

CHARTER SCHOOL PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK

Academic Framework Financial Framework Operational Framework

2018 Manual

For Public Charter Schools in Texas

August 2019

Texas Education Agency Charter School Administration 1701 North Congress Avenue Austin, Texas 78701 512-463-9575

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¹ Adult High School Diploma and Industry Certification Public Charter School as authorized under Texas Education Code §29.259.

Acronyms

AEA	Alternative Education Accountability
BE/ESL	Bilingual Education/English as a Second Language
CSPF	Charter School Performance Framework
CTE	Career and Technical Education
FIRST	Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas
IRS	Internal Revenue Service
ISAM	Intervention Stage and Activity Manager
LEA	Local Education Agency
PBMAS	Performance-Based Monitoring Analysis System
PEIMS	Public Education Information Management System
STAAR	State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness
TAC	Texas Administrative Code
TAPR	Texas Academic Performance Report
TARS	Texas Accountability Rating System
TEA	Texas Education Agency
TEC	Texas Education Code
TREx	Texas Records Exchange

Mission

The mission of the Texas Education Agency's (TEA's) Division of Charter School Administration is to cultivate innovative, high-quality learning opportunities and to empower the charter community through leadership, guidance, and support.

The TEA is committed to expanding the number of high-quality educational options in the state's charter school portfolio. To help us meet this goal, the 2018 Charter School Performance Framework (CSPF) has been redesigned to increase transparency about TEA's performance expectations for charter schools. Consistent with Texas Education Code (TEC) §§12.1141, 12.115, and 12.1181, these performance results will inform TEA's oversight efforts as well as decisions related to renewal and revocation.

Overview

The Charter School Performance Framework is required by statute (TEC §12.1181) and by the Texas Administrative Code (19 TAC §100.1010).

Charter School Performance Framework Report

The Charter School Performance Framework report is a district-level report that is designed to provide parents, the public, charter operators, and the authorizer with information about each charter school's performance. The 2018 Charter School Performance Framework reports are available on the <u>TEA Charter Schools</u> website.

TEC §12.1181(a)

"The commissioner shall develop and by rule adopt performance frameworks that establish standards by which to measure the performance of an openenrollment charter school."

Charter School Performance Framework Manual

The CSPF manual is a resource that describes the 2018 indicators, ratings, performance expectations, data sources, and other helpful information. The 2018 Charter School Performance Framework Manual is available on the <u>TEA Charter Schools website</u>. The CSPF includes three distinct frameworks that measure academic, financial, and operational performance. The scores on each of the three frameworks contribute to the overall framework score. Each framework is made up of indicators that measure each charter school's performance during the 2017-2018 school year. Those indicators are outlined in this manual.

Using the Frameworks

A performance framework is a tool for decision making that outlines expectations for performance and compliance that are enforced through monitoring, evaluation, and intervention.

Charter schools are encouraged to refer to the frameworks on a continuing basis to self-assess the overall health and viability of their school. The frameworks will also be used to inform TEA's oversight efforts as well as decisions related to intervention, renewal, or revocation.

The Charter School Performance Framework neither negates any ratings (including, but not limited to, state accountability, Charter FIRST, Accreditation, or the Performance-Based Monitoring Analysis System [PBMAS]) that a charter school or charter campus receives, nor removes the requirements associated with any sanctions or interventions required as a result of those ratings.

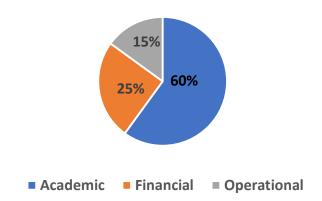
Significant Manual Changes

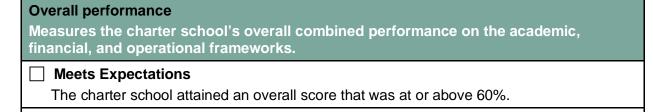
There are several new changes in the 2018 Charter School Performance Framework, including.

