



Generation Thirty-One Applicant Information Session August 2025

Welcome



Valerie Trevino
Division Director
Charter School Authorizing



We are determined. We are committed and intentional in the pursuit of our main purpose, to improve outcomes for students.

We are learners. We seek evidence, reflect on success and failure, and try new approaches in the pursuit of excellence for our students.

We are people-centered. We strive to attract, develop, and retain the most committed talent, representing the diversity of Texas, each contributing to our common vision for students.

We are servant leaders. Above all else, we are public servants working to improve opportunities for students and provide support to those who serve them.

The New Schools Team



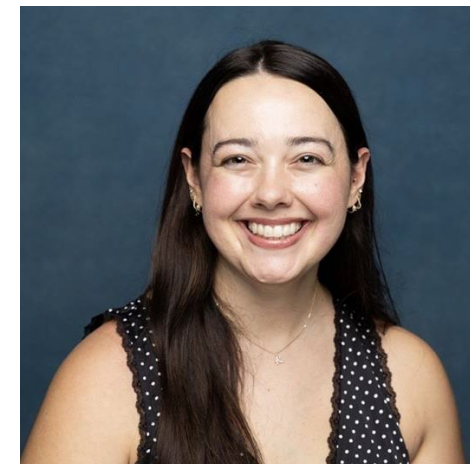
Brittany Glenn

New Schools Manager



John Garland

New Schools Coordinator



Sarah Khan

New Schools Coordinator

MORNING SESSION

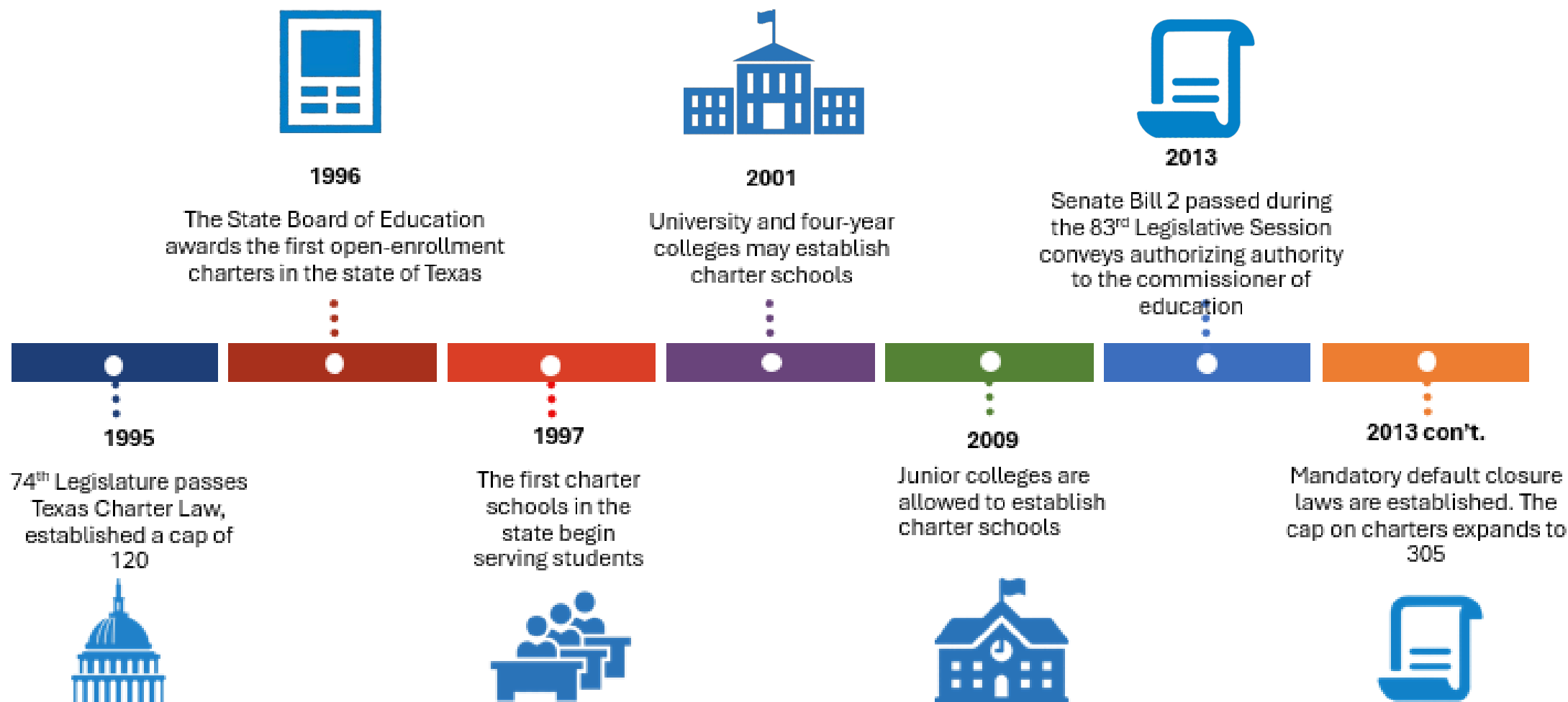
9:00 - 9:05 am	Introductions... <i>by Valerie Trevino, Director of Charter School Authorizing</i> (5 min)
9:05 - 9:20 am	Charter Portfolio... <i>by Brittany Glenn, News School Manager</i> (15 min)
9:20 - 10:00 am	Application Overview... <i>by New Schools Team</i> (40 min)
10:00 - 10:20 am	Virtual Application Overview (20 min) ... <i>by Ann Rajan, Director of Special Projects</i>
10:20 - 10:25 am	Section Q&A (5 min)
10:25 - 10:55 am	Charter Law ... <i>by Bridget Remish</i> (30 min)
10:55 - 11:05 am	Section Q&A (10 min)
11:05 - 11:25 am	Special Education... <i>by Lori Merrell</i> (20 min)
11:25 - 11:30 am	Section Q&A (5 min)
11:30 - 1:00 pm	Lunch (90 min)

