

Application Guidance and Approval Criteria

The application consists of 17 sections (A.1, A.2, etc.). Each section contains two categories of approval criteria, “General Statement or Description” (under a red banner) and “Additional Criteria” (under a blue banner). The Department will rate the General Statement or Description category as either “Meets” or “Does Not Meet.” Each criterion under the Additional Criteria category will receive a rating of 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4 points.

An application must receive an overall rating as “Sufficient” for approval. In order to be rated Sufficient, an application must receive a “Meets” rating on each and every required General Statement or Description and receive at least 80% of the total applicable points possible for the entire application under the Additional Criteria category.

For example:

General Statement or Description
The application receives a rating of “Meets” on each General Statement or Description.
+
Approval Criteria
The application receives at least 80% of the total applicable points possible for the entire application.
=
Sufficient (Approval).

The Department will only accept complete applications that are submitted through “Epicenter”, an online application tool. In order to receive access to Epicenter, please send an email to jacci.gilliland@education.ohio.gov.

The Department will schedule an interview with the applicant within 14 days of the submission of a complete and eligible application. The interview will factor into the ratings assigned to each area of the application. The Department will approve the application if it is Sufficient, or it will send the applicant an “Initial Response” identifying the particular ratings assigned to each section of the application. Upon receipt of the Initial Response, an applicant has 30 days to address the identified areas and resubmit the application. The Department will then review the resubmission and make a final determination.

Please note that the Department may approve an application, otherwise deemed insufficient, contingent upon an applicant addressing minor deficiencies prior to contract execution.

Eligibility of Existing Community School Applicants

Existing community schools are eligible to apply only if their current contract has been non-renewed or terminated. An existing community school must also meet the following additional eligibility criteria in order to apply.

An existing community school must have an average of a “C” on their most recent local report card in Performance Index and Value Added scores. This is based on a 4-point scale in which an “A” is worth 4 points and an “F” is worth 0 points. A “C” average is at least two points. For example, an existing community school’s most recent local report card shows a “B” (3 points) in overall value added and a “D” (1 point) in performance index. The two scores average a “C” (2 points). Please note that meeting this criterion does not guarantee approval. The Department will evaluate the application and either approve or deny based on that process.

Eligibility for Existing Community School Applicants (ORC 3314.029)

General Statement or Description	
Does Not Meet	Meets
Did not provide evidence that the current contract has been non-renewed or terminated and did not provide the most recent local report card showing an average of at least a "C" in Overall Value Added and Performance Index scores, with the Value Added score being at least a "D" or better. An existing community school applicant is not eligible to apply.	Provided evidence that the current contract has been non-renewed or terminated and provided the most recent local report card showing an average of at least a "C" in Overall Value Added and Performance Index scores, with the Value Added score being at least a "D" or better. An existing community school applicant is eligible to apply.

A.1 Graduation and Curriculum Requirements (ORC 3314.029(A)(1)(h))

General Statement or Description

A statement that the community school's graduation and curriculum requirements are or will be in compliance with section 3314.03(A)(11)(f) of the Ohio Revised Code.

General Statement or Description	
Does Not Meet	Meets
Did not provide a statement that the school's graduation and curriculum requirements will comply with Section 3314.03(A)(11)(f) of the Ohio Revised Code.	Provided a statement that the school's graduation and curriculum requirements will comply with Section 3314.03(A)(11)(f) of the Ohio Revised Code.

Additional Criteria

Approval Criteria			
0	1	2	3
The application does not contain information regarding the school's graduation requirements.	The application contains the school's graduation requirements, but does not show alignment to Ohio graduation requirements.	The application contains the school's graduation requirements, but is not completely aligned to Ohio graduation requirements.	The application contains the school's graduation requirements and is completely aligned to Ohio graduation requirements.
The application does not include a curriculum.	The application includes a curriculum, but is not aligned to the school's mission, vision, and goals.	The application includes a curriculum, but is not completely aligned to the school's mission, vision and goals.	The application includes a curriculum that is aligned to the school's mission, vision, and goals.
The curriculum does not contain any of the listed components, or it is uncertain as to what grade level and subject area is being provided.	The curriculum includes some, but not all, of the listed components and identifies the grade level and subject area being provided.	The curriculum includes all of the listed components and identified the grade level and subject area.	The curriculum includes all of the listed components, identifies the grade level and subject area being provided, and demonstrates its alignment with the

			school's mission, vision, and goals.
The application does not include a description regarding the involvement of teachers and administrators in continuing development, assessment, and application of the curriculum.	The application does not include a complete description regarding the involvement of teachers and administrators in continuing development, assessment, and application of the curriculum.	The application includes a complete description regarding the involvement of teachers and administrators in continuing development, assessment, and application of the curriculum.	The application includes a complete description regarding the involvement of teachers and administrators in continuing development, assessment, and application of the curriculum. Examples of specific instructional materials are provided that implement, or will implement the curriculum with a description in which it is or will be evaluated and revised on annual basis.

Approval Criteria		
0	1	2
The application indicates that the curriculum is blended, but the blended program is not defined, vague, or it is not possible to determine if legal requirements have been met.	The application provides an identified blended program but it does not comply with legal requirements.	The application provides an identified blended program that complies with legal requirements.
The curriculum is not aligned to Ohio Learning Standards.	The curriculum is not completely aligned with Ohio Learning Standards.	The curriculum is aligned with Ohio Learning Standards.
The curriculum does not demonstrate how it will meet the needs of students who are at-risk of academic failure.	The curriculum attempts to demonstrate how it will meet the needs of students who are at-risk of academic failure, but lacks details regarding specific methods of implementation.	The curriculum demonstrates how it will meet the needs of students who are at-risk of academic failure, including details regarding specific methods of implementation.