- **Alignment**: The 2018 CSPF is now better aligned with the Texas A-F accountability system, the Charter FIRST financial accountability rating system, and best practices that have been identified by the National Association of Charter School Authorizers.
- Academic Framework: To improve alignment with the Texas A-F accountability framework, the academic framework now includes indicators such as, overall A-F score, academic achievement status for student groups, English language proficiency progress for English learners, and campus ratings.
- **Financial Framework:** The 2018 financial frameworks draw from the Charter Financial Integrity Rating System (Charter FIRST) by combining the overall score on Charter FIRST with scores on four key solvency indicators.
- Operational Framework: The 2018 manual moves administrative cost ratio from the financial framework to the operational framework and adds operational indicators addressing the requirement that a school have at least 50 percent of its students in tested grades, a charter school's eligibility to participate in the Child Nutrition Program, and the appropriate handling of secure testing materials.
- Adult High School Diploma and Industry Certification Public Charter Schools: This
 manual updates the indicators for the adult high school diploma and industry certification
 charter school to fully utilize school data that is now available.
- Overall score: For the first time, 2018 CSPF reports will include an overall CSPF score and a subscore for each framework.

The calculation for the overall CSPF score is displayed below.

If the charter school does not receive an A-F rating, it will not receive an overall rating. If the charter school does not receive an operational or financial rating, its A-F rating will equal its overall CSPF score.





The charter school attained an overall score that was less than 60%.

■ Does Not Meet Expectations

2018 Academic Framework Indicators

The Academic Framework evaluates each charter school's academic performance. This framework answers the evaluative question: Is the academic program a success for all students? Meeting the expectations in this framework is indicative of an effective academic program where student learning—the central purpose of every school—is taking place.

The following Academic Framework indicators facilitate the evaluation of charter school academic performance. The 2018 Accountability Manual describes in more detail how scores are calculated.

Number	Indicator	Data Source and Calculation	Points possible
1a	Overall A-F score	2018 accountability rating: overall scale score	100
1b	Achievement status for student groups	 2018 Closing the Gaps data: academic achievement status Percent of evaluated indicators met 	100
1c	English language proficiency for English learners	 2018 Closing the Gaps data: English language proficiency Earn 10 points if target was met. Earn 0 points if target was missed. 	10
1d	Campus status	 Earn 10 points if all the charter's campuses received A or B ratings. Earn 4 points if all the charter's campuses received A, B, or C ratings. Earn 2 points if all the charter's campuses received A, B, C, or D ratings. Earn 0 points if any campus failed. Campuses that were not rated will not be counted in this calculation. 	10
	Calculation	1	
Academ	nic framework calculation² = .6(1a) + .2(1a	b) + .1(10*1c) + .1(10*1d)	100

² If data is not available, academic framework scores may be based on the following calculations:

[•] If the school did not test enough English learners (i.e., small *n* size) to generate a Closing Gaps English language proficiency score, the overall calculation will be adjusted to .3(1b).

[•] If there is no Closing Gaps data for the school, the overall calculation will be adjusted to .9(1a).

Overall score on the academic framework Measures the charter school's overall performance on indicators included in the academic framework.
☐ Meets Expectations The charter school attained an overall score on the academic framework that was at or above 60%.
☐ Does Not Meet Expectations The charter school attained an overall score on the academic framework that was less than 60%.

[•] If the charter school does not receive an A-F rating, it will not receive an academic framework rating.

2018 Academic Framework Indicators: AEA Provisions

In accordance with TEC §12.1181, the Academic Framework includes indicators for charter schools evaluated under alternative education accountability (AEA) provisions of the Texas Accountability Rating System. The 2018 Accountability Manual describes in more detail how scores are calculated or scaled differently for AEA schools.³

