>7</u>	Repealed	_____

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 13-07-065, filed 3/19/13, effective 4/19/13)

WAC 180-19-010 Definitions. (1) (~~("Authorizer" shall have the same meaning as set forth in RCW 28A.710.010(3)).~~

~~(2) "Authorizer application" or "application" means the form developed by the state board of education that must be completed and timely filed as set forth in these rules with the state board of education by a school district seeking approval to be a charter school authorizer.~~

~~(3)) "Board" means the state board of education.~~

~~((4)) (2) "School district" or "district" means a school district board of directors.~~

(3) "NACSA Principles and Standards" means the "Principles and Standards for Quality Charter Authorizing (2012 Edition)" developed by the National Association of Charter School Authorizers.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 13-07-065, filed 3/19/13, effective 4/19/13)

WAC 180-19-020 Notice of intent to submit an authorizer application.

(Effective until May 15, 2015)

A school district intending to file an application during a calendar year to be approved as a charter school authorizer must submit to the state board of education a notice of intent to file such application by October 1st of ~~((the prior)) that same year~~~~((; provided, however, that a district seeking approval as an authorizer in 2013 must provide such notice of intent to submit an application by April 1, 2013))~~. A district may not file an authorizer application in a calendar year unless it has filed a timely notice of intent as provided for herein. A notice of intent shall not be construed as an obligation to submit an application under these rules. The board shall post on its public web site a form for use by districts in submitting notice of intent, and shall post ~~((on its web site))~~ all notices of intent upon receipt.

(Effective May 15, 2015)

A school district intending to file an application during a calendar year to be approved as a charter school authorizer must submit to the state board of education a notice of intent to file such application by June 15th of that same year. A district may not file an authorizer application in a calendar year unless it has filed a timely notice of intent as provided for herein. A notice of intent shall not be construed as an obligation to submit an application under these rules. The board shall post on its public web site a form for use by districts in submitting notice of intent, and shall post all notices of intent upon receipt.

WAC 180-19-030 Submission of authorizer application.
(Effective until May 15, 2015)

(1) The state board of education shall develop and make available on its web site, no later than October 1st of each year, an "authorizer application" that must be used by school districts seeking to be approved as a charter school authorizer(~~(; provided, however, that the board shall make available on its web site the authorizer application for those districts seeking approval in 2013 by April 1, 2013))~~). The application may include such attachments as deemed required by the board to support and complete the application.

(2) A school district seeking approval to be a charter school authorizer must submit an "authorizer application" to the state board of education by December 31st of the year (~~(in which)~~) prior to the year the district seeks approval as an authorizer(~~(; provided, however, that a district application for approval to be a charter school authorizer in 2013 must be submitted to the board, as provided herein, no later than July 1, 2013))~~). The district's completed application must be (~~(sent)~~) submitted via electronic mail to sbe@k12.wa.us (~~(with the original hand delivered or mailed to the board at the following address:~~

~~Washington State Board of Education
600 Washington St. S.E.
Olympia, WA 98504~~

~~The original and electronic version of the application must be received by the board no later than the date provided above))~~ by the date specified in this section. The board shall post on its web site each application received from a school district.

(3) A school district must provide sufficient and detailed information regarding all of the following in the authorizer application submitted to the board:

(a) **The district's strategic vision for chartering.** The district must state the purposes that it expects to fulfill in being an authorizer of charter schools, with (~~(specific)~~) reference to the (~~(statutory purposes)~~) findings and intents set forth in RCW 28A.710.005, as well as any district-specific purposes that are a (~~(particular)~~) priority for the district; the characteristics of the school or schools it is most interested in authorizing, while maintaining a commitment to considering all charter applicants based on the merits of their proposals and the likelihood of success(~~(; how the school or schools it wishes to authorize might differ from the schools the district currently operates with regard to such features as staffing, schedule, curriculum, and community engagement))~~); the educational goals it wishes to achieve; how it will give priority to serving at-risk students, as defined in RCW 28A.710.010(2), or students from low-performing schools; and how it will (~~(protect)~~) respect the autonomy and (~~(promote)~~) ensure the accountability of the charter schools it oversees.

