



Internet- or Computer-Based Community School Application Rubric

Application Submission Date: January 19, 2018

Applicant Name: Great River Connections Academy

Sponsor Name: Ohio Council of Community Schools Sponsor IRN: 016998

Operator Name: Connections Education LLC Operator IRN: 015029

The internet- or computer-based community school application consists of five sections: Proposed School Information, Sponsor's Experience with Online Schools, Operator's Experience with Online Schools, Sponsor's Schools' Records of Academic Performance in all years under its sponsorship, and Operator's Affiliated Schools' Records of Performance in all years under its operation. A sixth component, Preference for Operators with Previous Experience in Ohio, is not scored and will only be considered if the Department receives more than five qualified applications for internet- or computer-based community schools in Ohio. A committee will review all documentation and determine whether to grant approval of the internet- or computer-based community school.

Section A: Proposed School Information

Table with 6 columns: Review Criteria, Not Addressed, Poorly Developed, Adequately Developed, Well Developed, Fully Developed. Row 1: The application described the proposed internet- or computer-based community school, including: [bullet points]. Scores: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 (circled).

| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The education plan and curriculum intended for each core content area and grade level that complies with the standards developed by the international association for K-12 online learning • The expectations of academic performance, including academic achievement status or proficiency, academic growth, post-secondary readiness, and expectations for mission-specific performance measures • The expectations of any non-academic school or student goals to which school will hold itself accountable | | | | | |
| Total Points Earned | | | | | 4/4 |
| <p>Comments: Response provided was well developed. Section response addressed all items and included multiple, varied examples for reasons applicant believe Ohio would benefit from additional online school, intended instructional plan, and expectations of academic and non-academic school goals.</p> | | | | | |

Section B: Sponsor’s Experience with Online Schools

| Review Criteria | | At least 5 Years | 6-7 Years | 8-9 Years | 10 or more Years | |
|--|---------------|------------------|----------------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Number of years sponsor has overseeing community schools in Ohio | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Review Criteria | | | At least 3 Years | 4-5 Years | 6-7 Years | 8 or more Years |
| Number of years sponsor has overseeing internet- or computer-based community schools in Ohio | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Review Criteria | Not Addressed | Poorly Developed | Adequately Developed | Well Developed | Fully Developed | |

| | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| <p>The application described the sponsor’s experience with internet- or computer-based schools, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of internet- or computer-based community schools the sponsor has overseen • The number of years the sponsor has providing monitoring and technical assistance to the schools | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| <p>The application described the sponsor’s assessment of the degree to which each of its sponsored internet- or computer-based school is meeting the operating standards for online schools, and complying with all applicable laws and rules.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AND</p> <p>If applicable, the application described specific steps taken by the sponsor to correct each internet- or computer-based school’s compliance with applicable laws and rules in the two most recent evaluation cycles.</p> | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| <p>The application described instances where sponsor terminated or nonrenewed sponsorship with an internet- or computer-based community school, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Circumstances leading to the decision to terminate sponsorship for each internet- or computer-based school • Specific actions taken by the sponsor and timeline for each action <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>If sponsor had not had to terminate or non-renew sponsorship with an internet- or computer-based school, application described:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Circumstances that would lead the sponsor to the decision to terminate sponsorship | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specific actions the sponsor will take including timeline for each action | | | | | |
| Total Points Earned | | | | | 17/20 |
| <p>Comments: Application response indicated practices would have scored in accomplished or promising, but did not provide concrete examples on degree to which each of its sponsored internet- or computer-based schools are meeting operating standards for online schools. Response on sponsor actions and timeline could be more specific including a clearer, more detailed timeline of sponsor actions.</p> | | | | | |

Section C: Operator’s Experience with Online Schools

| Review Criteria | | At least 5 Years | 6-7 Years | 8-9 Years | 10 or more Years |
|---|---------------|------------------|----------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Number of years of operator’s experience with community/public charter schools | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Review Criteria | | At least 3 Years | 4-5 Years | 6-7 Years | 8 or more Years |
| Number of years operator has managing internet- or computer-based community/public charter schools | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Review Criteria | Not Addressed | Poorly Developed | Adequately Developed | Well Developed | Fully Developed |
| The application described the operator’s experience with internet- or computer-based community/public charter schools in the state of Ohio and outside the state of Ohio. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| The application described operator’s assessment of the degree to which each of the operator’s affiliated internet- or computer-based school is meeting the operating standards for online schools | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| The application addressed instances where the operator terminated its agreement with each internet- or computer-based community school, including | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Circumstances leading to the decision to terminate its agreement with each internet- or computer-based school • Specific actions taken by operator and timeline for each action <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>If operator had not had to terminate its agreement with an internet- or computer-based school, the application described:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Circumstances that would lead the operator to the decision to terminate its agreement with the internet- or computer-based school • Specific actions the operator will take including timeline for each action | | | | | |
| Total Points Earned | | | | | 16/20 |
| <p>Comments: Application response did not provide specific examples of degree to which each of the operator's affiliated internet- or computer-based school is meeting the operating standards for online schools. Response addressed circumstances that would lead the operator to the decision to terminate its agreement with the internet-based or computer-based school, but did not include timeline for each action.</p> | | | | | |