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:00 - 1:30 pm	Charter School Program (CSP)... <i>by Chelsea Garcia</i> (30 min)
1:30 - 1:40 pm	Section Q&A (10 min)
1:40 - 2:00 pm	FPW, Financial Plan, and Updates... <i>by John Garland</i> (20 min)
2:00 - 2:10 pm	Section Q&A (10 min)
2:10 - 2:20 pm	Break (10 min)
2:20 - 3:00 pm	Emergent Bilingual... <i>by Xochitl Rocha</i> (40 min)
3:00 - 3:10 pm	Section Q&A (10 min)
3:10 - 3:20 pm	Closing (10 min)
3:20 - 3:40 pm	Optional Q&A for New Schools Team (20 min)

Open-Enrollment Charters in Texas

Historical Timeline of Charter School Laws



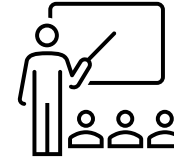


What is **Open-Enrollment**?

A school that is **open to all students on a first-come/first-serve basis**, regardless of the school model.

Schools **may consider whether a student has documented history of** a criminal offense, a juvenile court adjudication, or discipline problems under Subchapter A, Chapter 37.

Schools **specializing in performing arts** may consider whether the student demonstrates artistic ability.



What is an **LEA**?

Texas authorizes **Local Education Agencies** (LEA's).

Charter schools are their own LEA, which **means they have a governing board** that are **legally responsible for the administration, performance, and governance** of all campuses under the LEA.

An entity **may not hold multiple charter LEA's**.

The Purpose of Texas Charter Schools



Improve student learning



Increase choice opportunities in the public-school system



Create professional opportunities to attract new teachers

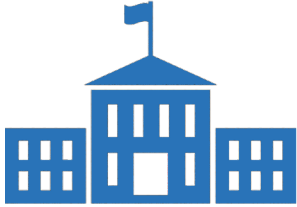


Establish a new form of accountability



Encourage different and innovative learning methods

8% of Texas Public School Students Attend Open-Enrollment Charter Schools

			
	LEAs	Campuses	Students
State Total	185	950	436,031
% of State	15%	11%	8%

Since 2016, 13% of Charter Applicants Have Been Approved

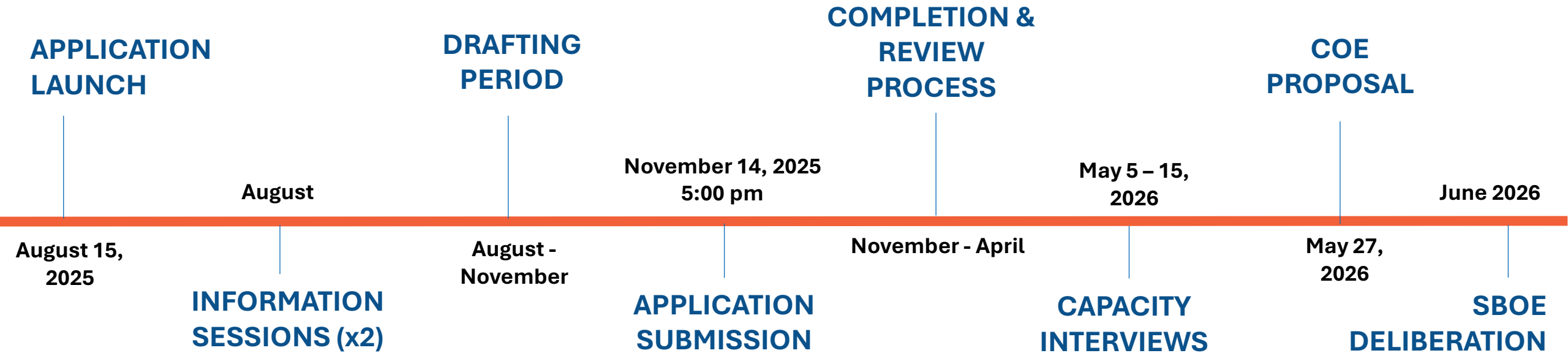


The 20 largest authorizers in the US approve approximately 35% of their new charter applications.