A.2 Education Program, Student Demographics (ORC 3314.029(A)(1)(i)(i))

General Statement or Description

The school's mission and educational program, the characteristics of the students the school is expected to attract, the ages and grade levels of students, and the focus of the curriculum.

General Statement or Description	
Does Not Meet	Meets
The application does not provide a description of the school's mission and educational program, the characteristics of the students the school is expected to attract, the ages and grade levels of students, and the focus of the curriculum.	The application provides a description of the school's mission and educational program, the characteristics of the students the school is expected to attract, the ages and grade levels of students, and the focus of the curriculum.

Additional Criteria

Approval Criteria			
0	1	2	3
<p>The application does not include a description of the school's mission, vision, or values. Or, the statements on the school's mission vision and values are vague or overbroad.</p>	<p>The application includes a description that does not fully cover the school's mission, vision, or values. However, the descriptions are vague or overbroad and without measurements.</p>	<p>The application describes the school's mission, vision, and values in a clear, focused, and measureable manner. The measures are focused on student achievement and offer a realistic method to gauge the school's success in meeting the mission, vision and values.</p>	<p>The application describes the school's mission, vision, and values that in a clear, focused, and measureable manner. The measures are focused on student achievement and offer a realistic method to gauge the school success in meeting the mission, vision and values compelling purpose. The mission, vision and values are clearly tied to the needs of the community.</p>
<p>The application does not provide evidence of a needs assessment.</p>	<p>The application provides a partial or incomplete needs assessment that identifies the target neighborhoods and student population.</p>	<p>The application provides a need assessment that identifies the target neighborhoods and student population. The needs assessment includes relevant market research of the community, including the performance of surrounding schools.</p>	<p>The application provides a need assessment that identifies the target neighborhoods and the student population. The needs assessment includes relevant market research of the community, including the performance of surrounding schools and evidence from the community that there is a demand for the school sufficient to sustain projected enrollment figures.</p>
<p>The needs assessment did not reference community support or the development of community partnerships.</p>	<p>The needs assessment references community support or the development of community partnerships.</p>	<p>The needs assessment includes evidence of community support and the establishment of community partnerships through the submission of letters of support and/or contractual or other arrangements with community partners.</p>	<p>The needs assessment includes evidence of community support and the establishment of community partnerships through the submission of letters of support and/or contractual or other arrangements with community partners, including the provision of monetary support.</p>

The application does not discuss the school's educational program.	The application discusses some but not all of the following parts of the educational program: enrollment; age range, target student populations, draw areas, and other unique components.	The application discusses all of the following parts of the educational program: enrollment; age range, target student populations, draw areas, and other unique components.	The application discusses all of the following parts of the educational program: enrollment; age range, target student populations, draw areas, and other unique components. The education plan is aligned to the school's mission, vision and values.
The application does not provide a description of how the school will identify students, develop and monitor educational plans, and how services will be provided for students with disabilities, who are gifted, homeless, or are Limited English Proficient (LEP).	The application provides a description of how the school will identify students, develop and monitor educational plans, and how services will be provided for students with disabilities, who are gifted, homeless, or are Limited English Proficient (LEP); however, it is vague and does not cover all the requirements.	The application provides a description that demonstrates a full understanding of the requirements and how the school will identify students, develop and monitor educational plans, how services will be provided for students with disabilities, who are gifted, homeless, or are Limited English Proficient (LEP) and that evidences knowledge of state and federal obligations, including Child Find.	The application provides a description that demonstrates a full understanding of how the school will identify students, develop and monitor educational plans, and how services will be provided for students with disabilities, who are gifted, homeless, or are Limited English Proficient (LEP) and that evidences knowledge of state and federal obligations, including Child Find, and provides evidence that adequate planning and resources will be in place on the first day of school, including staffing.

Approval Criteria		
0	1	2
The application does not provide a description of how instruction will be differentiated to meet the individual needs of students.	The application provides an incomplete description of how instruction will be differentiated to meet the individual needs of students.	The application provides a description of how instruction will be differentiated to meet the individual needs of students.
The application does not include the school's policies, programs, and practices that will assure parental involvement.	The application includes some, but not all of the following; the school's policies, programs, and practices that will assure parental involvement.	The application includes all of the following; the school's policies, programs, and practices that will assure parental involvement.

A.3 Academic Goals (ORC 3314.029(A)(1)(i)(vi))

General Statement or Description

The school's academic goals to be achieved and the method of measurement that will be used to determine progress toward those goals, which shall include the statewide achievement assessments.

General Statement or Description	
Does Not Meet	Meets
The application does not provide a description of the school's academic goals to be achieved and the method of measurement that will be used to determine progress toward those goals, which shall include the statewide achievement assessments.	The application provides a description of the school's academic goals to be achieved and the method of measurement that will be used to determine progress toward those goals, which shall include the statewide achievement assessments.

Additional Criteria

Approval Criteria		
0	1	2
The application does not provide a policy or plan for reporting performance goals, safety, and discipline to the parents, public, sponsor, and the governing authority.	The application provides a basic policy or plan for reporting performance goals, safety, and discipline to the parents, public, sponsor, and the governing authority.	The application provides a policy or plan for reporting performance goals, safety, and discipline to the parents, public, sponsor, and the governing authority that includes regular notifications and the methods of transmission. The plan provides data monitoring the school's progress in meeting its goals.

