Texas Education Agency

To the Administrator Addressed

Commissioner Mike Morath

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DATE:	**September 3, 2026**
SUBJECT:	**2026-2027 Significant Expansion of Enrollment – Charter Schools Only**
CATEGORY:	**Federal Fiscal Compliance and Reporting**
NEXT STEPS:	**Share with business/finance and special education staff**

Open-enrollment charter schools that have been awarded 2026–2027 Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) or Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Part B (IDEA-B) federal grants may qualify for additional funding under these grants if they meet specific criteria defining significant expansion of enrollment.

This letter describes:

- Criteria defining significant expansion of enrollment for ESSA and IDEA-B; and
- How open-enrollment charter schools request additional funding due to significant expansion of enrollment.

Significant Expansion of Enrollment Criteria for ESSA and IDEA-B

To claim significant expansion of enrollment for both ESSA and IDEA-B, your open-enrollment charter school must meet *both* of the following criteria based on the newly expanded enrollment:

- A minimum total student enrollment (ages 3–21) of 50; and
- At least a 50% increase in the *total* student enrollment (ages 3–21) from previously reported student counts.

For example, you would meet the criteria for significant expansion of enrollment if your total student enrollment increased from 250 to 375.

How to Request Access to Enrollment Reporting Form

If your open-enrollment charter school meets the criteria for significant expansion of enrollment for federal funding, email the Federal Fiscal Compliance and Reporting (FFCR) Division of the Texas Education Agency (TEA) at compliance@tea.texas.gov with your charter school name, county-district number, and a request that your **2026–2027 *SC5050–LEA Enrollment Data Request* (SC5050)** be opened.

The SC5050 collects actual enrollment data. TEA will open the SC5050 for you to enter, certify, and submit current actual enrollment counts. TEA will verify the current actual enrollment counts against the significant expansion criteria. **You must maintain auditable documentation of the data submitted and be ready to submit the documentation to TEA upon request.**

Timeline for Form Submission and Additional Funding

You may submit the updated SC5050 as soon as the 2026–2027 school year begins. The final date for submitting the SC5050 is January 31, 2027.

Any additional grant funding becomes available for either the 2026–2027 or 2027–2028 school year, depending on when you submit the updated SC5050.

Date of Certified Submission	Funding Availability
By November 1, 2026	2026–2027 school year final amounts
November 1, 2026, to January 31, 2027	2027–2028 school year planning amounts

Further Information

If you have questions, please contact the FFCR Division by email at compliance@tea.texas.gov.