Generation Thirty - One Application Overview

Timeline Overview



**APPLICATION
LAUNCH**

**August
2025**

**INFORMATION
SESSIONS (x2)**

**August 15,
2025**

Are we eligible to apply?

What application do we complete?

How do we access the applications?

What are the application documents?

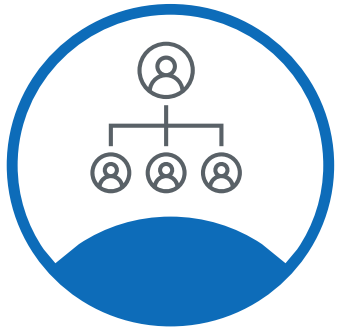
What happens while we complete our application?

How do we assemble and submit the application?

What happens after we submit the application?

Eligible Entities

TEC Chapter 12 Subchapter D



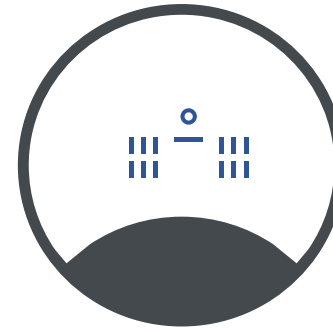
Tax Exempt Organizations

An organization that is **exempt from taxation** under **Section 501(c)(3)**.



Governmental Entities

Governmental entities as defined by state law.



Institutions of Higher Education

Public, private, or independent institutions of higher education as defined in TEC 61.003

TEC Chapter 12 Subchapter E



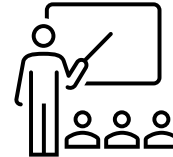
Public College and Universities

Limited to a **public college or university** as defined in TEC 61.003.



Subchapter D New Operator

Eligible entity that has **not operated a charter before** and is seeking a state-authorized charter under TEC Chapter 12, Subchapter D.

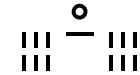


Subchapter D Experienced Operator

Eligible entity that is **affiliated with an out-of-state Charter Management Organization** with multiple years of academic performance data, or

Operates a district-authorized charter campus in Texas with multiple years of academic performance data, or

Is incorporated in the state of Texas but operates and/or manages at least one charter school or campus with multiple years of academic performance data outside of Texas.



Subchapter E College/University

Eligible entities include **Public Junior Colleges, Public Senior Colleges, and Public Universities.**



Subchapter D New Operator



Subchapter D Experienced Operator



Subchapter E College/University

Generation 31 offers a separate, streamlined experienced operator application document.

Operates a district-authorized charter campus in Texas with multiple years of academic performance data, or

Is incorporated in the state of Texas but operates and/or manages at least one charter school or campus with multiple years of academic performance data outside of Texas.



Accessing Application Documents

Accessing the Applications



Parts of the Application Package

1

Instructions and Guidance Document

Provides **eligibility criteria, timelines, key dates, and submission instructions.**

2

Narrative Document

One fillable PDF document that consists of the: **Executive Summary, Application Checklist, Narrative Responses, and the Letter of Special Assurances.**

3

Attachment Coversheets and Forms

Coversheets that **provide directions for each attachment.** All coversheets can be accessed through either the **Application Checklist** or the **Narrative Response** pages.

4

Financial Plan Workbook

An **Excel workbook** that supplements the budget narrative and financial plan.

