

Board Policy IBB: Charter Schools

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 07/09/2013 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 04/08/2025

A representative from an existing school within the school district, a private individual, a private organization, or a state or local public entity may submit to the Echols County Board of Education (LBOE) a written proposal (petition) to establish a charter school in accordance with the requirements set forth in the Official Code of Georgia Annotated §§ 20-2-2060 through 20-2-2071 and the State Board of Education (SBOE) Rule 160-4-9-.05 and its accompanying Guidelines. Home study programs or schools, sectarian schools, religious schools, private for profit schools, or private educational institutions not established, operated or governed by the State of Georgia are prohibited by law from submitting charter petitions.

A charter petitioner shall contact the Superintendent or designee for a complete copy of information regarding the submission of charter petitions for approval in accordance with the timelines established in the chart below.

Name of Charter	Letter of Intent to LBOE/SDOE	Petition Due to System Designee	LBOE Action	Petition Due to SDOE
Start-ups	January 1	February 1	No later than May 1	August 1
Conversions	April 1	May 1	No later than August 1	November 1
Renewals	April 1	May 1	No later than August 1	November 1

Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 20-2-2064(b), the LBOE shall by a majority vote approve or deny a petition no later than ninety (90) days after its submission unless the petitioner consents to extend that period.

If the LBOE denies a charter petition, it shall within sixty (60) days provide to the charter petitioner and the SBOE a written explanation setting forth its reasons for denial and a list of deficiencies in the petition. A denial does not prevent a petitioner from resubmitting a revised petition that addresses the deficiencies cited in the denial.

If the LBOE approves a charter petition, it shall within thirty (30) days provide the approved petition along with the required state application to the SDOE for review by the SBOE.

The Superintendent is authorized to develop and enforce administrative regulations needed to ensure compliance with state law and SBOE/SDOE requirements.