Approval Criteria			
0	1	2	3
The application does not provide academic goals; there is no evidence of a commitment to continuous improvement and accountability or the provided goals are vague, not measurable, and not data driven.	The application provides academic goals but does not provide evidence showing a commitment to continuous improvement and accountability for results that are clear, measurable and data driven. May have provided too few or too many goals for the school to be successful.	The application provides academic goals and evidence that demonstrates a commitment to continuous improvement and accountability for results that are specific, measurable and data driven.	The application provides academic goals and evidence that demonstrates a commitment to continuous improvement and accountability and results that are specific, measurable, and data driven. The application indicates an understanding of state accountability and report card measures and how they are utilized to determine success.
The application does not provide goals that apply to the school's stated	The application provides goals that appear to apply to the school's	The application provides goals that apply to the school's mission and	The application provides goals that apply to the school's mission, vision

mission and vision.	mission and vision, but are unclear or vague.	vision.	and values. The goals constitute specific measures of success in whether the school is meeting its mission, vision and values. The goals are aligned to state accountability standards and measures, as well as sponsor expectations.
The application does not provide an assessment plan, or referenced an assessment plan but how the assessment plan fits with the education plan and curriculum is vague and/or unclear.	The application provides an assessment plan including general assessments, tools, and how the school will use results. However, it is unclear how internal assessments are aligned to Ohio learning standards.	The application provides an assessment plan that includes most of the following: meets state requirements, offers multiple measures of student outcomes reported in absolute scores, within-year student gains/losses, furthers the school's mission and education program, facilitates decision making about adjustments to the education program, describes the use of diagnostic, formative and summative assessments used to evaluate the academic progress of individuals and cohorts, describes the use of assessments in driving professional development during the school year.	The application provides an assessment plan that includes all of the following: meets state requirements, offers multiple measures of student outcomes reported in absolute scores, within-year student gains/losses, furthers the school's mission and education program, facilitates decision making about adjustments to the education program, describes the use of diagnostic, formative and summative assessments used to evaluate the academic progress of individuals and cohorts, describes the use of assessments in driving professional development during the school year.

A.4 Learning Opportunities (ORC 3314.029(A)(1)(i)(viii))

General Statement or Description

A description of the learning opportunities that will be offered to students including both classroom-based and nonclassroom-based learning opportunities that are in compliance with criteria for student participation established by the department under division (H)(2) of section 3314.08 of the Revised Code.

General Statement or Description	
Does Not Meet	Meets
The application does not provide a description of the learning opportunities that will be offered to students including both classroom-based and nonclassroom-based learning opportunities that are in compliance with criteria for student participation established by	The application provides a description of the learning opportunities that will be offered to students including both classroom-based and nonclassroom-based learning opportunities that are in compliance with criteria for student participation established by the

the department under division (H)(2) of section 3314.08 of the Revised Code.	department under division (H)(2) of section 3314.08 of the Revised Code.
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Additional Criteria

Approval Criteria		
0	1	2
The application does not provide a description of the learning opportunities offered to students or provided a description that is vague or unclear.	The application provides a basic description of the learning opportunities that will be offered to students; but, the description fails to show those opportunities comply with legal requirements for student participation.	The application provides a full description of the learning opportunities (that are educational and goal oriented) being offered to students including both classroom based and non-classroom based learning opportunities that comply with legal requirements for student participation.

SECTION B – GOVERNANCE AND ORGANIZATION

B.1 Compliance with Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3314, including 3314.03(A)(1) (ORC 3314.029(A)(1)(b), (g))

General Statement or Description

A statement indicating that the applicant agrees to comply with all applicable provisions of this chapter, including the requirement to be established as a nonprofit corporation or public benefit corporation in accordance with division (A)(1) of section 3314.03 of the Revised Code.

A statement that the school will comply with all of the provisions of law enumerated in divisions (A)(11)(d) and (e) of section 3314.03 of the Revised Code and of division (A)(11)(h) of that section, if applicable.

General Statement or Description	
Does Not Meet	Meets
The application does not provide statements that indicate that the school agrees to comply with all applicable provisions of Chapter 3314 of the Ohio Revised Code, including the requirement to be established as a nonprofit corporation or public benefit corporation in accordance with Section 3314.03(A)(1) of the Ohio Revised Code; and, that indicate that the school will comply with all of the provisions of law enumerated in divisions (A)(11)(d) and (e) of section 3314.03(A)(11)(d) and (e) of the Ohio Revised Code and of division Section 3314.03(A)(11)(h) of the Ohio Revised Code, if applicable.	The application provides statements that indicate that the school agrees to comply with all applicable provisions of Chapter 3314 of the Ohio Revised Code, including the requirement to be established as a nonprofit corporation or public benefit corporation in accordance with Section 3314.03(A)(1) of the Ohio Revised Code; and, that indicate that the school will comply with all of the provisions of law enumerated in divisions (A)(11)(d) and (e) of section 3314.03(A)(11)(d) and (e) of the Ohio Revised Code and of division Section 3314.03(A)(11)(h) of the Ohio Revised Code, if applicable.

Additional Criteria

Approval Criteria		
0	1	2
The application provides the statutory statement but does not provide any details on how the school will comply with the requirements.	The application provides the statutory statement and provides details on how the school will comply with the requirements.	The application provides the statutory statement and provides details on how the school will comply with the requirements. The following documents or proposed documents are also provided. The certificate of good standing from the Ohio Secretary of State's Office, articles of incorporation, code of regulations (bylaws), and a copy of the IRS 501(C)(3) letter, if applicable.