(b) **A plan to support the vision presented,** including explanations and evidence of the applicant's budget and personnel capacity and commitment to execute the responsibilities of quality charter authorizing. "Budget and personnel capacity" means the district's capability of providing sufficient (~~(assistance,)~~) oversight (~~(and)~~), mon-

itoring, and assistance to ensure that the charter schools it authorizes will meet all fiscal, academic and operational requirements under chapter 28A.710 RCW and comply with all applicable state and federal laws. A district's evidence of budget and personnel capacity shall consist, at a minimum, of a detailed description of the following:

(i) Staff resources to be devoted to charter authorizing and oversight under chapter 28A.710 RCW, in full-time equivalent employees, at a level sufficient to fulfill its authorizing responsibilities in accordance with the ~~((the))~~ NACSA Principles and Standards ~~((for Quality Charter Authorizing" developed by the National Association of Charter School Authorizers))~~ and the provisions of chapter 28A.710 RCW;

(ii) Job titles, job descriptions, and ~~((qualifications))~~ brief bios and resumes of district personnel with anticipated authorizing responsibilities under RCW 28A.710.030, demonstrating the district's access to ~~((competent and necessary))~~ expertise in all areas essential to charter school oversight including, but not limited to: School leadership; curriculum, instruction and assessment; special education, English language learners~~((r))~~ and other diverse learning needs; performance management~~((r))~~ and law, finance and facilities, through staff and any contractual relationships or ~~((interagency collaborations))~~ partnerships with other public entities; and

(iii) An estimate, supported by verifiable data, of the financial needs of the authorizer and a projection, to the extent feasible, of sufficient financial resources, supported by the authorizer oversight fee under RCW 28A.710.110 and any other resources, to carry out its authorizing responsibilities in accordance with ~~((National))~~ the NACSA Principles and Standards ~~((developed by the National Association of Charter School Authorizers))~~ and the provisions of chapter 28A.710 RCW.

(c) **A draft or preliminary outline of the request for proposal~~((s))~~** that the district would, if approved as an authorizer, issue to solicit charter school ~~((applicants))~~ applications. The draft or preliminary outline of the request for proposal(s) shall meet all of the requirements set forth in RCW 28A.710.130 (1)(b) and demonstrate that the ~~((applicant intends to))~~ district will implement a comprehensive charter application process that follows fair procedures and rigorous criteria, and an evaluation and oversight process based on a performance framework meeting the requirements of ~~((chapter 28A.710))~~ RCW 28A.710.170.

(d) **A draft of the performance framework** that the district would, if approved as an authorizer, use to guide the ~~((establishment))~~ execution of a charter contract and for ongoing oversight and performance evaluation of charter schools. The draft of the performance framework shall, at a minimum, meet the requirements of RCW 28A.710.170(2) including descriptions of each indicator, measure and metric enumerated therein~~((r))~~, and shall provide that student academic proficiency, student academic growth, achievement gaps in both proficiency and growth, graduation rates, and postsecondary readiness are measured and reported in conformance with the achievement index developed by the state board of education under RCW 28A.657.110.

(e) **A draft of the district's proposed renewal, revocation, and nonrenewal processes,** consistent with RCW 28A.710.190 and 28A.710.200. The draft provided must, at a minimum, provide for the implementation of transparent and rigorous processes that:

(i) Establish clear standards for renewal, nonrenewal, and revocation of charters it may authorize under RCW 28A.710.100;

(ii) Set reasonable and effective timelines for actions that may be taken under RCW 28A.710.190 and 28A.710.200;

(iii) Describe how academic, financial and operational performance data will be used in making decisions under RCW 28A.710.190 and 28A.710.200;

(iv) Outline a plan to take appropriate corrective actions, or exercise sanctions short of revocation, in response to identified deficiencies in charter school performance or legal compliance, in accordance with the charter contract and the provisions of (~~chapter 28A.710~~) RCW 28A.710.180.

