

OREGON

(Law passed in 1999; last amended in 2011;
20th weakest of the nation's 42 charter laws)

116 charters serving 19,255
students.

13 charter schools closed as of
December 2011.

NOTEWORTHY

Hillsboro K-8 City View Charter School embraces a philosophy of learning through experience. The growing school is near capacity at 187 students, and received a rating of "outstanding" for 2011 on the Oregon Department of Education Report Card because of its consistently high academic achievement.

INDEPENDENT OR MULTIPLE AUTHORIZERS - NO

APPROVAL	School boards
APPEAL	Yes. Applications denied by the school board may be appealed to the State Board of Education, which may become the sponsor.

OPERATIONAL AUTONOMY

STATE	Limited. Charters receive a blanket waiver from most traditional public school rules and regulations. Virtual schools are allowed but there are operational restrictions. Management contracts with ESPs are not restricted.
LOCAL	No. School boards have discretion.
TEACHER FREEDOM	Yes. Teachers may negotiate as a separate unit with the charter school governing body, or work independently. Employees are required to participate in the retirement system.

NUMBER OF SCHOOLS ALLOWED

CAP	No legal limit on number of schools that may be approved.
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EQUITY

STUDENT FUNDING	<p>Funds pass through district. Formula funds charters anywhere between 80-95 percent based on daily expenditures, not revenue. If enrollment drops annually, funding decreases, but the same is not true for conventional schools.</p> <p>"A school district shall contractually establish, with any public charter school that is sponsored by the board of the school district, payment for provision of educational services to the public charter school's students. The payment shall equal an amount per weighted average daily membership (ADMw) of the public charter school that is at least equal to: (a) Eighty percent of the amount of the school district's General Purpose Grant per ADMw as calculated under ORS 327.013 for students who are enrolled in kindergarten through grade eight; and (b) Ninety-five percent of the amount of the school district's General Purpose Grant per ADMw as calculated under ORS 327.013 for students who are enrolled in grades 9 through 12." [ORS § 338.155(2)]</p>
FACILITIES FUNDS	No Additional Funds.

[LINK TO THE OREGON
CHARTER SCHOOL LAW](#)