Section D: Sponsor's Schools' Records of Academic Performance

The Department will be assigning a composite weighted score based on the cumulative performance of all schools overseen by the sponsor from academic years 2002-2003 through 2016-2017. From academic years 2002-2003 through 2011-2012, the total points will be weighed at 50%. For academic years 2012-2013 through 2016-2017, the total points will be weighed at 50%. The weighted points will be converted to points earned from 0 to 4. The score will then be converted to points from 0 to 20, which will be applied towards the total section points.

| Weighted Points | Points Earned for Academic Performance Component | Section Points |
|-----------------|--|----------------|
| 3.50 – 4.00 | 4 | 20 |
| 2.50 – 3.49 | 3 | 15 |

| | | |
|-------------|---|----|
| 1.50 – 2.49 | 2 | 10 |
| 0.50 – 1.49 | 1 | 5 |
| 0.00 - 0.49 | 0 | 0 |

| Review Criteria | Points Earned 0 | Points Earned 1 | Points Earned 2 | Points Earned 3 | Points Earned 4 |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Academic Years: 2002-2003 through 2016-2017 | 0 | 5 | 10 | 15 | 20 |
| Total Points Earned | | | | | /20 |
| Comments: NOT SCORED | | | | | |
| The application was not scored in this section. Ohio Council of Community Schools served as the sponsoring authority of the board of The University of Toledo for purposes of sponsoring community schools in accordance with Ohio law through an agreement executed on March 19, 2003, and amended on March 19, 2008. In 2017-2018, Ohio Council of Community Schools succeeded University of Toledo as the sponsor and assumed all schools previously sponsored by University of Toledo. | | | | | |

Section E: Operator’s Affiliated Schools’ Records of Academic Performance

The Department will be assigning a composite weighted score based on the cumulative performance of all schools managed by the operator from academic years 2002-2003 through 2016-2017. The weighted points will be converted to points earned from 0 to 4. The score will then be converted to points from 0 to 20, which will be applied towards the total section points.

| Weighted Points | Points Earned for Academic Performance Component | Section Points |
|-----------------|--|----------------|
| 3.50 – 4.00 | 4 | 20 |
| 2.50 – 3.49 | 3 | 15 |
| 1.50 – 2.49 | 2 | 10 |
| 0.50 – 1.49 | 1 | 5 |
| 0.00 - 0.49 | 0 | 0 |

Operator Managing Schools in the State of Ohio Only:

If the operator only managed schools within the state of Ohio, the Department will be assigning percentage weights to the operator's affiliated schools' records of academic performance in all years under its operation based on the following. For academic years 2002-2003 through 2011-2012, the total points will be weighed at 50%. For academic years 2012-2013 through 2016-2017, the total points will be weighed at 50%.

Operator Managing Schools Both in the State of Ohio and Outside the State of Ohio:

If the operator managed schools both in the state of Ohio and outside of the state of Ohio, the Department will be assigning percentage weights to the operator's affiliated schools' records of academic performance in all years under its operation based on the following. For all schools within the state of Ohio from academic years 2002-2003 through 2011-2012, the total points will be weighed at 40%. For all schools within the state of Ohio from academic years 2012-2013 through 2016-2017, the total points will be weighed at 40%. For all schools outside the state of Ohio from academic years 2002-2003 through 2016-2017, the total points will be weighed at 20%.

| Review Criteria | Points Earned 0 | Points Earned 1 | Points Earned 2 | Points Earned 3 | Points Earned 4 |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Academic Years: 2002-2003 through 2016-2017 | 0 | 5 | 10 | 15 | 20 |
| Total Points Earned | | | | | 10/20 |
| Comments: | | | | | |
| For school managed by the operator within the state of Ohio from 2004-2012, the raw score earned was 2.375, which was rounded to 2. For schools managed by the operator within the state of Ohio from 2013-2017, the raw score was 0.889, which was rounded to 1. For schools managed by the operator outside the state of Ohio, from all years under its operation, the raw score was 1.71, which was rounded to 2. The total score after applying the weights is 1.6, which was rounded to 2, or 10 points for this section of the application. | | | | | |

Section F: Alignment to iNACOL National Standards for Quality Online Programs

The Alignment to iNACOL Standards for Quality Online Programs section examines whether the proposed internet- or computer-based community school meets the standards developed by the International Association for K-12 Online Learning for operating a quality online program.