Approval Criteria			
0	1	2	3
The code of regulations contains no plan regarding self-sustainability and the succession of governing authority members. Or, the succession plan is not in compliance with law.	The code of regulations addresses the succession of governing board members but it is not clear if the plan will fully ensure self-sustainability and compliance with law.	The code of regulations provides a plan regarding self-sustainability and that is in compliance with law. The plan provides requirements on recruiting new members with varied backgrounds and ties to the community.	The code of regulations provides a plan regarding self-sustainability and that is in compliance with law. The plan provides requirements on recruiting new members with varied backgrounds and ties to the community. The plan also details how new members will be recruited, for example advertising, marketing plan, recruitment efforts, and/or similar actions.
The application does not provide an explanation or does not reference how the governing authority will comply with the open meetings and public records laws.	The application stated that the governing authority will comply with the open meetings and public records laws.	The application provided a complete explanation detailing how the governing authority will comply with the open meetings and public records laws.	The application provided a complete explanation detailing how the governing authority will comply with the open meetings and public records laws. The plan includes actual or proposed policies and procedures, detailing that compliance.

B. 2 Nonsectarian Statement (ORC 3314.029(A)(1)(d))

General Statement or Description

A statement that the school will be nonsectarian in its programs, admission policies, employment practices, and all other operations, and will not be operated by a sectarian school or religious institution.

General Statement or Description	
Does Not Meet	Meets
Did not provide a statement that the school will be nonsectarian in its programs, admission policies, employment practices, and all other operations, and will not be operated by a sectarian school or religious institution.	Provided a statement that the school will be nonsectarian in its programs, admission policies, employment practices, and all other operations, and will not be operated by a sectarian school or religious institution.

Additional Criteria

Approval Criteria	
0	1
The educational plan and admission policies provided or referenced throughout the application have statements or evidence that contradicts the nonsectarian statement. The policies or practices regarding employment or other operations provided or referenced throughout the application have statements or evidence that contradicts the nonsectarian statement.	The educational plan and admission policies provided or referenced throughout the application do not contain statements or evidence that contradicts the nonsectarian statement. The policies or practices regarding employment or other operations provided or referenced throughout the application do not contain statements or evidence that contradicts the nonsectarian statement.

B.3 Conversion School Statement For Existing School Applications (ORC 3314.029(A)(1)(e))

General Statement or Description

A statement of whether the school is to be created by converting all or part of an existing public school or educational service center building or is to be a new start-up school. If it is a converted public school or service center building, the statement shall include a specification of any duties or responsibilities of an employer that the board of education or service center governing board that operated the school or building before conversion is delegating to the governing authority of the community school with respect to all or any specified group of employees, provided the delegation is not prohibited by a collective bargaining agreement applicable to such employees.

General Statement or Description	
Does Not Meet	Meets
Did not provide a statement whether the school is to be created by converting all or part of an existing public school or educational service center building or is to be a new start-up school. If it is a converted public school or service center building, the statement shall include a specification of any duties or responsibilities of an employer that the board of education or service center governing board that	Provided a statement whether the school is to be created by converting all or part of an existing public school or educational service center building or is to be a new start-up school. If it is a converted public school or service center building, the statement shall include a specification of any duties or responsibilities of an employer that the board of education or service center governing board that

operated the school or building before conversion is delegating to the governing authority of the community school with respect to all or any specified group of employees, provided the delegation is not prohibited by a collective bargaining agreement applicable to such employees.	operated the school or building before conversion is delegating to the governing authority of the community school with respect to all or any specified group of employees, provided the delegation is not prohibited by a collective bargaining agreement applicable to such employees.
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Additional Criteria

Approval Criteria	
0	2
The application does not include a copy of the current sponsorship contract with all attachments.	The application includes a copy of the current sponsorship contract with all attachments.
The application does not identify whether or not there are service agreements with its current sponsor. Or, service agreements are identified or referenced, but the application does not include copies of those contracts.	The application identifies and includes copies of all service agreements with its current sponsor.
The application does not identify whether or not the school currently contracts with an operator or management company. If an operator or management company is identified, the application does not include a copy of the contract.	If the application identifies an operator or management company, a copy of the contract is included.
The application does not identify whether or not an operator or management company leases the facility to the school. Or if the application indicates that the school leases the facility from its operator or management company, the lease is not included in the application.	The application does identify whether or not an operator or management company leases the facility to the school. And, if applicable, a copy of the lease is provided.
If Applicable: If there is a lease between the school and operator or management company, an independent appraisal indicating that the lease is commercially reasonable is not included.	If there is a lease between the school and operator or management company, an independent appraisal indicating that the lease is commercially reasonable is included.
If Applicable: If the application is from an existing conversion school with its employees provided by the current sponsor, the application does not include a transition plan for employment issues and service contracts.	If the application is from an existing conversion school with its employees provided by the current sponsor, the application includes a transition plan for employment issues and service contracts.

B.4 Teacher Licensure and Professional Development (ORC 3314.029(A)(1)(f))

General Statement or Description

A statement that the school's teachers will be licensed in the manner prescribed by division (A)(10) of section 3314.03 of the Revised Code.

General Statement or Description	
Does Not Meet	Meets
Did not provide a statement that the teachers will be licensed in the manner prescribed by division (A)(10) of section 3314.03 of the Revised Code.	Provided a statement that the school's teachers will be licensed in the manner prescribed by division (A)(10) of section 3314.03 of the Revised Code.

Additional Criteria

Approval Criteria		
0	1	2
The application does not provide details regarding how it will ensure compliance with licensure and teacher qualification requirements.	The application provides details regarding how it will ensure compliance with licensure and teacher qualification requirements.	The application provides details regarding how it will ensure compliance with licensure and teacher qualification requirements and documentation is included regarding the manner in which the school will accomplish and monitor licensure and qualification requirements.