Number	Indicator	Data Source and Calculation	Points possible
1a	Overall academic performance	2018 accountability rating: overall scale score (AEA scaling)	100
1b	Academic status and growth for student groups	2018 Closing the Gaps data: Closing the Gaps scaled score (AEA scaling)	100
1c	Campus status	 Earn 10 points if all the charter's campuses received A or B ratings. Earn 4 points if all the charter's campuses received A, B, or C ratings. Earn 2 points if all the charter's campuses received A, B, C, or D ratings. Earn 0 points if any campus failed. Campuses that were not rated will not be counted in this calculation 	10
	Calculation	n	
Academic framework calculation ⁴ = $.6(1a) + .3(1b) + .1(10*1c)$		100	

³ For additional detail read: p. 17 (graduation and dropout rate calculations); p. 45 (student achievement domain scaling tables); p. 46 (scaling tables for graduation rate and the Closing the Gaps domain); chapter 7 (AEA provisions); and Appendix I Scaling Resources. The full *2018 Accountability Manual* is available online at the following link: https://tea.texas.gov/2018accountabilitymanual.aspx.

⁴ If data is not available, AEA academic framework scores may be based on the following calculations:

[•] If there is no Closing Gaps data for the school, the overall calculation will be adjusted to .9(1a).

[•] If the charter school does not receive an A-F rating, it will not receive an academic framework rating.

Overall score on the academic framework Measures the AEA charter school's overall performance on indicators included in the academic framework.
☐ Does Not Meet Expectations The AEA charter school attained an overall score on the academic framework that was less than 60%.

2018 Financial Framework Indicators

Financial Framework indicators are evaluated in the Charter School Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (Charter FIRST). As described in 19 TAC §109.1001, the purpose of Charter FIRST is to ensure that charter schools are held accountable for the quality of their financial management practices.

Note: Financial Framework indicators are not evaluated for charter schools in their first year of operation.

Read more about **Charter FIRST** on the TEA website.

The Financial Framework indicators below provide key data to assess the financial health and viability of charter schools.⁵

Number	Indicator	Data Source	Points possible
2a	Overall financial performance on Charter FIRST	Overall score on Charter FIRST (2017-2018)	100
2b	Short-term solvency: cash on hand	Charter FIRST indicator #6 (2017-2018)	10
2c	Short-term solvency: ratio of current assets to current liabilities	Charter FIRST indicator #7 (2017-2018)	10
2d	Long-term solvency: revenues equal or exceed expenses	Charter FIRST indicator #9 (2017-2018)	10
2e	Long-term solvency: debt service coverage ratio	Charter FIRST indicator #10 (2017-2018)	10
	Calculation	1	
Financial framework calculation = $.6(2a) + .2(10 * \frac{#2b + #2c}{2}) + .2(10 * \frac{#2d + #2e}{2})$		100	

Overall score on the financial framework Measures the charter school's overall performance on indicators included in the financial framework.
☐ Meets Expectations The charter school attained an overall score on the financial framework that was at or above 60%.
☐ Does Not Meet Expectations The charter school attained an overall score on the financial framework that was less than 60%.

⁵ Charter schools that are operated by institutions of higher education will receive only a pass/fail on the financial framework, reflective of their FIRST score. These schools receive neither an overall numeric FIRST score nor scores on solvency indicators. To calculate the overall CSPF score: pass = 100.

2018 Operational Framework Indicators

The Operational Framework indicators facilitate evaluation of each charter school's compliance with federal law, state law, state rules or regulations, and/or the charter contract. The following Operational Framework indicators evaluate each charter school's compliance with educational, operational, governance, and reporting requirements.

