

Office of School Finance

Charter School Funding



Legal References

Texas Education Code, §12.106; 19 Texas Administrative Code, §100.1041; TEC, §48.001

Background Information

Open-enrollment charter schools are entitled to Foundation School Program (FSP) state aid. The FSP includes Tier One, Tier Two, and Other Programs funding.

Program Description

Tier One

Tier One is the basic tier of state aid funding, which constitutes the bulk of the charter school’s overall total FSP state aid and is based primarily on a measure of the number and type of students attending the charter school district. Effective with the implementation of House Bill 3 (HB 3), 86th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2019, Tier One uses the state-wide average basic allotment (BA) to calculate the regular basic program allotment and several other Tier One allotments.

The charter school’s regular program average daily attendance multiplied by the BA provides the regular basic program allotment.

For students in specific student-based instructional settings, charter school districts receive additional funding to the regular program funding based on the funding weight set forth by the legislature (ex. bilingual/ESL education, special education mainstream, state compensatory education, etc). However, students in career and technology or special education (other than mainstream) are not included in the regular program count. These programs allotments have specific funding weights based on the student in the instructional setting and are funded in place of the regular basic program allotment.

The table below shows the Tier One allotments.

TEC	Tier One Allotments for Charters
48.051	Regular Program Allotment
48.101	Small and Mid-Size Allotment
48.102	Special Education Allotment

TEC	Tier One Allotments for Charters
48.103	Dyslexia Allotment
48.104	Compensatory Education Allotment
48.105	Bilingual Education Allotment
48.106	Career and Technology Allotment
48.108	Early Education Allotment
48.109	Gifted & Talented Student Allotment
48.110	College, Career, or Military Readiness Outcomes Bonus
48.112	Teacher Incentive Allotment
48.114	Mentor Program Allotment
48.115	School Safety Allotment
48.118	Rural Pathways Excellence Partnership (R-PEP) Allotment and Outcomes Bonus
48.151	Transportation Allotment
48.152	New Instructional Facility Allotment
48.153	Dropout Recovery School and Residential Placement Facility Allotment
48.155	College Preparation Assessment Reimbursement
48.156	Certification Examination Reimbursement

Tier Two

Tier Two funding is a supplemental tier and is calculated using weighted average daily attendance (WADA) and district tax rates (DTR) for golden and copper pennies. Just like a school district, an open-enrollment charter school is entitled to Tier Two funds. However, Tier Two funding is calculated slightly differently for a charter school than for a school district. Because charter schools do not have tax rate, a charter school's Tier Two funding is calculated using a state-wide average DTR. Also, because charter schools do not have taxable property values and cannot raise the local share, the state share of Tier Two is equal to the total Tier Two entitlement.

Other Programs

FSP state aid funding not provided in Tier One or Tier Two is grouped in Other Programs of the Summary of Finances. The funding includes Charter School Facilities Funding (TEC, §12.106(d)). The funding is based on refined average daily attendance (ADA). This funding was created under House Bill 21, 85th Texas Legislature, 1st Called Session, 2017, and uses the state average interest and sinking (I&S) tax rate imposed by school districts to arrive at the amount per ADA. Eligibility for the allotment is based on whether the charter school has an overall acceptable academic performance rating. The table below also identifies funding established by the *88th Texas Legislature, 2023.

The table below shows the Other Programs.

TEC	Other Programs
12.106 (d)	Charter School Facilities Funding
48.305	*Allotment for Non-enrolled Students Participating in University Interscholastic League
48.307	*Additional State Aid for State-Approved Instructional Materials
48.308	*Additional State Aid for Open Education Resource Instructional Materials

Allotment Ineligibility

Charter schools are not entitled to the Instructional Facilities Allotment (IFA), the Existing Debt Allotment (EDA), the Tuition Allotment, Public Education Grant Allotment, or the Fast Growth Allotment.



Contact for More Information

Dina Black, Financial Analyst, (512) 463-9531 or CharterSchoolFinance@tea.texas.gov