Approval Criteria			
0	1	2	3
The application does not address the school's plans regarding a Local Professional Development Committee. The application describes minimal, if any, professional development opportunities.	The application provides information regarding a professional development plan that demonstrates that the school's LPDC has aligned professional development opportunities to the needs of the teachers.	The application provides information regarding a professional development plan that demonstrates that the school's LPDC has aligned professional development opportunities to the needs of the teachers. It includes a list of initial trainings.	The application provides information regarding a professional development plan that demonstrates that the school's LPDC has aligned professional development opportunities to the needs of the teachers. It includes a list of initial trainings, schedule, and details on how needs will be evaluated and addressed.
The application's calendar does not include the schedule or time for implementation of the professional development plan.	The application's calendar includes time in the schedule for implementation of the professional development plan, but it is not specific or does not appear to provide enough time for implementation of the professional development plan.	The application's calendar includes time in the schedule for implementation of the professional development plan, and it provides enough time for implementation of the professional development plan, including ongoing professional development, data analysis and collaborative planning.	The application's calendar includes enough time in the schedule for implementation of the professional development plan, including ongoing professional development, data analysis and collaborative planning. The professional development plan addresses and is aligned to standards and to the Ohio Teacher Evaluation System (OTES).

B.5 Governing Authority Membership (ORC 3314.029(A)(1)(i)(ii))

General Statement or Description

A description of the school's governing authority, which shall be in compliance with division (E) of section 3314.02 of the Revised Code.

General Statement or Description	
Does Not Meet	Meets
The application does not provide a description of the school's governing authority, which shall be in compliance with division (E) of section 3314.02 of the Revised Code.	The application provides a description of the school's governing authority, which shall be in compliance with division (E) of section 3314.02 of the Revised Code.

Additional Criteria

Approval Criteria	
0	1
The application does not provide an affidavit signed by the chair of the governing authority indicating that all members of the governing authority have the required criminal background checks on file at the school and that no members have any disqualifying offenses.	The application provides an affidavit signed by the chair of the governing authority indicating that all members of the governing authority have the required criminal background checks on file at the school and that no members have any disqualifying offenses.

Approval Criteria			
0	1	2	3
The application does not provide information regarding the school's governing authority and its composition and make-up.	The application provides incomplete information regarding the composition of the governing authority and its composition and make-up.	The application provides full biographical and professional information for at least five governing authority members. It includes resumes/curriculum vitae that evidence varied professional backgrounds and statements regarding ties to the community.	The application provides full biographical and professional information for at least five governing authority members. It includes resumes that evidence varied professional backgrounds and statements regarding ties to the community. A signed statement from each individual governing authority member is provided regarding conflicts of interest, and the absence of any unresolved findings for recovery issued by the Ohio Auditor of State's office or substantially similar findings from other states or jurisdictions.

B.6 Governing Authority Ethics Compliance (ORC 3314.029(A)(1)(g))

General Statement or Description

A statement that the school will comply with all of the provisions of law enumerated in divisions (A)(11)(d) and (e) of section 3314.03 of the Revised Code and of division (A)(11)(h) of that section, if applicable.

General Statement or Description	
Does Not Meet	Meets
The application does not provide a statement that the school will comply with all of the provisions of law enumerated in divisions (A)(11)(d) and (e) of section 3314.03 of the Revised Code and of division (A)(11)(h) of that section, if applicable.	The application provides a statement that the school will comply with all of the provisions of law enumerated in divisions (A)(11)(d) and (e) of section 3314.03 of the Revised Code and of division (A)(11)(h) of that section, if applicable.

Additional Criteria

Approval Criteria	
0	1
The application does not provide either a duly passed resolution or signed statement from each individual (or proposed) governing authority member that indicates that it (or they) are fully aware of and will comply with the referenced list of applicable legal sections, ethics and conflicts of interest requirements, and obligations regarding the display of state and national mottoes.	The application provides either a duly passed resolution or signed statement from each individual (or proposed) governing authority member that indicates that it (or they) are fully aware of and will comply with the referenced list of applicable legal sections, ethics and conflicts of interest requirements, and obligations regarding the display of state and national mottoes.
The application does not provide either a signed statement or duly passed resolution from each individual (or proposed) governing authority member that indicates that it (or they) are fully aware of and will comply all opinions on ethics or compatibility issued by either the Ohio Ethics Commission of the Ohio Attorney General's Office.	The application provides either a duly passed resolution or signed statement from each individual (or proposed) governing authority member that indicates that it (or they) are fully aware of and will comply all opinions on ethics or compatibility issued by either the Ohio Ethics Commission of the Ohio Attorney General's Office.

B.7 Governing Authority Legal Compliance (ORC 3314.029(A)(1)(c))

General Statement or Description

A statement attesting that no unresolved finding of recovery has been issued by the auditor of state against any person, group of individuals, or entity that is a party to the application and that no person who is party to the application has been a member of the governing authority of any community school that has permanently closed and against which an unresolved finding of recovery has been issued by the auditor of state. In the case of an application submitted by the governing authority of an existing community school, a person who is party to the application shall include each individual member of that governing authority.

