

MN ASSOCIATION OF CHARTER SCHOOLS – NEW LAW PRIMER 2023

CHARTER SCHOOL PROVISIONS – (MN Statutes 124E)

ALTERNATIVES TO PUPIL SUSPENSIONS 124E.03 subd.2 (5) – (MN Statutes 121A.575)

Note: Updates charter school law to acknowledge the changes in the Pupil Fair dismissal law regarding school suspensions enacted by the Legislature this session.

ENGLISH LEARNERS 124E.03 subd. 9 – (MN Statutes 124D.58 -124D.64)

Note: Clarifies that charter schools must comply with the Education for English Learners Act as though it were a district.

AUTHORIZERS - 124E.05 (8)

Note: Eliminates the language that an authorizer must commit to being an authorizer for five years, and states that an authorizer is an eligible authorizer until either the authorizer withdraws as an authorizer or is no longer approved by the commissioner.

ADMISSIONS - 124E.11 (c)

- “ Admission to a charter school **must** be free to any eligible pupil who resides with the state.”
- “ A charter school **must** give enrollment preference to a Minnesota resident pupil over pupils that do not reside in Minnesota”
- “A charter school **must require** a pupil who does not reside in Minnesota to annually apply to enroll.”

ADMISSIONS - 124E.11 (g)

- Once a student who resides in Minnesota is enrolled in K-12, or the charter school’s free preschool or pre-K programs the student is considered enrolled until the student formally withdraws or is expelled under the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act.

ADMISSIONS - 124E.11 (i)

- A charter school which serves at least 90% of its enrolled students who are eligible for special education **and** have a primary disability of deaf, deaf/blind, or hard-of-hearing may give enrollment preference to students who are eligible for special education serves and have a primary disability of deaf, deaf/blind, or hard-of-hearing.

NOTE: This provision only affects Metro Deaf Charter School.

TEACHERS - 124E.12 subd. (1)–

- A charter school’s preschool or pre-K **program must employ or contract with teachers knowledgeable in early childhood curriculum content, assessment,** native and English language programs and the school’s instructional program, policies, and practices.

LEASED SPACE - 124E.13 subd. (1)

- **All** charter school leases for facilities **must** be with the owner of the building.

AFFILATED BUILDING COMPANIES - 124E.13 subd. (3)

- An affiliated building company can **only be for the one charter school** which formed the building company.

***NOTE:** The building company can be the building company for multiple buildings of the one school.*

EFFECTIVE DATE - AUGUST 1, 2023