5

Portfolio Overview Workbook

An Excel workbook for applicants **who apply as an Experienced Operator.**

6

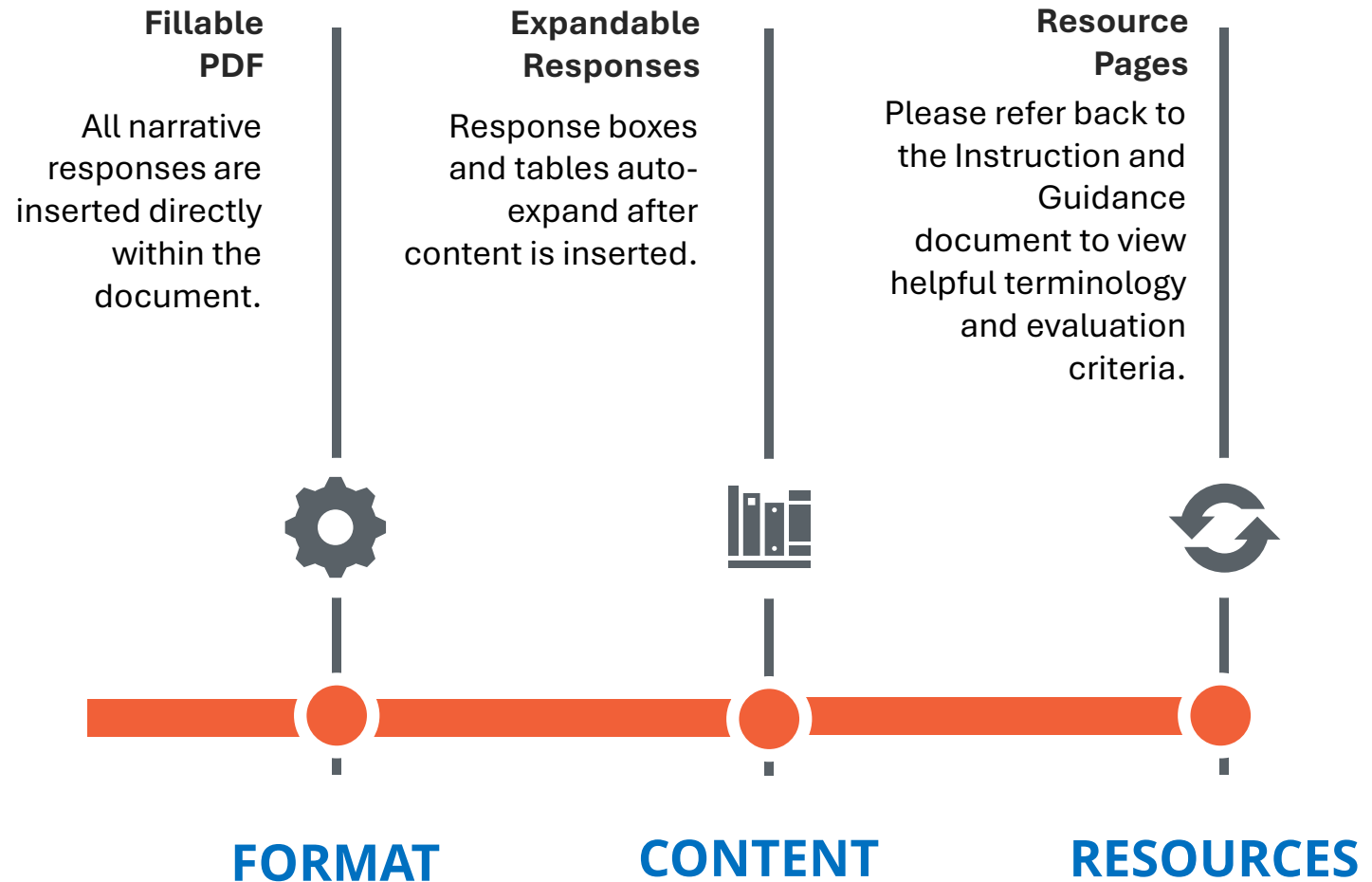
Virtual Addendum

An attachment for applicants **who apply for a full time virtual / full-time hybrid campus.**

VIEWING THE NARRATIVE DOCUMENT

Step 1. Download the Generation 31 Narrative Document to a **local drive (desktop, folder etc.)**

Step 2. Open the document from the place that it was saved. (desktop, folder etc.) **Do not open it from the download box within the browser.**



VIEWING THE ATTACHMENTS

All attachments are hyperlinked on both the **narrative attachment checklist page** and each relevant **narrative page**.

1

Coversheets

Each attachment coversheet **provides specific instructions** to complete the attachment.

Attachment coversheets are also submitted with respective responses.

2

Fillable Forms

Some attachment coversheets also **provide fillable pdf forms**.

Applicants must insert responses **directly into each form**.

