



INDIANA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Memorandum Regarding The Charter and Innovation Network School Grant Program Revised October, 2020

IC 20-24-13 establishes the Charter and Innovation Network School Grant Program, to be administered by the State Board of Education ("State Board"). All questions about the Grant Program should be addressed to applications@sboe.in.gov.

The school grades used to determine qualification will be the 2018-19 report card grades.

Automatic Qualification

The following schools automatically qualify for a grant:

1. A charter school in its first or second year of operation.
2. A charter school that was placed in the "A", "B", or "C" category or designation of performance (established under IC 20-31-8-3).
3. A charter school that was placed in the "D" or "F" category or designation AND is placed in the same or a better category or designation than the nearest non-charter public school that is configured to teach the exact same grades of students as the charter school teaches. In making this determination, "nearest" is defined as closest in geographical distance regardless of school corporation or county boundaries.
4. A charter school that does not receive a category or designation of performance (established under IC 20-31-8-3).
5. A school that has a majority of students with developmental, intellectual, or behavioral challenges.

Ineligible Schools

The following schools are not eligible for a grant:

1. Schools not open to serve students in the fall of 2020.
2. Virtual charter schools.
3. Adult high schools (as defined in IC 20-24-1-2.3).



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4. A charter school is not eligible for a grant if it does not automatically qualify for a grant under (1) – (5) above AND for two (2) consecutive years the charter school has been placed in a worse category or designation of performance than the nearest non-charter public school configured to teach the same grades of students as the charter school teaches.

Grant Application

A charter school that does not automatically qualify for a grant under (1) – (5) and believes it should must submit an [application](#) for a grant to the State Board by November 13, 2020.

Applications must be emailed to: applications@sboe.in.gov. Please put “Charter/Innovation Network School Grant Program Application” in the subject line of the email.

The process for determining grant eligibility and amount for schools where there is no nearest non-charter public school configured to teach the exact same grades of students is as follows:

1. The charter school will be separated into grade configurations that best match the configurations of the nearest non-charter public schools.
2. The grant will be awarded based on the number of students served by the charter school in the grade configurations where the charter school’s overall grade is the same or better than the grade of the equivalent non-charter public school.

Example: A charter school serves grades K-8 and received a “D” for 2014-15. There is no nearest non-charter public school serving grades K-8; however, there is a non-charter public school serving grades K-5, which received a “B,” and a school serving grades 6-8, which received an “F.” The charter school serves 70 students in grades K-5 and 30 students in grade 6-8. The charter school would be entitled to the grant for the 30 students it serves in grades 6-8, because, for that grade configuration, the charter school’s grade (“D”) is better than the non-public charter school (“F”).

Charter School Serving Special Populations

If a charter school has a majority of students with developmental, intellectual, or behavioral challenges, that school can qualify for grant funding. In order to receive the grant, the charter school must submit a signed letter to the State Board explaining how it qualifies for a grant under this category. Please contact applications@sboe.in.gov regarding this letter. Please put “Charter/Innovation Network School Grant Program Application” in the subject line of the email.



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Grant Disbursement

The grant will be disbursed as follows:

1. For schools that are automatically eligible, the State Board will use the September 2020 ADM counts to determine the grant amount each charter or innovation network school is eligible to receive, and the entire amount will be disbursed in one payment. The appropriation is not augmentable, which means that if awards in total go above 22.5 million dollars, the payment will have to be reduced on a pro rata basis.
2. To receive the grant amount, schools must first fill out [a Claim Voucher \(State Form 11294\)](#).
 - a. On the Claim Voucher, the school will need to provide the following six items of information:
 - i. Invoice Date
 - ii. Invoice Amount
 - iii. Name of Vendor
 - iv. Vendor Address
 - v. Vendor Number
 - b. The schools must return the Claim Voucher to the State Board at Applications must be emailed to: applications@sboe.in.gov.