(4) A district must sign a statement of assurances submitted with its application, (~~that~~) which shall be included as an attachment to the authorizing contract executed between the approved district and the state board of education, stating that it seeks to serve as an authorizer in fulfillment of the expectations, spirit, and intent of chapter 28A.710 RCW, and that if approved as an authorizer it will:

(a) Seek opportunities for authorizer professional development, and assure that personnel with significant responsibilities for authorizing and oversight of charter schools will participate in any authorizer training provided or required by the state;

(b) Provide public accountability and transparency in all matters concerning charter authorizing practices, decisions, and expenditures;

(c) Solicit applications for both new charter schools and conversion charter schools, while appropriately distinguishing the two types of charter schools in proposal requirements and evaluation criteria;

(d) Ensure that any charter school it oversees shall have a fully independent governing board and exercise autonomy in all matters, to the extent authorized by chapter 28A.710 RCW, in such areas as (~~budget~~) budgeting, personnel and (~~educational programs~~) instructional programming and design;

(e) Ensure that any contract it may execute with the governing board of an approved charter school under RCW 28A.710.160 provides that the school will provide educational services to students with disabilities, students who are limited English proficient, and any other special populations of students as required by state and federal laws;

(f) Include in any charter contract it may execute with the governing board of an approved charter school, in accordance with RCW 28A.710.160(2), educational services that at a minimum meet the basic education standards set forth in RCW 28A.150.220.

(Effective May 15, 2015)

(1) The state board of education shall develop and make available on its web site, no later than May 15th of each year, an "authorizer application" that must be used by school districts seeking to be approved as a charter school authorizer. The application may include such attachments as deemed required by the board to support and complete the application.

(2) A school district seeking approval to be a charter school authorizer must submit an "authorizer application" to the state board of education by October 15th of the year prior to the year the district seeks approval as an authorizer. The district's completed application must be submitted via electronic mail to sbe@k12.wa.us by the date specified in this section. The board shall post on its web site each application received from a school district.

(3) A school district must provide sufficient and detailed information regarding all of the following in the authorizer application submitted to the board:

(a) **The district's strategic vision for chartering.** The district must state the purposes that it expects to fulfill in being an authorizer of charter schools, with reference to the findings and interests set forth in RCW 28A.710.005, as well as any district-specific purposes that are a priority for the district; the characteristics of the school or schools it is most interested in authorizing, while maintaining a commitment to considering all charter applicants based on the merits of their proposals and the likelihood of success; the educational goals it wishes to achieve; how it will give priority to serving at-risk students, as defined in RCW 28A.710.010(2), or students from low-performing schools; and how it will respect the autonomy and ensure the accountability of the charter schools it oversees.

(b) **A plan to support the vision presented,** including explanations and evidence of the applicant's budget and personnel capacity and commitment to execute the responsibilities of quality charter authorizing. "Budget and personnel capacity" means the district's capability of providing sufficient oversight, monitoring, and assistance to ensure that the charter schools it authorizes will meet all fiscal, academic and operational requirements under chapter 28A.710 RCW and comply with all applicable state and federal laws. A district's evidence of budget and personnel capacity shall consist, at a minimum, of a detailed description of the following:

(i) Staff resources to be devoted to charter authorizing and oversight under chapter 28A.710 RCW, in full-time equivalent employees, at a level sufficient to fulfill its authorizing responsibilities in accordance with the *NACSA Principles and Standards* and the provisions of chapter 28A.710 RCW;

(ii) Job titles, job descriptions, and brief bios and resumes of district personnel with anticipated authorizing responsibilities under RCW 28A.710.030, demonstrating the district's access to expertise in all areas essential to charter school oversight including, but not limited to: School leadership; curriculum, instruction and assessment; special education, English language learners and other diverse learning needs; performance management and law, finance and facilities, through staff and any contractual relationships or partnerships with other public entities; and

(iii) An estimate, supported by verifiable data, of the financial needs of the authorizer and a projection, to the extent feasible, of sufficient financial resources, supported by the authorizer oversight fee under RCW 28A.710.110 and any other resources, to carry out its authorizing responsibilities in accordance with the *NACSA Principles and Standards* and the provisions of chapter 28A.710 RCW.

