

CHARTER SCHOOL EXPANSIONS AND SATELLITE SCHOOLS

CHARTER SCHOOL EXPANSIONS

“**Expansion** means a proposed increase of students or adding a grade level in an operating charter school with the same school number.” (R277-482-2 (5))

According to R277-482-7:

- **The requesting school** must satisfy that requirements of federal and state law, regulations, rule, and the charter agreement
- **The authorizer** collects an application and sets requirements for expansion
- **Expansion** shall be approved before October 1 of the state fiscal year prior to the school’s intended expansion date

STATE CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD PROCESS

The State Charter School Board (SCSB) requires schools to submit an application for expansion no later than July 1st, to be heard at the August meeting and meet the October 1 deadline in board rule.

If approved, the application is placed on the September Utah State Board of Education Law and Licensing Committee agenda.

Schools with significant facility needs may submit a request at an earlier date.

CHARTER SATELLITE SCHOOLS

“**Satellite School** means a charter school affiliated with an operating charter school, which has the same charter school governing board and a similar program of instruction, but has a different school number than the affiliated charter school.” (R277-482-2 (5))

According to R277-482-8:

- **The requesting school** may request a satellite if:
 - Satisfies requirements of federal and state law, regulations, rule
 - Has operated successfully for at least three years meeting the terms of its charter agreement
 - Students are performing on standardized assessments at or above the standard in the agreement
 - The proposed satellite provided educational services consistent with what is offered at the existing school
 - The satellite school will have adequate and qualified staff, including one on-site administrator
- **Satellites** shall be approved by the USBE by October 1 of the state fiscal year prior to the year the school intends to serve students.
- **Satellite authorization** expires 24 months following approval if a building site is not secured.

STATE CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD PROCESS

The SCSB requires schools to submit an application no later than November 1st, to be heard at the January meeting, alongside other new school applications.

This is to ensure the new schools are heard in totality, to prevent issues regarding to Startup Funding and Revolving Loan availability, and to provide greater opportunity for success

If approved, the application is placed on the February Utah State Board of Education Law and Licensing Committee agenda.

SATELLITE VERSUS REPLICATION

In order to collect information that aligns most closely with the intent of the new school, the SCSB distinguishes between two types of satellites:

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- **Replication:** where the satellite school is significantly similar to the existing entity in educational program, governance structure, and operational practices.
- **Satellite:** where the satellite school intends to be significantly different than the existing entity in grades served, target market, educational program, and/or operational practices.

This distinction is only made internally by the SCSB. For all purposes outside of the SCSB, a satellite school and a replication school are the same.

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