

CONNECTICUT

(Law passed in 1996; 8th weakest of the nation's 43 charter laws)

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INDEPENDENT OR MULTIPLE AUTHORIZERS - NO

APPROVAL	State Board of Education. School boards must approve charters first (and have yet to do so).
APPEAL	None

OPERATIONAL AUTONOMY

STATE	No. Waiver requests considered on a case-by-case basis by state board. State maintains control over charter funding. Virtual schools prohibited. Management contracts with ESPs are not restricted.
LOCAL	No.
TEACHER FREEDOM	Yes for state charters; teachers may negotiate as a separate unit, or work independently. No for local charters; teachers remain covered by district collective bargaining agreement, but may apply for waivers from specific provisions. All new charter teachers hired after July 1, 2010, must participate in state's retirement system.

NUMBER OF SCHOOLS ALLOWED

CAP	No cap on schools. Charters may enroll no more than 250 students, 300 in K-8, or 25 percent of a district's total enrollment, whichever is less. High-achieving charters (e.g. Achievement Preparatory) can request a waiver from the enrollment cap.
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CONNECTICUT

(Continued)



EQUITY

STUDENT FUNDING	<p>For state authorized charters, funds pass through state and for district authorized schools, funds pass through district. Law does not codify funding levels. State legislature sets annual appropriation rather than allow the same funding to follow students. Currently charters receive \$10,500 per pupil. Schools do not receive other types of monies.</p> <p>“The state shall pay in accordance with this subsection, to the fiscal authority for a state charter school for each student enrolled in such school...for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, and each fiscal year after, nine thousand three hundred dollars. Such payments shall be made as follows: Twenty-five per cent of the amount not later than July fifteenth and September fifteenth based on estimated student enrollment on May first, and twenty-five per cent of the amount not later than January fifteenth and the remaining amount not later than April fifteenth, each based on student enrollment on October first.” [Conn. Gen Stat. 10-66ee(c)]</p>
FACILITIES FUNDS	Charters that are renewed are eligible for a one-time grant of \$500,000 for facilities. Twenty million dollars in bond financing available to charters through competitive application, and \$25 million available for one high-performing charter school. [Conn. Gen Stat. 10-66hh]

IMPLEMENTATION POINTS

- 3	Three points are deducted because the state imposed a de facto cap by neither encouraging nor approving charter applications.
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[LINK TO THE CONNECTICUT CHARTER SCHOOL LAW](#)