(c) **A draft or preliminary outline of the request for proposal** that the district would, if approved as an authorizer, issue to solicit charter school applications. The draft or preliminary outline of the request for proposal(s) shall meet all of the requirements set forth in RCW 28A.710.130 (1)(b) and demonstrate that the district will implement a comprehensive charter application process that follows fair procedures and rigorous criteria, and an evaluation and oversight process based on a performance framework meeting the requirements of RCW 28A.710.170.

(d) **A draft of the performance framework** that the district would, if approved as an authorizer, use to guide the execution of a charter contract and for ongoing oversight and performance evaluation of char-

ter schools. The draft of the performance framework shall, at a minimum, meet the requirements of RCW 28A.710.170(2) including descriptions of each indicator, measure and metric enumerated therein, and shall provide that student academic proficiency, student academic growth, achievement gaps in both proficiency and growth, graduation rates, and postsecondary readiness are measured and reported in conformance with the achievement index developed by the state board of education under RCW 28A.657.110.

(e) **A draft of the district's proposed renewal, revocation, and nonrenewal processes,** consistent with RCW 28A.710.190 and 28A.710.200. The draft provided must, at a minimum, provide for the implementation of transparent and rigorous processes that:

(i) Establish clear standards for renewal, nonrenewal, and revocation of charters it may authorize under RCW 28A.710.100;

(ii) Set reasonable and effective timelines for actions that may be taken under RCW 28A.710.190 and 28A.710.200;

(iii) Describe how academic, financial and operational performance data will be used in making decisions under RCW 28A.710.190 and 28A.710.200;

(iv) Outline a plan to take appropriate corrective actions, or exercise sanctions short of revocation, in response to identified deficiencies in charter school performance or legal compliance, in accordance with the charter contract and the provisions of RCW 28A.710.180.

(4) A district must sign a statement of assurances submitted with its application, which shall be included as an attachment to the authorizing contract executed between the approved district and the state board of education, stating that it seeks to serve as an authorizer in fulfillment of the expectations, spirit, and intent of chapter 28A.710 RCW, and that if approved as an authorizer it will:

(a) Seek opportunities for authorizer professional development, and assure that personnel with significant responsibilities for authorizing and oversight of charter schools will participate in any authorizer training provided or required by the state;

(b) Provide public accountability and transparency in all matters concerning charter authorizing practices, decisions, and expenditures;

(c) Solicit applications for both new charter schools and conversion charter schools, while appropriately distinguishing the two types of charter schools in proposal requirements and evaluation criteria;

(d) Ensure that any charter school it oversees shall have a fully independent governing board and exercise autonomy in all matters, to the extent authorized by chapter 28A.710 RCW, in such areas as budgeting, personnel and instructional programming and design;

(e) Ensure that any contract it may execute with the governing board of an approved charter school under RCW 28A.710.160 provides that the school will provide educational services to students with disabilities, students who are limited-English proficient, and any other special populations of students as required by state and federal laws;

(f) Include in any charter contract it may execute with the governing board of an approved charter school, in accordance with RCW 28A.710.160(2), educational services that at a minimum meet the basic education standards set forth in RCW 28A.150.220.

WAC 180-19-040 Evaluation and approval or denial of authorizer applications.