General Statement or Description	
Does Not Meet	Meets
The application does not provide a statement attesting that no unresolved finding of recovery has been issued by the auditor of state against any	The application provides a statement attesting that no unresolved finding of recovery has been issued by the auditor of state against any person, group of

<p>person, group of individuals, or entity that is a party to the application and that no person who is party to the application has been a member of the governing authority of any school that has permanently closed and against which an unresolved finding of recovery has been issued by the auditor of state. In the case of an application submitted by the governing authority of an existing community school, a person who is party to the application shall include each individual member of that governing authority.</p>	<p>individuals, or entity that is a party to the application and that no person who is party to the application has been a member of the governing authority of any school that has permanently closed and against which an unresolved finding of recovery has been issued by the auditor of state. In the case of an application submitted by the governing authority of an existing community school, a person who is party to the application shall include each individual member of that governing authority.</p>
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Additional Criteria

Approval Criteria			
0	1	2	3
<p>The application does not provide any information for individuals associated with the school (developers, governing authority members, administrators, or persons associated with the school) regarding prior involvement with any community school or management company or operator, regardless of location.</p>	<p>The application provides information for some but not all individuals associated with the school (developers, governing authority members, administrators, or persons associated with the school) regarding prior involvement with any community school or management company or operator, regardless of location.</p>	<p>The application provides information for all individuals associated with the school (developers, governing authority members, administrators, or persons associated with the school) regarding prior involvement with any community school or management company or operator, regardless of location.</p>	<p>The application provides information for all individuals associated with the school (developers, governing authority members, administrators, or persons associated with the school) regarding prior involvement with any community school or management organization, regardless of location. Where applicable, the application identifies all applicable associations and includes the last three local report cards and state audits (or their equivalents from other jurisdictions) for each identified community school and management company or operator.</p>
<p>The application does not provide any information regarding training the governing authority has received or plans to receive regarding service on a governing authority, including academic, fiscal, organizational, legal, ethics and other responsibilities applicable to a community school.</p>	<p>The application provides information regarding training the governing authority has received or plans to receive regarding service on a governing authority, including academic, fiscal, organizational, legal, ethics and other responsibilities applicable to a community school, but it</p>	<p>The application provides information regarding training the governing authority has received or plans to receive regarding service on a governing authority, including academic, fiscal, organizational, legal, ethics and other responsibilities applicable to a community school that</p>	<p>The application provides information regarding training the governing authority has received or plans to receive regarding service on a governing authority, including academic, fiscal, organizational, legal, ethics and other responsibilities applicable to a community school that</p>

	is incomplete and does not cover all the listed areas.	indicates full coverage of the listed areas.	indicates full coverage of the listed areas. The plans include a calendar setting forth an annual training schedule.
The application does not provide information regarding staff recruitment, selection, and evaluation, including leadership and the management company or operator.	The application provides information regarding staff recruitment, selection, and evaluation, including leadership and the management company or operator. However, the information provided is not clear on how these responsibilities will be accomplished.	The application provides information regarding staff recruitment, selection, and evaluation, including leadership and the management company or operator. The information provided is clear on how these responsibilities will be accomplished.	The application provides information regarding staff recruitment, selection, and evaluation, including leadership and the management company or operator. The information provided is clear on how these responsibilities will be accomplished. The evaluation tools that the governing authority uses or plans to use to review the administrator and/or management company or operator are provided (including the last three evaluations, if applicable). The evaluations include how unsatisfactory performance, turnover and leadership success are measured.

Approval Criteria		
0	1	2
The application does not include an organizational chart.	The application includes an organizational chart; however it is incomplete or demonstrates an incomplete understanding of the functions, roles, and responsibilities for each level of the organization.	The application includes an organizational chart that demonstrates a complete understanding of the functions, roles, and responsibilities for each level of the organization including a management company or operator (if applicable).

B.8 Admission and Dismissal Policies and Discipline (ORC 3314.029(A)(1)(i)(iii))

General Statement or Description

The school's admission and dismissal policies, which shall be in compliance with divisions (A)(5) and (6) of section 3314.03 of the Revised Code.

General Statement or Description	
Does Not Meet	Meets
The application does not provide a description of the school's admission and dismissal policies which shall be in compliance with Section 3314.03(A)(5) and (6) of the Ohio Revised Code.	The application provides a description of the school's admission and dismissal policies which shall be in compliance Section 3314.03(A)(5) and (6) of the Ohio Revised Code.

Additional Criteria

Approval Criteria	
0	1
The application does not provide written admission and dismissal policies or the provided policies are not in compliance with the legal requirements outlined in the code.	The application provides written admission and dismissal policies that are in compliance with the legal requirements outlined in the code.
The application does not include a dispute resolution process that protects due process rights and procedures and is in compliance with law.	The application includes a dispute resolution process that protects due process rights and procedures and is in compliance with law.

SECTION C BUSINESS PLAN, FINANCE AND FACILITIES

C.1: Bond/Guarantee Compliance (ORC 3314.029(A)(1)(a) and (C))

Evidence that the applicant will be able to comply with division (C) of this section.

The department may require a community school authorized under this section to post and file with the superintendent of public instruction a bond payable to the state or to file with the state superintendent a guarantee, which shall be used to pay the state any moneys owed by the community school in the event the school closes.

General Statement or Description

General Statement or Description	
Does Not Meet	Meets
The application does not provide a bond or guarantee or a notarized statement from the school's fiscal officer or governing authority chairperson that, if required, the school is able to post and file a bond or guarantee with the superintendent of public instruction that will cover the state for any monies owed if the school closes during a school year.	The application provides a bond or guarantee or a notarized statement from the school's fiscal officer or governing authority chairperson that, if required, the school is able to post and file a bond or guarantee with the superintendent of public instruction that will cover the state for any monies owed if the school closes during a school year.