The applicant, sponsor, and operator must work collaboratively to complete the Online Program Self-Evaluation Form on pages 22 through 32 of the iNACOL National Standards for Online Programs [report](#). All three entities must come to a consensus and assign the proposed school a single rating for each standard based on the rating scale in the report. Please attach a copy of the completed Online Program Self-Evaluation Form to this application. The Department will use the assigned ratings to score the application based on the following:

| Points | Criteria |
|--|---|
| Fully Developed 4 Points | This part of the application demonstrates a model of best practice. This part of the application scored between 90% and 100% of the total possible points. |
| Well Developed 3 Points | This part of the application demonstrates excellent implementation, comparable to other examples. This part of the application scored 80% or more of the total points, but less than 90% of the total possible points. |
| Adequately Developed 2 Points | This part of the application demonstrates good implementation, but somewhat lacked depth or detail. This part of the application scored 70% or more of the total points, but less than 80% of the total possible points. |
| Poorly Developed 1 Point | This part of the application demonstrates partial implementation, but additional work is needed. This part of the application scored less than 70% of the total possible points. |
| Not Addressed 0 Points | The application does not demonstrate a model of best practice or this part of the application does not address the standards for quality online programs. |

| Review Criteria | Not Addressed | Poorly Developed | Adequately Developed | Well Developed | Fully Developed |
|---|---------------|------------------|----------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| <p>Institutional Standards: The institutional standards address the vision, mission, philosophy and beliefs of an online program, and the elements critical to the operation of an online program. The standards examine:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mission statement • Governance • Leadership • Planning • Organizational Staffing • Organizational Commitment • Financial and Material Resources • Equity and Access • Integrity and Accountability | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|--------------|
| <p>Teaching and Learning Standards: The teaching and learning standards focus on how an online program develops or chooses its curricula, how the program’s teachers deliver the curriculum to students, and how students’ progress in the curriculum is assessed. These standards examine:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curriculum and Course Design • Instruction • Assessment of Student Performance | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| <p>Support Standards: The support standards address the organization’s academic, administrative, guidance, and technical services critical to meeting the needs of all participants in the online program. These standards examine:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faculty • Students • Guidance Services • Organizational Support • Parents/guardians | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| <p>Evaluation Standards: The evaluation standards examine the continual program improvement efforts including ensuring the program is meeting its intended purposes and identifying where improvements can be made to the program. These standards examine:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Evaluation • Program Improvement | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Total Points Earned | | | | | 12/16 |
| <p>Comments: For Institutional Standards, application scored 85.4% of total points, which earned applicant 3 points. For Teaching and Learning Standards, application scored 88.9% of total points, which earned applicant 3 points. For Support Standards, application scored 86% of total points, which earned applicant 3 points. For Evaluation Standards, application scored 87.5% of total points, which earned applicant 3 points. Applicant earned total of 12 points for this section.</p> | | | | | |

Section G: Preference for Operators with Previous Experience in Ohio (Not Scored)

The Preference for Operators with Previous Experience in Ohio section is not scored and will only be considered if the Department receives more than five qualified applications for internet- or computer-based community schools in Ohio. If there are more qualified applications than the Department can approve, the Department will consider the total years of experience the operator has managing community schools in Ohio.

Internet- and Computer-Based Community School Scoring Sheet

Applicant Submission Date: January 19, 2018

Applicant Name: Great River Connections Academy

Sponsor Name: Ohio Council of Community Schools Sponsor IRN: 016998

Operator Name: Connections Education LLC Operator IRN: 015029

REQUIRED RESPONSES AND DOCUMENTS

(Not Scored)

- Applicant Information
- Sponsor Information
- Operator Information
- Preference for Operators with Previous Experience in Ohio

APPLICATION RESPONSES

| Application Component | Points Earned | Points Possible |
|--|-------------------|-----------------|
| Section A: Proposed School Information | 4 | 4 |
| Section B: Sponsor's Experience with Community and Internet- or Computer-Based Community School(s) | 17 | 20 |
| Section C: Operator's Experience with Community/Public Charter and Internet- or Computer-Based Community School(s) | 16 | 20 |
| Section D: Sponsor's Schools' Records of Academic Performance | Not Scored | 20 |
| Section E: Operator's Affiliated Schools' Records of Academic Performance | 10 | 20 |
| Section F: Alignment to iNACOL National Standards for Quality Online Programs | 12 | 16 |
| Section G: Preference for Operators with Previous Experience in Ohio | | |
| Total Points | 59/80 | /100 |

*The Department will determine annually the minimum threshold of total points earned to be recommended for approval.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approved **Rejected**

The application was not scored in Section D: Sponsor's Schools' Records of Academic Performance. Ohio Council of Community schools served as the sponsoring authority of the board of The University of Toledo for purposes of sponsoring community schools in accordance with Ohio law through an agreement executed on March 19, 2003, and amended on March 19, 2008. Ohio Council of Community

Schools was scored in Section B: Sponsor's Experience with Online Schools because it had provided monitoring and technical assistance to schools sponsored by The University of Toledo since the execution of the agreement between The University of Toledo and Ohio Council of Community Schools. In 2017-2018, Ohio Council of Community Schools succeeded The University of Toledo as the sponsor and assumed all schools previously sponsored by The University of Toledo. The exclusion of Section D reduced the total possible points in the application from 100 to 80. Out of 80 total possible points, the application scored 59/80 points, which is equivalent to 73.75% of total possible points.