(Effective until May 15, 2015)

(1) The board shall evaluate an application submitted by a school district seeking to be an authorizer and issue a decision approving or denying the application by April 1st of each year (~~(; provided, however, that the board shall issue a decision approving or denying a district's application timely submitted for approval in 2013 by no later than September 12, 2013. The state board may utilize the services of external reviewers with expertise in educational, organizational and financial matters in evaluating applications. The board may, at its discretion, require personal interviews with district personnel for the purpose of reviewing an application).~~).

(2) (~~For an application to be approved, the state board must find it to be satisfactory in providing all of the information required to be set forth in the application.~~) In evaluating each application, the board will rate each part of the application as set forth in WAC 180-19-030 (3)(a) through (e) as well-developed, partially developed, or undeveloped, based on criteria for evaluation included in the authorizer application developed and made publicly available pursuant to WAC 180-19-030(1).

(a) "Well-developed" shall mean that the application response meets the expectations established by the board and the NACSA Principles and Standards in material respects and warrants approval subject to execution of an authorizing contract with the board.

(b) "Partially developed" shall mean that the application response contains some aspects of a well-developed practice, is limited in its execution, or otherwise falls short of satisfying the expectations established by the board and the NACSA Principles and Standards.

(c) "Undeveloped" shall mean that the application response is wholly inadequate in that the applicant district has not considered or anticipated the well-developed practice at all, or proposes to carry out its authorizing duties in a way that is not recognizably connected to the expectations established by the board and the NACSA Principles and Standards.

(3) In its evaluation the board will ((also)) consider whether the district's proposed ((olicies)) policies and practices are consistent with the NACSA Principles and Standards ((for quality charter school authorizing developed by the National Association of Charter School Authorizers)), as required by RCW 28A.710.100(3), in at least the following areas:

(a) Organizational capacity: Commit human and financial resources necessary to conduct authorizing duties effectively and efficiently;

(b) Solicitation and evaluation of charter applications: Implement a comprehensive application process that includes clear application questions and rigorous criteria, and grants charters only to applicants who demonstrate strong capacity to establish and operate a charter school;

(c) Performance contracting: Execute contracts with charter schools that articulate the rights and responsibilities of each party regarding school autonomy, funding, administration and oversight, out-

comes, measures for evaluating success or failure, performance consequences, and other material terms;

(d) Ongoing charter school oversight and evaluation: Conduct contract oversight that competently evaluates performance and monitors compliance, ensures schools' legally entitled autonomy, protects student rights, informs intervention, revocation and renewal decisions, and provides annual reports as required by chapter 28A.710 RCW; and

(e) Charter renewal and revocation processes: Design and implement a transparent and rigorous process that uses comprehensive academic, financial and operational performance data to make merit-based renewal decisions, and revokes charters when necessary to protect student and public interests.

(4) The board shall develop and post on its public web site rubrics for determination of the extent to which each criterion for evaluation has been met.

(5) The board may utilize the services of external reviewers with expertise in educational, organizational or financial matters in evaluating applications.

(6) Prior to approving any application, the board shall require an in-person interview with district leadership for the purpose of reviewing and evaluating the application. The in-person interview will be used to supplement or clarify information provided by the district in the written application. The information received in the in-person interview shall be considered in formulating the overall ratings of the application under subsection (2) of this section.

(7) For an application to be approved, the board must find it to be well developed in each part of the application as set forth in WAC 180-19-030(3). A determination that an application does not (~~provide the required information, or does not~~) meet standards of quality authorizing in any (~~component~~) part, shall constitute grounds for disapproval. If the state board disapproves an application, it shall state in writing the reasons for the disapproval, with specific reference to the criteria included in the authorizer application.

~~((3))~~ (8) The ((state)) board ((of education)) shall post on its public web site the applications of all school districts approved as authorizers. A school district approved as an authorizer shall post its application on a public web site.

~~((4) If the state board disapproves an application, it shall state in writing the reasons for the disapproval, with specific reference to the criteria established in these rules.)~~

(Effective May 15, 2015)

(1) The board shall evaluate an application submitted by a school district seeking to be an authorizer and issue a decision approving or denying the application by February 1st of each year.

