



Charter School Update as of June 30, 2016 Client Advisory Committee April 5, 2017

Background

The following paragraphs were extracted from the California State Board of Education (SBE) July 2016 meeting agenda. The numbers noted below were as of May 2016 SBE meeting agenda, "Approval of the Charter School Numbers Assigned to Newly Established Charter Schools".

"Since the charter school law was enacted in 1992, the SBE has assigned numbers to 1,805 charter schools, including some approved by the SBE after denial by local educational agencies. Separate from that numbering system, nine all-charter districts have been jointly approved by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction and the SBE.

California Education Code (EC) Section 47602 requires the SBE to assign a number to a charter school that has been approved by a local entity in the chronological order in which it was received. Each number assigned shall correspond to a single petition that identifies a charter school that will operate within the geographic and site limitations of this part. Charter schools that share educational programs and serve similar pupil populations may not be counted as separate schools. This numbering system ensures that the state stays within a statutory cap on the total number of charter schools authorized to operate within California. The cumulative statutory cap for the fiscal year 2015–16 is 1,950. The statutory cap is not subject to waiver."

California Laws and Regulations Applicable to Charter Schools

Education Code Part 26.8 Charter Schools, Chapters 1 through 6, Sections 47600 through 47664 cover General Provisions, Establishment of Charter Schools, Charter School Operation, Notice (Findings, Evaluation, and Analysis), University Charter Schools, and Funding. The 2014 Edition of these Laws and Regulations was issued by Charter Schools Division of California Department of Education.

Education Code sections applicable specifically with CalSTRS:

- California Education Code Section 47605: Gives a charter school the option of participating in CalSTRS, CalPERS or Social Security.
- California Education Code Section 47611: Informs charter schools that participation in CalSTRS means that all parts of Teachers' Retirement Law apply.
- California Education Code Section 47611.3: Requires school districts of County Offices of Education to report contributions and data to CalSTRS on behalf of charter schools.

Charter School Electing CalSTRS

Charter schools have the unique ability to decide whether to provide CalSTRS benefits and services to their employees. CalSTRS offers the following benefit programs to members:

- Defined Benefit Program
- Defined Benefit Supplement Program
- Cash Balance Benefit Program
- Pension2, Voluntary Supplemental Savings Plan

During the initial writing of a charter petition, the school can elect to participate in CalSTRS to provide retirement benefits for their employees. Charter schools must meet the following criteria to participate in CalSTRS retirement programs:

- Recognized as a Public Charter School by the California Department of Education.
- Elect participation in CalSTRS and enroll eligible employees (members).
- Submit a completed Charter School Activation Packet ES1026 confirming participation before reporting contributions.
- Report contributions to CalSTRS via School District or County Office of Education (COE).

CalSTRS Contribution Reporting

CalSTRS contributions and data reporting from charter schools may come in any of these reporting structures:

- *COE Report ID* – charter school data and contributions are merged with that of the COE, reported to CalSTRS under COE Report Unit ID.
 - Example: Shenandoah Valley School Charter 1662, Chartering Authority Amador COE, Report Unit ID 03003 Amador COE
- *School District Report ID* – charter school data and contributions are merged with that of the School District, reported to COE and to CalSTRS under School District Report Unit ID.
 - Example: Leroy Greene Academy Charter 1405, Chartering Authority Natomas Unified, Report Unit ID 34086 Natomas Unified
- *Charter School District Report ID* – merged data and contributions of a group of charter schools of the same corporation located in the same county. Reported to COE and to CalSTRS under one Report Unit ID, like an all-charter district.
 - Example: Rocketship Academy Brilliant, Rocketship Alma Academy, Rocketship Discovery Prep, etc., all are under Rocketship Education Corporation, operating in Santa Clara County, one report under Report Unit ID 43147 Rocketship Mateo Sheedy

Charter School Electing CalSTRS, CalSTRS Contribution Reporting, continued

- *Unique Report ID* – data and contributions submitted to COE and CalSTRS under its own Report Unit ID, like its own School District.
 - Example: Lighthouse Charter School Charter 1659, Chartering Authority Washington Unified, Report Unit ID 57044 Lighthouse Charter School

Statistical Data as of June 30, 2016

FY 1993-2016

Source: State Board of Education July 2016 Agenda Item on Approval of the Charter School Numbers Assigned to Newly Established Charter Schools

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/be/ag/aq/main201607.asp>

FY1993-2016 Cumulative Data per SBE Assigned Numbers	
1,950	Cumulative statutory cap for the fiscal year 2015–16
1,805	As of May 2016, total assigned numbers to approved charter schools, including some approved by the SBE after denial by local educational agencies.
9	All-charter districts included in 1,805 count but numbered D1-D9. There were jointly approved by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction and the SBE.