C.2: Unresolved Findings for Recovery (ORC 3314.029(A)(1)(c))

A statement attesting that no unresolved finding of recovery has been issued by the auditor of state against any person, group of individuals, or entity that is a party to the application and that no person who is party to the application has been a member of the governing authority of any community school that has permanently closed and against which an unresolved finding of recovery has been issued by the auditor of state. In the case of an application submitted by the governing authority of an existing community school, a person who is party to the application shall include each individual member of that governing authority.

General Statement or Description

General Statement or Description	
Does Not Meet	Meets
<p>The application does not include a statement attesting that no unresolved finding of recovery has been issued by the auditor of state against any person, group of individuals, or entity that is a party to the application and that no person who is party to the application has been a member of the governing authority of any community school that has permanently closed and against which an unresolved finding of recovery has been issued by the auditor of state. In the case of an application submitted by the governing authority of an existing community school, a person who is party to the application shall include each individual member of that governing authority.</p>	<p>The application includes a statement attesting that no unresolved finding of recovery has been issued by the auditor of state against any person, group of individuals, or entity that is a party to the application and that no person who is party to the application has been a member of the governing authority of any community school that has permanently closed and against which an unresolved finding of recovery has been issued by the auditor of state. In the case of an application submitted by the governing authority of an existing community school, a person who is party to the application shall include each individual member of that governing authority.</p>

Additional Criteria

Approval Criteria		
0	1	2
<p>The application does not include any individually notarized statements attesting that no unresolved finding of recovery has been issued by the auditor of state against that individual, and that the individual has not been a member of the governing authority of any community school that has permanently closed and against which an unresolved finding of recovery has been issued by the auditor of state.</p>	<p>The application includes some, but not all required, individually notarized statements attesting that no unresolved finding of recovery has been issued by the auditor of state against that individual, and that the individual has not been a member of the governing authority of any community school that has permanently closed and against which an unresolved finding of recovery has been issued by the auditor of state.</p>	<p>The application includes all required individually notarized statements attesting that no unresolved finding of recovery has been issued by the auditor of state against that individual, and that the individual has not been a member of the governing authority of any community school that has permanently closed and against which an unresolved finding of recovery has been issued by the auditor of state.</p>

C.3: Business Plan and Five-Year Forecast (ORC 3314.029(A)(1)(i)(iv))

The school's business plan, including a five-year financial forecast.

General Statement or Description

General Statement or Description	
Does Not Meet	Meets - 2
The application includes a description of the school's business plan, including a five-year financial forecast.	The application does not include a description of the school's business plan including a five-year financial forecast.

Additional Criteria

Approval Criteria			
0	1	2	3
The application does not include a detailed annual budget for the first year of operations or sponsorship.	The application includes a budget for the first year of operations or sponsorship, but it is not realistic or based on assumptions that are not fiscally sound.	The application includes a budget for the first year of operations or sponsorship that is realistic and based on assumptions that are fiscally sound.	The application includes a budget for the first year of operations or sponsorship that is realistic, based on assumptions that are fiscally sound, and include transportation, nutrition, and purchased services as applicable to the business plan.
For new start-ups: the application does not include an initial budget covering the time period prior to the initiation of state funding.	For new start-ups: the application includes an initial budget covering the time period prior to the initiation of state funding; but, it does not include a realistic plan to raise the necessary funds prior to contract execution; or the plan may be realistic but has not started or raised any of the necessary funds.	For new start-ups: the application includes an initial budget covering the time period prior to the initiation of state funding, includes all expenses needed to start the school including, but not limited to development, marketing, recruiting, employees, facilities and supplies; and has a realistic plan to raise the necessary funds prior to contract execution.	For new start-ups: the application includes an initial budget covering the time period prior to the initiation of state funding, includes all expenses needed to start the school including, but not limited to development, marketing, recruiting, employees, facilities and supplies; and has a realistic plan to raise the necessary funds prior to contract execution, that is ongoing and has produced verifiable results including community support.

C.4: Resources and Capacity (ORC 3314.029(A)(1)(i)(v))

In the case of an application to establish a community school, the applicant's resources and capacity to establish and operate the school.

General Statement or Description

General Statement or Description	
Does Not Meet	Meets
The application does not include a description of the applicant's resources and capacity to establish and operate the school.	The application includes a description of the applicant's resources and capacity to establish and operate the school.

Additional Criteria

Approval Criteria	
0	1
For new start-up applicants, the application does not include a bond, certification of cash on hand or a guarantee that will satisfy the \$50,000 amount that will need to be on deposit with the Auditor of State's Office.	For new start-up applicants, the application includes a bond, certification of cash on hand or a guarantee that will satisfy the \$50,000 amount that will need to be on deposit with the Auditor of State's Office.

Approval Criteria			
0	1	2	3
For existing schools, the application did not include the school's last three local report cards.	For existing schools, the application included the school's last three report cards.	For existing schools, at two of the last three local report cards have an overall performance index score of B or higher and an overall value added score of C or higher.	For existing schools, at least two out of the last three local report cards have an overall performance indicator score of A or higher and an overall value added score of B or higher.
For existing schools, the application did not include the school's last three annual audits.	For existing schools, the application included the schools last three annual audits.	For existing schools, the application included the schools last three annual audits and there have been no findings for recovery.	For existing schools, the application included the schools last three annual audits and there have been no findings for recovery. In at least one of the last three, the School has received an award from the Ohio Auditor of State's Office recognizing the school for its fiscal performance.
For existing schools, the application does not include all of the following: current sponsorship contract; non-renewal and/or	For existing schools, the application includes all of the following: current sponsorship contract; non-renewal and/or termination documents;	For existing schools, the application includes all of the following: current sponsorship contract; non-renewal and/or termination documents;	For existing schools, the application includes all of the following: current sponsorship contract; non-renewal and/or termination documents;

