

NEVADA

(Law passed in 1997; last amended in 2011;
18th weakest of the nation's 42 charter laws)

34 charters serving 12,962 students.

7 charter schools closed as of December 2011.

NOTEWORTHY

The addition of university authorizers in 2007 has yet to take hold. Because many school districts have vocally opposed charters, it may take some time before new applicants step up and understand the alternative authorizing path now available.

INDEPENDENT OR MULTIPLE AUTHORIZERS - YES (3)

APPROVAL	School boards, the State Public Charter School Authority (a quasi-independent state board that works with the Nevada Department of Education to review and assess applications) and any public college or university.
APPEAL	Yes. If an application is denied by the local board or a college or university, it may be appealed to the State Public Charter School Authority, and would become the sponsor if approved. If it denies the application, the decision may be appealed to the district county court in which the proposed charter will be located.

OPERATIONAL AUTONOMY

STATE	Limited. Schools do not receive a blanket waiver and must comply with many rules relating to curriculum and governance. Conversion of traditional public schools to charters is not permitted. Virtual schools are allowed. Management contracts with ESPs are not restricted.
LOCAL	Limited. There is little flexibility from rules and regulations. Schools must get permission from sponsor for various actions, including purchasing property.
TEACHER FREEDOM	Yes. Teachers are exempt from district work rules and negotiated agreements. Charter employees must participate in their school district's retirement system.

NUMBER OF SCHOOLS ALLOWED

CAP	No cap in law; three districts have issued moratoriums, so that charter applicants in those districts can only be approved by an alternative authorizer.
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EQUITY

<p>STUDENT FUNDING</p>	<p>Funds pass through the state. Schools are supposed to be funded through the same means as other public schools. Authorizers may deduct up to two percent for administrative fees, but charters meeting certain requirements can request to lower it to one percent.</p> <p>“Each pupil who is enrolled in a charter school, including, without limitation, a pupil who is enrolled in a program of special education in a charter school, must be included in the count of pupils in the school district for the purposes of apportionments and allowances from the state distributive school account pursuant to NRS 387.121 to 387.126, inclusive, unless the pupil is exempt from compulsory attendance pursuant to NRS 392.070. A charter school is entitled to receive its proportionate share of any other money available from federal, state or local sources that the school or the pupils who are enrolled in the school are eligible to receive.” [Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 386.570]</p>
<p>FACILITIES FUNDS</p>	<p>No Additional Funds.</p>

IMPLEMENTATION POINTS

<p>- 3</p>	<p>Three points are deducted because the state has imposed a de facto cap by not encouraging or working to improve charter environment.</p>
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[LINK TO THE NEVADA CHARTER SCHOOL LAW](#)