Number	Indicator	Points
3a	Teacher qualifications	Meets: 1 pointDoes not meet: 0 points
3b	Program requirements: Special populations	Meets: 1 pointDoes not meet: 0 pointsFar below: -1 point
3c	Program requirements: Bilingual education/English as a second language populations	Meets: 1 pointDoes not meet: 0 pointsFar below: -1 point
3d	Program requirements: Career and technical education populations	Meets: 1 pointDoes not meet: 0 pointsFar below: -1 point
3e	Timely filing of governance reporting forms	Meets: 1 pointDoes not meet: 0 points
3f	Training requirements for board members and charter school officials	Meets: 1 pointDoes not meet: 0 points
3g	Criminal record employment requirements	Meets: 1 point Does not meet: 0 points
3h	Timely filing of PEIMS data	Meets: 1 pointDoes not meet: 0 points
3i	TREx usage requirements	Meets: 1 pointDoes not meet: 0 points
3j	Certificate of occupancy requirements	Meets: 1 pointDoes not meet: 0 points
3k	Administrative cost ratio	Meets: 1 pointDoes not meet: 0 points
31	Maintenance of 501(c)(3) status ⁶	Meets: 1 pointDoes not meet: 0 points
3m	50% of students in tested grades	Meets: 1 point Does not meet: 0 points
3n	Eligibility to participate in child nutrition program	Meets: 1 point Does not meet: 0 points
30	Appropriate handling of secure assessment materials	Meets: 1 pointDoes not meet: 0 points

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⁶ If the charter holder fails to maintain 501(c)(3) status, it is no longer eligible to operate charter schools.

Calculation	
Operational framework calculation = $\frac{\text{#points earned}}{\text{# of indicators evaluated}}$ *100	100

3a. Teacher Qualifications Charter school teachers must hold a baccalaureate degree. TEC §12.129, 19 TAC §100.1015(b)(3)(F)
☐ Meets Expectations
All teachers at the charter school hold a baccalaureate degree or meet the statutory exception. ⁷
☐ Does Not Meet Expectations
Fewer than 100.0% of teachers at the charter school hold a baccalaureate degree or do not meet the statutory exception.
☐ Not Applicable
The charter school failed to report staff data or reported only contracted classroom teachers.

Data source: 2017-18 TAPR District Staff Information, Teachers by Highest Degree Held

3b. Program Requirements – Special Populations Charter schools must meet program requirements for special populations, including, but not limited to, special education. TEC §12.104(b)(2)(F), 19 TAC §100.1032(1)(D) Meets Expectations The charter school received a Meets Requirements determination for special education. Does Not Meet Expectations The charter school received a Needs Assistance determination for special education. Far Below Expectations The charter school received a Needs Intervention or Needs Substantial Intervention determination for special education.

Data source: 2018 PBMAS, 2018-19 Intervention Stage and Activity Manager (ISAM)

⁷ Per TEC §12.129(b), in some cases, teachers of noncore vocational courses may qualify for an exception if they meet alternative requirements.

3c. Program Requirements – Bilingual Education/English as a Second Language Populations
Charter schools must meet program requirements for BE/ESL populations.
TEC §12.104(b)(2)(G), 19 TAC §100.1032(1)(D)
☐ Meets Expectations
The charter school is not staged for BE/ESL.
☐ Does Not Meet Expectations
The charter school is in Stage 1 or Stage 2 for BE/ESL.
☐ Far Below Expectations
The charter school is in Stage 3 or Stage 4 for BE/ESL.
Data source: 2018 PBMAS and 2018-19 ISAM
3d. Program Requirements – Career and Technical Education Populations Charter schools must meet program requirements for CTE populations.
19 TAC §100.1032(1)(D)
☐ Meets Expectations
The charter school is not staged for CTE.
☐ Does Not Meet Expectations
The charter school is in Stage 1 or Stage 2 for CTE.
☐ Far Below Expectations
The charter school is in Stage 3 or Stage 4 for CTE.
Data source: 2018 PBMAS and 2018-19 ISAM
3e. Timely Filing of Governance Reporting Forms
Charter schools must file Governance Reporting Forms in a timely manner.
TEC §12.119(b), 19 TAC §100.1007
☐ Meets Expectations
The charter school filed 2018-2019 governance reporting forms in a timely manner.
☐ Does Not Meet Expectations
The charter school failed to file 2018-2019 governance reporting forms in a timely manner.