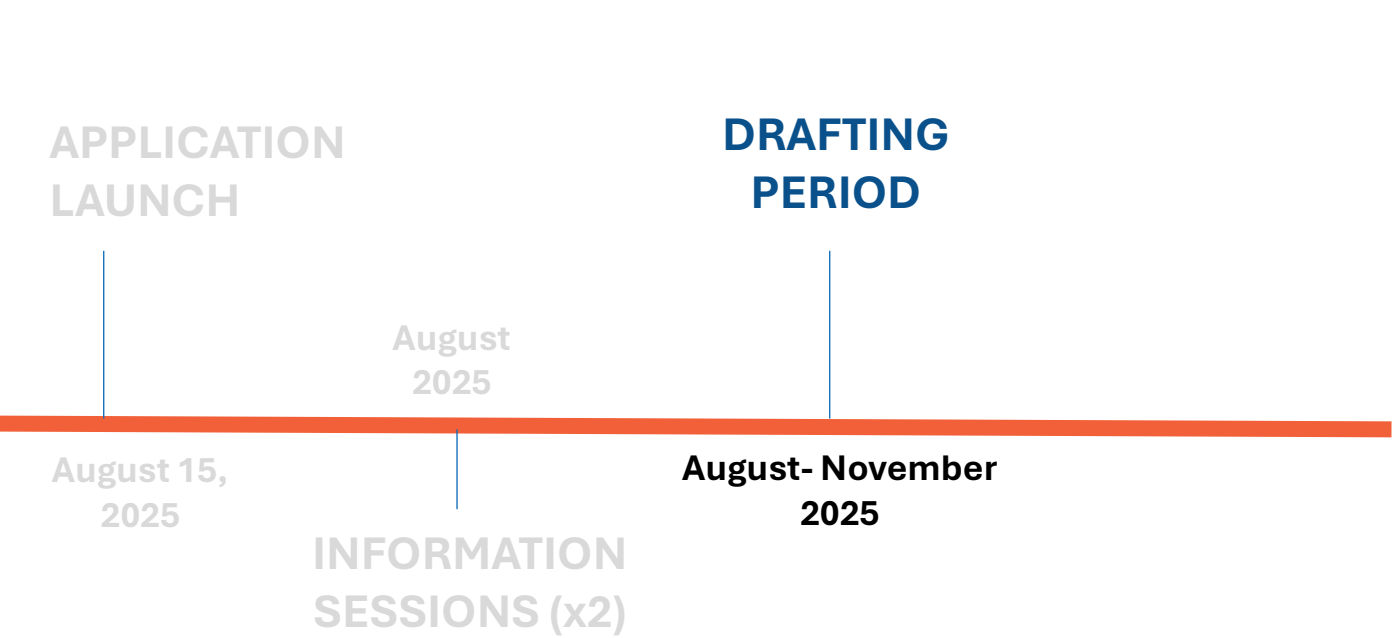
3

Worksheets

Some attachments are **provided as Excel workbooks**.

Applicants must complete and submit workbooks as an Excel document.

Drafting the Application



How many applications do we complete?

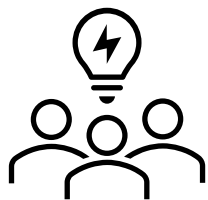
Are we limited by who we can enroll?

Do we notify anyone that we are applying?

Is community engagement required?

Are we limited by the instructional materials we can select?

How can we engage TEA during the drafting period?



Application Phase

Applicants submit **only one application**.

Applicant is applying for a **Local Education Agency (LEA)**.

Applicant proposes to **operate one or more campuses** under the LEA.



Operational Phase, if awarded

Charter school boards **govern all campuses at the LEA level**.

Newly authorized charter schools are **limited to the number of campuses, grade levels, and maximum enrollment**, outlined in the approved application.

Information presented in the approved application is referenced in **the initial 5 year contract**.



Expansion Amendments

Newly authorized charter schools may apply for additional campuses, grade levels, and maximum enrollment, but the changes **will not be effective before year 4**.

All expansion requests are subject to commissioner approval and are **based on accountability ratings and financial health**.

Selecting Instructional Materials



Decision-Making Autonomy

Charter schools have the **freedom to design, select, and implement** their chosen instructional materials.



Available Resources

TEA has a **variety of resources to guide the planning and development** of high-quality instructional materials that follow research-based best practice.



Evaluated & Vetted

TEA's **Open Education Resources** have already been evaluated through the **IMRA process**, but it is **not required** that applicants propose to use those materials.

Instructional Materials Review and Approval

The purpose of the Instructional Materials Review and Approval is to assist in **selecting high quality instructional materials**.



Rubrics show all the criteria that reviewers consider and can be helpful for your own selection process.

The new **Instructional Materials Review and Approval (IMRA)** process replaces the former State Board of Education (SBOE) Proclamation and the Texas Resource Review (TRR) processes. IMRA was enacted under House Bill (HB) 1605 (88th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2023) and brings new components to a single, SBOE-governed review of instructional materials.



Applicants can review information [here](#).

Even if not selecting to use TEA-approved materials, **all materials must be high quality.**



The application must demonstrate **depth of knowledge** and **familiarity** with selected materials.



- (1) aligned with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS),
- (2) have a comprehensive and cohesive scope and sequence,
- (3) include lesson-level materials with engaging texts (books, multimedia, etc.), problems, and assessments, and
- (4) are externally validated or research based.



Permissible Communication

Applicants are permitted to contact agency staff with questions about **technical and procedural questions**.

All applicants are **prohibited from contacting agency staff** with specific questions about a proposal.



Support Seminars

Applicants are highly encouraged to register and attend additional support seminars, **beginning in August**.

Support seminars are presented by **content area specialists** that dive deeper into areas of the application.

