

EAA Turnaround and New School Charter Operator RFP FAQ

If I missed the letter of intent deadline, may I still apply?

Yes. However, the letter of intent package will need to be included in the application.

Can we specify a school we would like to manage through the application?

Yes.

Will you provide current EAA salary costs & benefits so we can determine to what degree we will be able to match those with our plans?

1. Yes. This and other financial information is available at http://michigan.gov/ea/0,4841,7-281-62537_62540---,00.html
2. [EAA Benefits Guide](#)
3. [EAA Salary Scale](#)

Does that board need to be in place by the application due date? Will the EAA do any screening of board candidates?

While the board does not have to be finalized by the time the application is due, it is strongly recommended that efforts be made to secure a founding coalition of school board members as it is legally required piece of the application.

Is it ok for the application to be submitted by a founding group and then expanded into the governing body that will oversee the school?

Yes, absolutely.

Are we prohibited from interviewing current staff members of a school we are potentially interested in operating before the application is due?

Yes. However, if approved, we will arrange student, community and staff forums with your organization.

If approved as a charter operator, would we be able to seek a new location for the school?

Yes

Could you provide a greater sense of the transportation policy and program information mentioned in the charter RFP?

The EAA currently utilizes a combination of contracted transportation services and Detroit City transportation. It is incumbent upon the RFP respondents to decide

whether they would like to buy into existing EAA contracts and services or if they will seek out alternative contracts for transportation.

Will special education support services be hired through the EAA, Wayne RESA or another ISD?

No, the Board of Governors for the awarded applicants will be responsible for ensuring that special education support services are maintained as required by law and dictated by student outcomes.

If an awarded charter operator would like to buy into existing EAA contracts and services, we are willing to engage in dialogue.

If interested in applying for a fall 2016 opening, would the application deadline still be the same time next year?

Revised RFP timelines have not been established. However, you can apply via this RFP for Fall 2016 opening and beyond.

What is the latest an application can be submitted on February 6, particularly for those submitted electronically?

11:59 p.m. on February 6

Will you provide a profile of the student body at each school?

This information can be found on the MDE website at mischooldata.org.

The neighborhood demographics of each school may be located on the U.S. Census Bureau's website.

Also websites that may be of interest include Data Driven Detroit and Detroit Future City.

As a new charter, are we allowed to name our schools and have our own focus and vision statement?

Yes.

If we only want to manage one school in 2015-2016, but we are open to managing various schools, do we submit one application and list the various schools or do we need to submit multiple applications.

You may submit one application and list the various schools.

If we are interested in managing schools for 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 do we need to submit multiple applications or can we submit one application and indicate that we want to manage schools in each year.

One application will suffice.

Are there requirements on the number of school days being offered?

Yes, all operators must abide by state laws and regulations.

You are not bound by the EAA's academic calendar.

If awarded, when would the management company take over management of the school building, staff, etc?

The official transition date would be once the EAA school year ends (August 7th). However, the EAA will work closely with the awarded Board of Governors to ensure a smooth transition between the current structure and the new structures that would be set up by the awardee.

Once awarded, can the new management company start to interact with parents to build community support and buy-in.

Yes, we will help arrange student, family, community and staff forums.

Once awarded, can the new management company get into the building to observe teachers and leadership to make hiring decisions?

Yes, in consultation with the EAA.

If completing proposals for a turnaround, what are the requirements of answering 7a on page 23 of 34?

Both new school operators and turnaround operators are required to form a governing board. The articles of incorporation can be applied for and secured in the time between when the RFP is awarded and when the contract is signed with the governing board.

How should question 7.b. ii. be approached because the Authorizer creates the bylaws?

The EAA believes is a collaborative relationship between authorizer and operator. In this light we are asking for applicants to propose bylaws that will then be used to develop the official bylaws by which the charter school is governed.

Can you please provide enrollment data?

Pre-audited submission of Fall 2014 enrollment to MDE for the 2014-15 school year:

Bethune	585
Brenda Scott	843
Burns	432

Central	526
Denby	713
Henry Ford	514
Law	636
Mumford	843
Nolan	438
Pershing	398
Phoenix	261
Southeastern	343
District	6532

Can you please provide estimated expenditures?

Please see uploaded attachment for FY14 expenses.

Can you please provide additional financial information?

You can find additional financial information for EAA direct-run schools:

http://michigan.gov/eaa/0,4841,7-281-62537_62540---,00.html

You can find additional financial information for current authorized charter schools:

<http://www.performanceacademies.com/transparency/>

Is a Charter RFP respondent responsible for obtaining the Articles of Incorporation before the charter is granted?

As the EAA is not offering planning grants there is no need to obtain the Articles of Incorporation before the charter is granted. As a part of the application the EAA is requesting that applicants submit the form of the Articles of Incorporation that they would file upon receipt of the charter.