



TEA PROPOSED CHARTER RULES

The following are the Texas State Teachers Association's comments delivered to the Texas Education Agency on August 3rd, 2026

The Texas State Teachers Association welcomes the opportunity to provide comment on the proposed changes to charter schools. We share the TEA's mission to provide a high-quality public-school education to all Texas students and maintain that this education can only be provided when charter organizations are held to strict accountability measures. We support amendments that detail non-discriminatory enrollment criteria and require financial disclosures among charter boards. TSTA recommends changes to the following amendments:

The proposed amendment to §100.1035 removes a subsection that addresses charter holder requests for high-quality campus designations prior to opening a new campus that is tied to an expansion amendment, as the federal grant that requires the rule is no longer in place. While the federal grant may be no longer in place, the "high-quality" designation should still be sought after, as the title can signify that a campus is not under federal intervention, not under TEA sanctions, a minimum of five years of operation, A or B accountability ratings, and Tier 1 on the charter school framework. TSTA opposes the amendment as Texas should not loosen its commitment to "high-quality" for its grant recipient charter schools due to a fluctuating federal grant process. Many federal grants may span years, while others may pause for one year and be reinstated in the future, but accountability requirements on Texas charter operators should be stable.

TSTA opposes amendments that would allow new charter recipients to receive property transfers without any academic success or financial accountability records. The proposed new §100.1095(c)(1)(B)(ii)(I)(-b-) rule includes "new charter school that has not yet been assigned an academic accountability rating" in the list of entities eligible for transfer of property. This could allow new charter schools that lack any academic or financial track record to be selected by the TEA for a transfer of property from a closed charter school. This selection could be made over an independent school district with a long history of serving students in the area, and could prioritize newly authorized charter schools that have a history of failure, any many recent charter holders have experienced multiple F and D academic ratings and closures. Of the 28 new charter schools authorized by the TEA Commissioner since 2016, 65% of the charter schools rated in 2025 received a D or F, and 43% of the charter schools closed. Prioritizing unproven new charter schools over high-quality school districts is not in the best interest of students, educators and the community; we request a rejection of this amendment.

TSTA additionally opposes any amendment that would lessen the required training for charter central administration officers. Rule changes that eliminate requirements that these officers complete a full training on topics such as charter law, accountability to the public, academics and student outcomes, or school safety might lead to a lapse in compliance, especially among out-of-state administration officers that might not be familiar with Texas law.