(2) In evaluating each application, the board will rate each part of the application as set forth in WAC 180-19-030 (3)(a) through (e) as well-developed, partially developed, or undeveloped, based on criteria for evaluation included in the authorizer application developed and made publicly available pursuant to WAC 180-19-030(1).

(a) "Well-developed" shall mean that the application response meets the expectations established by the board and the *NACSA Principles and Standards* in material respects and warrants approval subject to execution of an authorizing contract with the board.

(b) "Partially developed" shall mean that the application response contains some aspects of a well-developed practice, is limited

in its execution, or otherwise falls short of satisfying the expectations established by the board and the NACSA Principles and Standards.

(c) "Undeveloped" shall mean that the application response is wholly inadequate in that the applicant district has not considered or anticipated the well-developed practice at all, or proposes to carry out its authorizing duties in a way that is not recognizably connected to the expectations established by the board and the NACSA Principles and Standards.

(3) In its evaluation the board will consider whether the district's proposed policies and practices are consistent with the NACSA Principles and Standards as required by RCW 28A.710.100(3), in at least the following areas:

(a) Organizational capacity: Commit human and financial resources necessary to conduct authorizing duties effectively and efficiently;

(b) Solicitation and evaluation of charter applications: Implement a comprehensive application process that includes clear application questions and rigorous criteria, and grants charters only to applicants who demonstrate strong capacity to establish and operate a charter school;

(c) Performance contracting: Execute contracts with charter schools that articulate the rights and responsibilities of each party regarding school autonomy, funding, administration and oversight, outcomes, measures for evaluating success or failure, performance consequences, and other material terms;

(d) Ongoing charter school oversight and evaluation: Conduct contract oversight that competently evaluates performance and monitors compliance, ensures schools' legally entitled autonomy, protects student rights, informs intervention, revocation and renewal decisions, and provides annual reports as required by chapter 28A.710 RCW; and

(e) Charter renewal and revocation processes: Design and implement a transparent and rigorous process that uses comprehensive academic, financial and operational performance data to make merit-based renewal decisions, and revokes charters when necessary to protect student and public interests.

(4) The board shall develop and post on its public web site rubrics for determination of the extent to which each criterion for evaluation has been met.

(5) The board may utilize the services of external reviewers with expertise in educational, organizational or financial matters in evaluating applications.

(6) Prior to approving any application, the board shall require an in-person interview with district leadership for the purpose of reviewing and evaluating the application. The in-person interview will be used to supplement or clarify information provided by the district in the written application. The information received in the in-person interview shall be considered in formulating the overall ratings of the application under subsection (2) of this section.

(7) For an application to be approved, the board must find it to be well developed in each part of the application as set forth in WAC 180-19-030(3). A determination that an application does not meet standards of quality authorizing in any part shall constitute grounds for disapproval. If the state board disapproves an application, it shall state in writing the reasons for the disapproval, with specific reference to the criteria included in the authorizer application.

(8) The board shall post on its public web site the applications of all school districts approved as authorizers. A school district ap-

proved as an authorizer shall post its application on a public web site.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 13-12-055, filed 6/1/13, effective 7/2/13)

**WAC 180-19-070 Charter school—Request for proposals.
(Effective until January 16, 2016)**

No later than April 15th, each authorizer shall annually issue requests for proposals for charter schools meeting the requirements of RCW 28A.710.130. ((For the year 2013, a request for proposal must be issued by no later than September 22, 2013. Requests for proposals in all subsequent years must be issued no later than April 15th.))

(Effective January 16, 2016)

No later than March 1st, each authorizer shall annually issue requests for proposals for charter schools meeting the requirements of RCW 28A.710.130.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 13-12-055, filed 6/1/13, effective 7/2/13)

WAC 180-19-080 Charter school applications—Submission, approval, or denial.