Data source: TEA Charter School Tracking System governance reporting forms

3f. Training Requirements Charter board members and school officials must complete the annually required training. TEC §12.123, 19 TAC §§ 100.1102-100.1105
■ Meets Expectations All charter board members and school officers appointed or hired prior to December 3, 2018 reported that they completed the annually-required training or met the criteria for exceptions provided for in the TEA Governance Form.
Does Not Meet Expectations Some charter board members and/or school officers appointed or hired prior to December 3, 2018 failed to report that they completed the annually required training, failed to meet criteria for exceptions provided for in the TEA Governance Form, or the charter school failed to submit a governance reporting form by the required reporting deadline.

Data source: TEA Charter School Tracking System governance reporting forms

3g. Criminal Record Employment Requirements Charter schools must certify compliance with TEC §22.085. TEC §§ 12.120, 12.1059, 22.0832, 22.085, 19 TAC §100.1151
■ Meets Expectations The charter school certified its compliance with TEC §22.085 by submitting the "Criminal History Compliance Certification" for the 2018-19 school year in a timely manner.
☐ Does Not Meet Expectations The charter school failed to certify its compliance with TEC §22.085 because it did not submit the "Criminal History Compliance Certification" for the 2018-19 school year in a timely manner or if a finding from a Special Accreditation Investigation indicates the charter school is not in compliance.

Data source: TEA Educator Certification

3h. Timely Filing of PEIMS Data This indicator measures the charter school's compliance with PEIMS reporting requirements. TEC §12.104
 ■ Meets Expectations The charter school was in compliance with 2017-18 PEIMS data reporting timelines.
☐ Does Not Meet Expectations The charter school was not in compliance with 2017-18 PEIMS data reporting timelines.

Data source: TEA Student Education Data System/PEIMS Division

3i. TREx Usage Requirements Charter schools must participate in the electronic Toyon Becards Evolution (TREx)
Charter schools must participate in the electronic Texas Records Exchange (TREx) system.
TEC §7.010, TEC §25.002(a-1), 19 TAC §129.1025
☐ Meets Expectations
All the charter's campuses responded to requests for information in TREx within 10 working days and followed the TREx data standards.
☐ Does Not Meet Expectations Some of the charter's campuses failed to respond to requests for information in TREx within 10 working days and/or did not follow the TREx data standards.
Data source: TEA Student Education Data System/PEIMS Division
3j. Certificate of Occupancy Requirements All charter school buildings used for educational purposes must have a valid certificate of occupancy for educating children. 19 TAC §§ 100.1215(b) and 100.1001(3)(E)
Meets Expectations The charter school is in compliance with certificate of occupancy requirements.
☐ Does Not Meet Expectations
The charter school is not in compliance with certificate of occupancy requirements.
 ☐ Not Applicable The charter holder is a university that has not provided a certificate of occupancy for the educational use of charter school sites that are on the university campus.
Data source: TEA Charter Schools Tracking System
3k. Administrative Cost Ratio
Measures whether the charter school's administrative costs and size are proportionate.
☐ Meets Expectations
The charter school scored 6 points or higher on Charter FIRST indicator #11.
 ☐ Does Not Meet Expectations The charter school scored fewer than 6 points on Charter FIRST indicator #11.
 ☐ Not Applicable The charter school is in its first year of operation and is not evaluated on this indicator.