Source: Department of Education Data & Statistics (<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/si/cs/ap/rpt.asp>)

FY 1993-2016 Cumulative Data per CDE Charter School Database	
1,805	Approved Charter School Entities, Including All-Charter Districts
13	Charter School Entities numbered with non-unique/shared Charter Number
4	Withdrawn petitions/Abandoned
1,822	Total Numbered Charter School Entities. Status as follows:
64	Abandoned – abandoned prior to school start date. Example: The charter was approved and numbered, but ADA was never claimed and the CDE was advised that the school would not open.
1,220	Active – currently open for instruction
422	Closed – not open for instruction. Example: Voluntary closure/non-renewal, conversion to traditional school, re-authorized with new district, district rescinded charter, limit conditional use permit at the location, termination of facilities and operations agreement
1	Inactive Example: Workforce Investment Act Charter, #1013; renewed for 5 more yrs on 6/4/13 but will be inactive during the 2013-14 school year
37	Pending – numbered but pending completion of application requirements
74	Revoked – closure due to non-compliance, fraud
4	Withdrawn – withdrawn petitions, withdrawn from All-Charter District

Statistical Data as of June 30, 2016, FY 1993-2016 continued

1, 220 Active – Retirement System	
1,091	89% CalSTRS, see Geographic Distribution Table
115	9% Other Retirement
14	1% Unknown, No Data

FY 2012-2016

Source: Department of Education Data & Statistics (<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/si/cs/ap/rpt.asp>)

FY 2012-2016 Cumulative Data per Charter School Database	
482 Approved Charter School Numbers	
9	Abandoned – abandoned prior to school start date. Example: The charter was approved and numbered, but ADA was never claimed and the CDE was advised that the school would not open.
393	Active – currently open for instruction
34	Closed – not open for instruction. Voluntary closure/non-renewal, conversion to traditional school, re-authorized with new district, district rescinded charter, limit conditional use permit at the location, termination of facilities and operations agreement
0	Inactive Workforce Investment Act Charter, #1013; renewed for 5 more yrs on 6/4/13 but will be inactive during the 2013-14 school year
37	Pending – numbered but pending completion of application requirements
3	Revoked – closure due to non-compliance, fraud
0	Withdrawn – withdrawn petition
6	Unassigned

393 Active – Retirement System	
331	84% CalSTRS
48	12% Other Retirement
14	4% Unknown, No Data

331 Active-CalSTRS Data & Statistics on the Following Categories:

- Chartering Authority
- Site Type
- Charter Type
- CalSTRS Reporting Structure

Statistical Data as of June 30, 2016, FY 2012-2016 continued

Chartering Authority	
42	13% County Office of Education (COE)
284	86% School District
5	1% State Board of Education (SBE)

Site Type	
254	77% Site-based instruction (classroom-based instruction)
61	18% Independent Study (non classroom-based instruction)
16	5% Combination of site-based and independent study

Charter Type	
73	22% Conversion
258	78% Start-Up

CalSTRS Reporting Structure of Data and Contributions	
12	4% COE – merged with authorizing COE
105	32% District – with Authorizing District
172	52% Unique - reporting directly to COE as its own District
38	11% Charter District – a group of charter schools of the same corporation in the same county reporting directly to COE as one District
4	1% No Data, TBD



Geographic Distribution Table

1,091 FY 1993-2016 Active-CalSTRS Charter Schools

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA = 558

RS#	COE	#	RS#	COE	#
01	ALAMEDA	49	28	NAPA	3
02	ALPINE	0	29	NEVADA	13
03	AMADOR	1	31	PLACER	20
04	BUTTE	17	32	PLUMAS	1
05	CALAVERAS	1	34	SACRAMENTO	46
06	COLUSA	0	35	SAN BENITO	1
07	CONTRA COSTA	12	38	SAN FRANCISCO	11
08	DEL NORTE	2	39	SAN JOAQUIN	44
09	EL DORADO	9	41	SAN MATEO	13
10	FRESNO	27	43	SANTA CLARA	58
11	GLENN	3	44	SANTA CRUZ	12
12	HUMBOLDT	14	45	SHASTA	15
14	INYO	3	46	SIERRA	0
16	KINGS	11	47	SISKIYOU	1
17	LAKE	3	48	SOLANO	7
18	LASSEN	5	49	SONOMA	55
20	MADERA	10	50	STANISLAUS	27
21	MARIN	2	51	SUTTER	5
22	MARIPOSA	1	52	TEHAMA	3
23	MENDOCINO	9	53	TRINITY	0
24	MERCED	2	54	TULARE	16
25	MODOC	0	55	TUOLUMNE	3
26	MONO	2	57	YOLO	6
27	MONTEREY	9	58	YUBA	6

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA = 533

RS#	SOUTH CAL	#
13	IMPERIAL	2
15	KERN	10
19	LOS ANGELES	312
30	ORANGE	17
33	RIVERSIDE	25
36	SAN BERNARDINO	31
37	SAN DIEGO	112
40	SAN LUIS OBISPO	3
42	SANTA BARBARA	9
56	VENTURA	12

Geographic Distribution Map

Interactive map at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/si/cs/ap1/imagemap.aspx>. You can view the charter location, grade level, site type, charter school Web site and the California Department of Education Web site directed to the schools' detailed information.





Resources

California Department of Education, www.cde.ca.gov

- Data and Statistics/Charter School Locator <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/si/cs/>
- Charter Schools Division, charters@cde.ca.gov

State Board of Education <http://www.cde.ca.gov/be/>

- Meeting Agendas <http://www.cde.ca.gov/be/ag/ag/index.asp>

Enclosures

ES1026 – CalSTRS Activation Packet

Questions

If you have questions or if you need more details about this update, please contact us at CharterSchoolQuestions@CalSTRS.com.