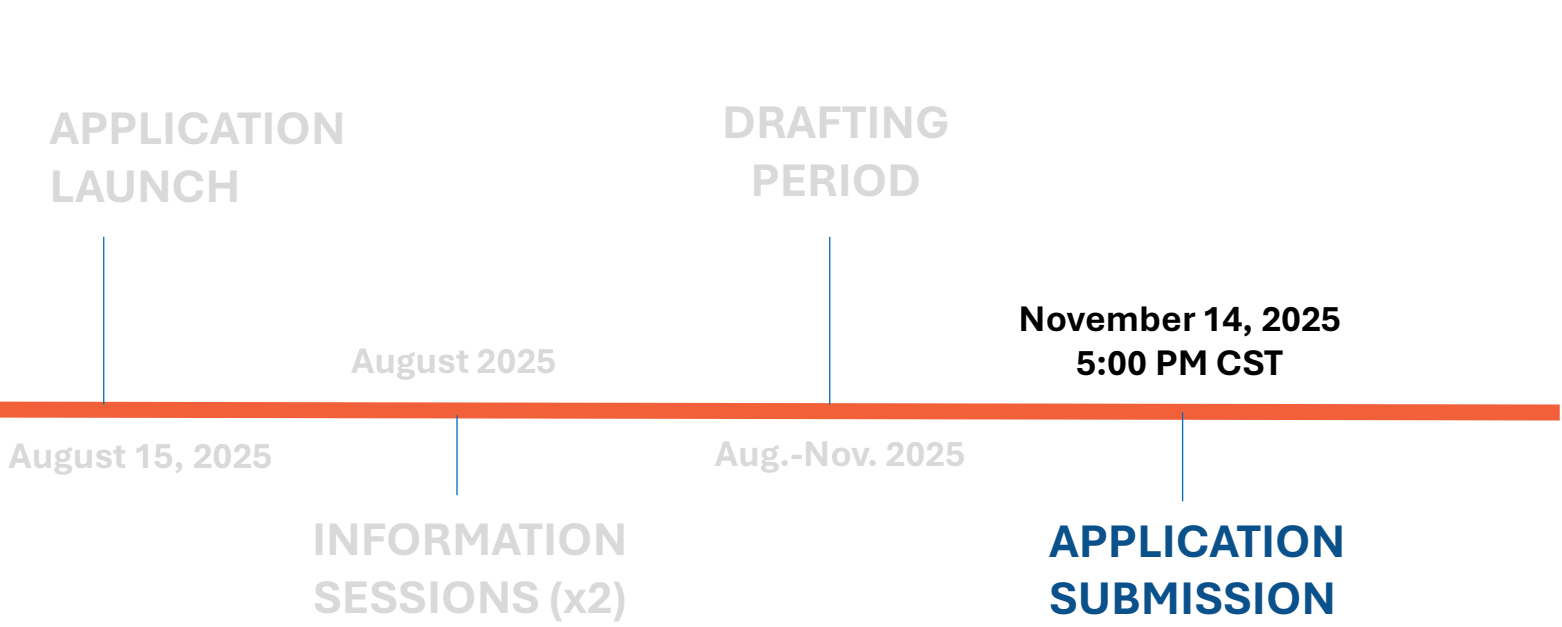
All seminars are **recorded** and posted online.



Office Hours

TEA staff will host office hours **September through November** for applicants to pose general questions to staff and **nuanced questions to other applicants**.

Application Submission



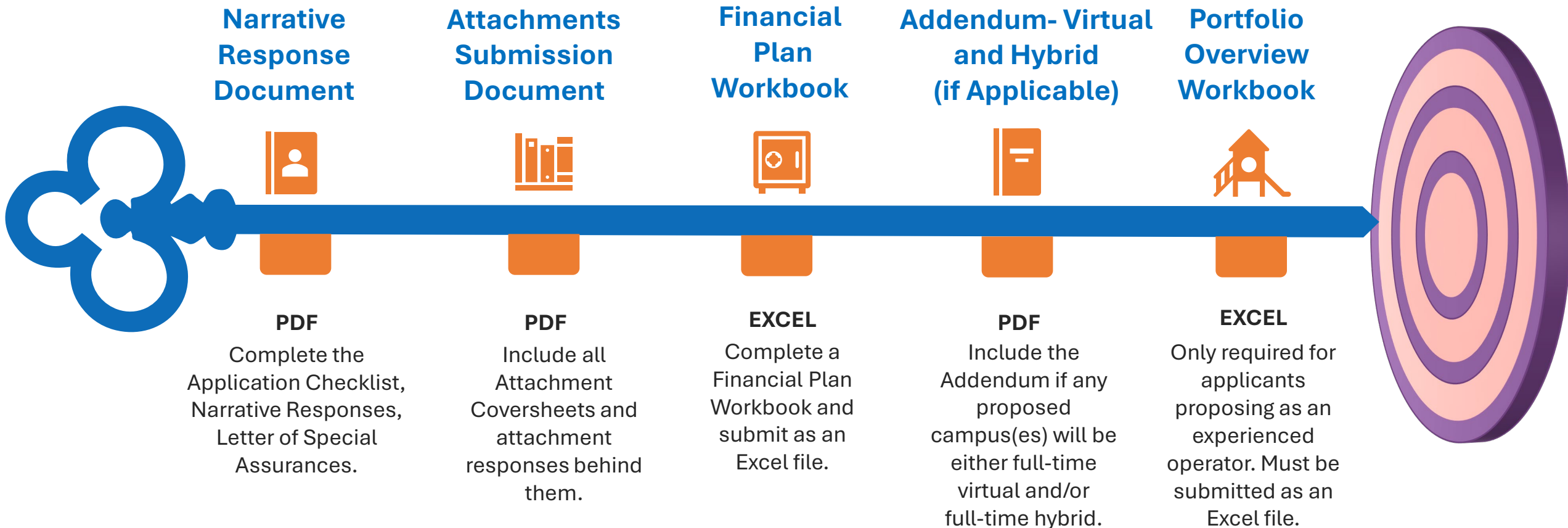
When is our application due?