(Effective until January 16, 2016)

(1) An applicant, as defined in RCW 28A.710.010, seeking approval must:

(a) Submit a nonbinding notice of intent to be approved as a proposed charter school not less than thirty days before the last date for submission of an application to an authorizer as provided in this section. An applicant may not ((file)) submit a charter school application in a calendar year unless it has filed timely notice of intent as provided herein; and

(b) Submit an application for a proposed charter school to an authorizer by no later than July 15th of the year in which the applicant seeks approval. ((Provided, however, that an applicant seeking approval to operate a charter school in 2014 must submit an application to an authorizer by no later than November 22, 2013.))

(2) An authorizer receiving an application for a proposed charter school must either approve or deny the proposal by no later than October 15th of the year in which the application is received((; Provided, however, that for applications received in 2013, the authorizer must approve or deny the proposal by no later than February 24, 2014)).

(3) The authorizer must provide the state board of education with a written report of the approval or denial of an applicant's proposal for a charter school within ten days of such action((, but no later than October 25th, whichever is sooner. Provided, however, that for proposals for charter schools received in 2013, the report must be received within ten days of the action, but no later than March 6, 2014,

~~whichever is sooner~~). The notice must comply with the requirements set forth in RCW 28A.710.150(2). The report shall be sent to the board via electronic mail to sbe@k-12.wa.us.

(Effective January 16, 2016)

(1) An applicant, as defined in RCW 28A.710.010, seeking approval must:

(a) Submit a nonbinding notice of intent to be approved as a proposed charter school by May 1st of the year in which approval is sought. An applicant may not submit a charter school application in a calendar year unless it has filed timely notice of intent as provided herein; and

(b) Submit an application for a proposed charter school to an authorizer by no later than June 1st of the year in which the applicant seeks approval.

(2) An authorizer receiving an application for a proposed charter school must either approve or deny the proposal by no later than September 1st of the year in which the application is received.

(3) The authorizer must provide the state board of education with a written report of the approval or denial of an applicant's proposal for a charter school within ten days of such action. The notice must comply with the requirements set forth in RCW 28A.710.150(2). The report shall be sent to the board via electronic mail to sbe@k-12.wa.us.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 13-12-055, filed 6/1/13, effective 7/2/13)

WAC 180-19-090 Board certification of charter schools—Lottery.

(1) Upon receipt of notice from an authorizer that a charter school has been approved, the chair of the state board of education shall certify whether the approval is in compliance with the limits in RCW 28A.710.150 on the maximum number of charter ~~((s in RCW 28A.710.150))~~ schools that may be established. Certification from the ~~((state))~~ board ~~((of education))~~ must be obtained before final authorization of a charter school. The certification of a charter school shall be posted on the board's web site.

(2) If the board receives notification of charter approvals under this section on the same day, and the total number of approvals exceeds the limits in RCW 28A.710.150(1) on the maximum number of charter schools that may be established for operation in any single year, the board will select approved charters for certification through a lottery process as follows:

(a) The board shall notify the authorizer that the approved charter school has not been certified by the board for operation and must be selected for certification through a lottery.

(b) Within thirty days after determining that the limit for charter schools has been exceeded, the board shall conduct a lottery, as required by RCW 28A.710.150(3), at a publicly noticed meeting to select and certify approved charters for implementation. The board shall randomly draw the names of charter schools from the available pool of approved charter schools that have not been certified until the maximum allowable total number of charter schools has been selected.

~~((i) A charter school shall be certified by the board for operation commencing in the following school year so long as the total number of charter schools that may be established in any single year under RCW 28A.710.150 is not exceeded.~~

~~(ii))~~ (c) Once the total number of charter schools that may be established in any single year under RCW 28A.710.150 is exceeded, the board shall certify a charter school for operation in a subsequent year in which a charter school may be established within the limits set forth in RCW 28A.710.150(1), based upon the charter's selection in the lottery.