

Joint Policy Regarding Dual Applications

Pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding between the Charter Institute at Erskine (“Institute”) dated August 19, 2020 (“MOU”) and the South Carolina Public Charter School District (“SCPCSD”) (collectively, “Sponsors”), the Sponsors hereby adopt the below policy (“Policy”) effective as of the date approved by the governing boards of both Sponsors regarding charter applications submitted to both Sponsors during the same application cycle during the term of the MOU.

1. All terms in this Policy defined in the South Carolina Charter Schools Act of 1996, S.C. Code Ann. § 59-40-10 to -140 (“Charter Act”) shall be given the same meaning as in the Charter Act unless otherwise specifically defined in this Policy.
2. An “Application Cycle” refers to the period of application review by the Sponsors.
3. Sponsors agree an applicant may submit a Letter of Intent (“LOI”) to both Sponsors for the same Application Cycle.
4. Sponsors agree that an applicant may not submit an application to both Sponsors for the same Application Cycle.
5. Sponsors agree an applicant that submits an application to both Sponsors for the same Application Cycle fails to meet the requirements to submit its application to “the board of trustees” from which it is seeking sponsorship, pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 59-40-70(A)(2).
6. Sponsors therefore agree an application submitted by an applicant that has submitted an application to both Sponsors within the same Application Cycle shall be considered improperly submitted and denied.

7. Further, Sponsors agree an application submitted by an applicant that has submitted an application to both Sponsors within the same Application Cycle fails to meet the requirements of S.C. Code Ann. § 59-40-50, § 59-40-60, and fails to meet the spirit and intent of the Charter Act.

8. Sponsors therefore will deny the application of any applicant that submits an application to both Sponsors within the same Application Cycle.

Authority: § 59-40-40 (Definitions)
§ 59-40-50(B) (Charter School Powers and Duties)
§ 59-40-55(A) (Sponsor Powers and Duties)
§ 59-40-60(F) (Application Requirements)
§ 59-40-70(A)(1) and (2) (Application Requirements and Procedures)
Compass Collegiate Acad., Inc. v. Charleston Cnty Sch. Dist., No. 19-ALJ-30-0131-AP (Oct. 10, 2019) (SCDE “arbitrarily interpreted the statute to allow for multiple submissions during the same review period”) (Appeal pending)

Charter Institute at Erskine

By: 
Cameron Runyan

Title: Superintendent

Date: 01/20/2021

South Carolina Public Charter School District

By: 
Chris Neeley

Title: Superintendent

Date: 1-14-21