What documents are included in our final submission?

How do we compile all the attachment documents?

Where do we submit our application?

Application Documents Included in Final Submission



Assemble the Attachments Submission Document

PRINT OR FLATTEN ATTACHMENTS



Applicants may either **print or flatten each attachment** coversheet and responsive material.

COMBINE ATTACHMENTS



Combine all printed (or flattened) attachment material into **one single document**.

PAGINATE NEW DOCUMENT



Insert page numbers in the lower right corner of each page.

Page numbers **can be hand-written**, if needed.

SCAN DOCUMENT



If printed, **scan the combined document to create a pdf** version of the Attachments Submission Document.

If flattened, this step is not necessary.

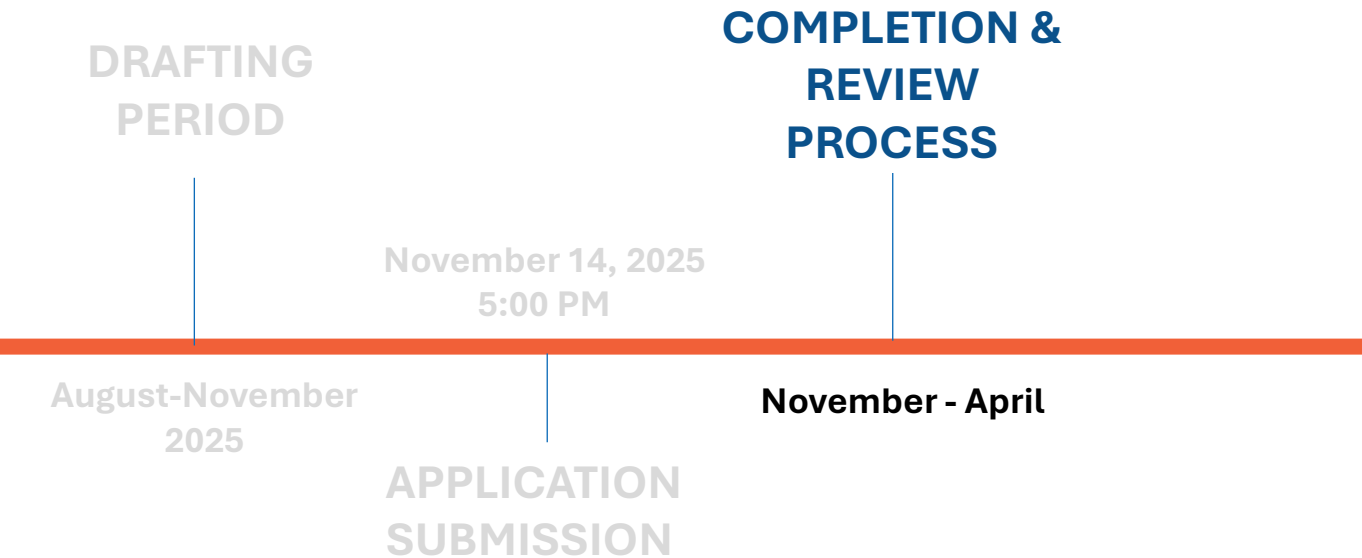
SUBMIT DOCUMENT



Submit as **separate files**:

- Attachments Submission Document (pdf)
- Financial Plan Workbook (Excel)
- Portfolio Overview Workbook (Excel)

Review Process



What happens after we submit our application?

How and what can we fix after we submit?

How is our application evaluated?

What happens after the review process?

Completion Check

The Division of Authorizing will review all timely submitted applications to **ensure eligibility and completion.**



Confirm Eligibility

- Timely Electronic Submission
- Info session attendance
- Articles of Incorporation
- Tax Exempt Status
- Plagiarism
- Narratives are significantly complete



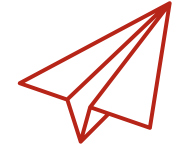
Review Attachments

- All applicable attachments are included.



