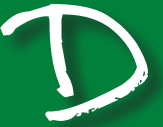


# WYOMING

(Law passed in 1995; last amended in 2011; 8th weakest of the nation's 42 charter laws)



4 charters serving 894 students.

## NOTEWORTHY

Full power to approve charter school applications lies with the school board, which is why to date there are only four charters in the state. In 2011, the House tried to pass a bill, allowing rejected applicants to appeal to the state board for a binding decision. However, the Senate rejected that bill, leaving full power in the hands of contentious school boards across the state. Until there's a multiple authorizer, or at least an appeals process, expect charter growth to be slow going.

## INDEPENDENT OR MULTIPLE AUTHORIZERS - NO

APPROVAL	School boards
APPEAL	No. Applications denied by the school board may be appealed to the State Board of Education for review, but its decision is non-binding.

## OPERATIONAL AUTONOMY

STATE	Limited. Waiver requests considered on a case-by-case basis. Virtual schools are allowed. Management contracts with ESPs are not restricted.
LOCAL	No. A school district may waive local rules and regulations without seeking approval of the state board, but have failed to do so.
TEACHER FREEDOM	No. Teachers remain part of the district and are subject to district work rules and agreements. Charter schools must participate in state's retirement system.

## NUMBER OF SCHOOLS ALLOWED

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

(Continued)

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## EQUITY

STUDENT FUNDING	<p>Funds pass through the district. Funding is inequitable because decisions are left up to school district. The law states that charter schools are entitled to 100 percent funding but it is not mandatory. State has no legal authority over local board and the distribution of funds to charter schools.</p> <p>“Each student attending a charter school shall be counted among the average daily membership of the school district in which the school is located and the school shall be included in the district’s configuration of schools reported to the state superintendent under W.S. 21-13-309(m)(iv). Average daily membership of the charter school shall be calculated as follows: (c) As part of the charter school contract, the charter school and the school district shall agree on funding and any services to be provided by the school district to the charter school. The charter school and the school district shall begin discussions on the contract using the following revenue assumptions: (i) The charter school shall be entitled to the benefit of one hundred percent (100%) of the foundation program amount computed under W.S. 21-13-309(m) based upon the average daily membership of the charter school, less any district level amounts generated by the charter school’s membership under W.S. 21-13-309(m) and less amounts specified under W.S. 21-13-309(m)(v)(E).” [Wyo. Stat. § 21-3-314]</p>
FACILITIES FUNDS	No Additional Funds.

## IMPLEMENTATION POINTS

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