

Texas Title I Priority Schools (TTIPS) Grant Restart Model

The LEA/campus provides assurance that if it selects to implement the **restart model**, the campus will meet all of the following federal requirements:

1. Convert or close and reopen the school under a charter school operator, a charter management organization (CMO), or an education management organization (EMO). A CMO is a non-profit organization that operates or manages charter schools by centralizing or sharing certain functions and resources among schools. An EMO is a for-profit or non-profit organization that provides “whole-school operation” services to an LEA.
2. Select a CMO or EMO using a rigorous review process. This rigorous review process is a determination by the LEA that the CMO is likely to produce strong results for the school based on evidence that the schools currently operated by the CMO or EMO have produced strong results over that last three years, indicated by:
 - (A) significant improvement in academic achievement
 - (B) success in closing achievement gaps either within a school or relative to other public schools
 - (C) high school graduation rates
 - (D) no significant compliance issues in the areas of civil rights, financial management, and student safety.
3. Enroll, within the grades it serves, any former student who wishes to attend the school.

If selecting the Restart Model, the applicant will contract only with CMO or EMO providers on the State’s approved list of CMO and EMO providers.

Questions to Consider:

- Are there qualified charter management organizations (CMOs) or education management organizations (EMOs) willing to partner with the LEA to start a new school (or convert an existing school) in this location?
- Will qualified community groups initiate a home-grown charter school? The LEA is best served by developing relationships with community groups to prepare them for operating charter schools.
- Based on supply and capacity, which option is most likely to result in acceptable student growth for the student population to be served—homegrown charter school, CMO, or EMO?
- How can statute, policy, and staffing practices relevant to the school be negotiated to allow for closure of the school and restart?
- How will support be provided to staff that are reassigned to other schools as a result of the restart?
- What are the budgetary implications of retaining surplus staff within the LEA if that is necessary?
- What is the LEA’s own capacity to support the charter school with access to contractually specified district services and access to available funding?
- How will the SEA assist with the restart?

- What performance expectations will be contractually specified for the charter school, CMO, or EMO?
- Is the LEA (or other authorizer) prepared to terminate the contract if performance expectations are not met?

Additional Resources

- Center on School Turnaround: <http://centeronschoolturnaround.org/>
- School Turnaround Learning Community: <http://schoolturnaroundsupport.org/home>
- U.S. Department of Education Office of School Turnaround:
<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oese/ost/index.html>