Data source: 2017-18 Charter FIRST Indicator 11

3l. Maintenance of 501(c)(3) Status				
Charter holders are required to maintain their 501(c)(3) status at all times.				
TEC §12.101, 19 TAC §100.1217				
☐ Meets Expectations				
The charter holder maintained its 501(c)(3) status.				
☐ Does Not Meet Expectations				
The charter holder failed to maintain its 501(c)(3) status.				
☐ Not Applicable				
The charter holder is a governmental entity, college, or university.				
Data sources: Texas Secretary of State and Internal Revenue Service (IRS)				
Note: Per TEC §12.101, failure to maintain 501(c)(3) status means that the charter holder is no longer eligible to operate an open-enrollment charter school.				
3m. 50% of students in tested grades				
Confirms that the constitution of each campus within the charter school's student				
body is sufficient for state accountability standards.				
19 TAC §100.1015(b)(3)(G)				
☐ Meets Expectations Each campus operated by the charter school has at least 50% of its student population				
in tested grades, the charter school has not reached its fifth year of operation, or the				
charter holder has obtained a waiver from the commissioner of education.				
☐ Does Not Meet Expectations				
One or more of the campuses operated by the charter school has fewer than 50% of its				
student population in tested grades and the charter holder has not obtained a waiver from the commissioner of education.				
Data sources: 2018-2019 TAPR				
3n. Eligibility to Participate in Child Nutrition Program				
Indicates whether the charter school has maintained its eligibility to participate in				
child nutrition programs				
19 TAC §100.1022(c)(1)(A)(xi) and 100.1032(2)(N)				
Meets Expectations The charter school maintained its eligibility to participate in child nutrition programs.				
Does Not Meet Expectations The charter school failed to maintain its eligibility to participate in child nutrition				

Data source: Texas Department of Agriculture

programs and did not regain its eligibility within 30 days.

3o. Appropriate Handling of Secure Assessment Materials Measures the charter school's compliance with state rules concerning assessment materials. TEC §39.0301-39.0304, 19 TAC §101.3031		
☐ Does Not Meet Expectations The charter school failed to fully comply with state rules concerning delivery of assessment materials, storage and administration of assessments, and return of assessment materials for the most recent assessment period.		

Data source: TEA Student Assessment

Overall score on the operational framework Measures the charter school's overall compliance with indicators on the operational framework.
■ Meets Expectations The charter school attained an overall score on the operational framework that was at or above 60%.
☐ Does Not Meet Expectations The charter school attained an overall score on the operational framework that was less than 60%.

2018 Adult High School Diploma and Industry Certification Public Charter School Performance Framework Indicators

The Adult High School Diploma Charter School Framework contains standards by which to measure the performance of an adult high school program operated under a charter granted under Texas Education Code (TEC) §29.259.

The following indicators facilitate review of the adult high school diploma charter school's performance.

- 1. Student achievement on exit-level assessment
- 2. Completion of high school diploma program
- 3. Completion of industry certification program
- 4. Enrollment in institutions of higher education
- 5. Significant income increase

Data will be reported for all five indicators; however, the school's performance will only be scored for the first three. For each of those three indicators, the charter school may either meet or not meet the expectations described below.

Student achievement on academic assessments Measures graduating students' performance on applicable end-of-course (EOC) assessments.
☐ Meets Expectations The percentage of all students performing at the "Meets Grade Level" standard on EOC assessments was greater than or equal to 20.
☐ Does Not Meet Expectations The percentage of all students performing at the "Meets Grade Level" standard on EOC assessments was less than 20.

Data source: 2017-18 TAPR District Performance – STAAR Percent at Met Standard or Above (All Grades), All Subjects

Ме	Completion of high school diploma program asures number of program participants who successfully completed a high nool diploma program.
	Meets Expectations
	The number of graduates was equal to or greater than the number of students classified as 12th graders.
	Does Not Meet Expectations
	The number of graduates was less than the number of students classified as 12th graders.

Data source: 2017-2018 TAPR

Note: The number of graduates is used for this indicator, rather than percentage over time, because sufficient longitudinal data is not yet available.

3. Completion of industry-based certification program Measures percentage of program participants who successfully completed an approved industry-based certification.			
Meets Expectations At least 25% of program participants successfully completed an approved industry-based certification.			
☐ Does Not Meet Expectations Fewer than 25% of program participants successfully completed an approved industry-based certification.			

Data Source: 2017-2018 TAPR

Notification Timeline

Due to changes incorporated into the 2018 CSPF, the release date for the 2018 CSPF reports was significantly altered. The availability of final data and any unforeseen circumstances may impact the significant dates listed below.

20	۱1	0
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August 2018 CSPF Manual and reports available in the Charter School Tracking System.

August 2018 CSPF Manual and reports available on the <u>TEA Charter Schools website.</u>

2020

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