Confirm Signatures

- Biographical Affidavits
- Letter of Special Assurances



Notifications

- The Texas Education Agency will internally send impact notices to required districts and elected officials.

SUBJECT TO DISQUALIFICATION AND REMOVAL



Late Submission

Applications **received after November 14, 2025, 5 p.m. Central Standard Time** will not be accepted.



Eligibility Issues

Applicants that do **not file formation documents by November 14, 2025**, will be deemed ineligible.

Applicants that do **not attend a mandatory application information session** will be deemed ineligible.



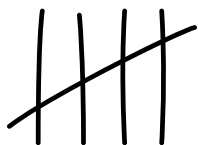
Missing Responses

Applications that are **missing substantial portions of narrative** will be deemed ineligible.

THE CURE PERIOD

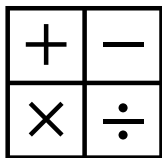
Applicants are provided a **five-day window to cure certain documents** that are initially deemed incomplete.

Some documents and/or occurrences are **not curable and will disqualify the applicant from further consideration** in Generation 31.



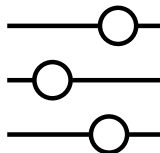
Applications Scored

Each application receives **five** reviews from external evaluators.



Scores Averaged

All **five** reader scores are averaged to produce an **unadjusted** average score.



Averages Adjusted

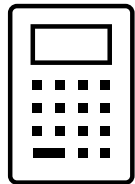
Highest and lowest reader scores are then dropped to produce an **adjusted** average score.

85%

Minimum Score

Scores Finalized

TEA will **accept the highest** of the two average scores. (*Unadjusted or Adjusted*).



Additional Reviews

Final scores between 80% and 84% receive a **sixth** review.

Capacity Interviews

When are the capacity interviews?

Who participates in the capacity interviews?



Capacity Interviews



Capacity Interviews

All applicants that receive 85% cumulative scores are invited to a capacity interview May 5–15, 2026.



TEA Staff

Applicants field questions from **TEA staff representing focus areas** in:

- Charter School Law
- Emergent Bilingual Programs
- Financial Compliance
- High-Quality Instructional Materials
- New School Launch
- Special Education



State Board of Education

Subchapter D applicants field questions from any SBOE member that participates in their interview.

SBOE member attendance is not limited to applicants within their district. **Members may attend any scheduled interview.**

Proposal and Deliberation

COMPLETION &
REVIEW
PROCESS

COE
PROPOSAL

May 5 – 15, 2026

May 27,
2026

June 2026

CAPACITY
INTERVIEWS

SBOE
DELIBERATION

What happens after the capacity interview?

When does the commissioner issue a decision?

What happens after the commissioner issues a decision?

When would we open our school if we are awarded?

Proposal, Deliberation, Approval



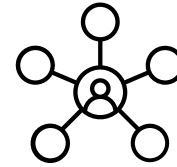
May 2026

Commissioner of education **reviews application materials**, interviews, and stakeholder support.



May 27

Commissioner of education **makes formal proposals** to SBOE for consideration.



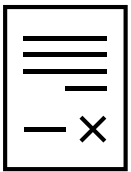
June 2026

SBOE will **deliberate on all proposed** Generation 31 charter applicants.



July – Sept. 2026

All successful applicants **address contingency items** as noted from the commissioner.



October 2026

Applicants that clear all contingencies are **awarded a charter contract**.



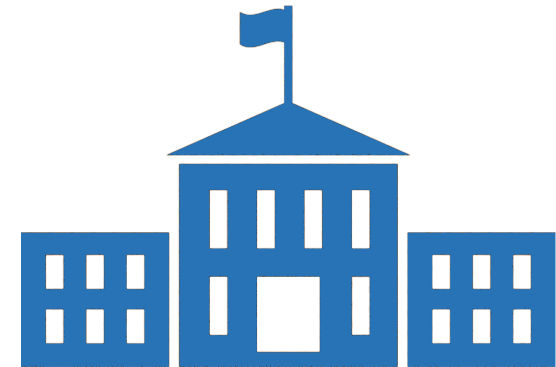
Oct. 2026 – Aug. 2027

Applicants engage in their **planning/start-up year**.



August 2027

Charter school **begins serving students**.



Upcoming Support Seminars

Topic	Dates
Governance Community Engagement Financial Plan Workbook Best Practices Charter School Program Start-Up Grant	August 27, 2025 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM
Special Populations	September 17, 2025 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM
Curriculum & Instruction	October 15, 2025 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM
Final Steps Before Submission	November 5, 2025 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

(All dates and topics are listed on the Charter Applicant Page)

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Sarah Khan

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John Garland

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BREAK

We will resume at 2:00pm CST