termination documents; school annual performance evaluations for last three years; and, identification of, and supporting documentation of, all probation, suspension, or corrective action plans, and related documents, imposed by the sponsor or other outside agencies (Ohio Department of Education, Auditor of State, Federal).	school annual performance evaluations for last three years; identification of, and supporting documentation of, all probation, suspension, or corrective action plans, and related documents, imposed by the sponsor or other outside agencies (Ohio Department of Education, Auditor of State, Federal); and, these documents indicate some unresolved issues.	school annual performance evaluations for last three years; identification of, and supporting documentation of, all probation, suspension, or corrective action plans, and related documents, imposed by the sponsor or other outside agencies (Ohio Department of Education, Auditor of State, Federal); and, these documents indicate the presence of some issues in the past but document that they are all resolved.	school annual performance evaluations for last three years; and, these documents confirm there have been no prior or current probation, suspension, or termination proceedings, or the presence of any corrective action plans from the sponsors, Ohio Department of Education, Auditor of State, or any Federal agency.
For new start-up applicants: has not raised any of the necessary funds to cover the period prior the initiation of state funding at the time of application.	For new start-up applicants: has raised at least 25% of the necessary funds to cover the period prior to the initiation of state funding at the time of application.	For new start-up applicants: has raised at least 50% of the necessary funds to cover the period prior to the initiation of state funding at the time of application.	For new start-up applicants: has raised at least 75% of the necessary funds to cover the period prior to the initiation of state funding at the time of application.

Approval Criteria	
0	1
The application, as a whole, does not demonstrate the requisite knowledge to successfully operate a community school in the Academic, Governance/ Organization, or fiscal/business operations.	The application, as a whole, demonstrates the requisite knowledge to successfully operate a community school in the Academic, Governance/Organization, or fiscal/business operations.

C.5 Facilities (ORC 3314.029(A)(1)(i)(vii))

The facilities to be used by the school and their locations.

General Statement or Description

General Statement or Description	
Does Not Meet	Meets
The application does not describe the facilities to be used by the school and their locations.	The application describes the facilities to be used by the school and their locations.

Additional Criteria

Approval Criteria	
0	2
For existing schools that have entered into a lease after February 1, 2016, the application does not include a copy of the lease or the lease that is provided does not contain an independent opinion from a qualified appraiser that the lease and its terms are commercially reasonable, include a detailed description of each facility used for instructional purposes, the annual costs associated with leasing each facility paid by or on behalf of the school, the annual mortgage principal and interested payments paid by the school, the name of the lender or landlord (identified as such); and the lender's or landlord's relationship to the operator, if any, and as applicable. For new start-up schools, the application does not acknowledge that any lease entered into by or for the school shall contain the above criteria.	For existing schools that have entered into a lease after February 1, 2016, the application includes a copy of the lease that contains an independent opinion from a qualified appraiser that the lease and its terms are commercially reasonable, includes a detailed description of each facility used for instructional purposes, the annual costs associated with leasing each facility paid by or on behalf of the school, the annual mortgage principal and interested payments paid by the school, the name of the lender or landlord (identified as such); and the lender's or landlord's relationship to the operator, if any, and as applicable. For new start-up schools, the application includes a lease meeting the above criteria or the application acknowledges that any lease entered into by or for the school shall contain the above criteria.

Approval Criteria		
0	1	2
For existing schools, the application's description of the facilities does not provide evidence that the facilities have sufficient capacity to fully implement the education program. For new start-up schools, the application does not provide a description or the description of the facilities it will need does not provide enough detail to confirm that the anticipated facilities will have sufficient capacity to fully implement the educational program.	For existing schools, the application's description of the facilities includes details that the facilities are sufficient to fully implement the education program. For new start-up schools, the application's description of the facilities it will need provides details that the anticipated facilities will have sufficient capacity to fully implement the educational program.	For existing schools, the application's description of the facilities includes details with supporting documentation (i.e. floor plans, etc.) that indicate the facilities are adequate to fully implement the school's program. For new start-up schools, the application's description of the facilities it will need provides details with supporting documentation (i.e. floor plans, etc.) that indicate the anticipated facilities will be sufficient to fully implement the educational program.

Approval Criteria			
0	1	2	3
The application provided a budget that does not reflect reasonable costs associated with the development of and/or operation of the school facility; and/or the application did not	The application provided a budget reflecting reasonable costs associated with the development and operation of the facility, and it includes an unreasonable,	The application provided a budget reflecting reasonable costs associated with the development and operation of the facility, and it includes a reasonable, adequate,	The application provided a budget reflecting reasonable costs associated with the development and operation of the facility, and it includes a reasonable, adequate,

provide a financial plan to address facility needs throughout the contract.	inadequate or incomplete financial plan to address facility needs throughout the contract.	and complete financial plan to address facility needs throughout the contract.	and complete financial plan to address facility needs throughout the contract that includes reasonable growth projections fully accounted for in the plan.
For new start-up schools, the application does not identify a target location for the school within a specific area or location in a targeted area.	For new start-up schools, the application identifies a target location for the school within a specific area or location in a targeted area.	For new start-up schools, the application identifies a target location for the school within a specific area or location in a targeted area that is appropriate based on the needs assessment and educational plan.	For new start-up schools, the application identifies a specific location for the school within a specific area or location in a targeted area that is appropriate based on the needs assessment and educational plan. (The identified location does not need to be under lease, but there should be evidence of availability and costs fully supporting the financial and educational plan.)