IOWA PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL
PROGRAM
Application for Renewal of Charter Status

Due Date: January 15 of final charter year

Iowa Department of Education
Grimes State Office Building
400 E. 14th St.
Des Moines, IA 50319-0146

Contact:
Del Hoover, Deputy Division Administrator
515-281-8402
Del.Hoover@iowa.gov

Revised Date: September 2008

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INTRODUCTION

The contents of this application packet will outline procedures for applying to **RENEW** Public Charter School status.

The purpose of a charter school shall be to accomplish the following:

- Improve student learning.
- Increase learning opportunities for students.
- Encourage the use of different and innovative methods of teaching.
- Require the measurement of learning outcomes and create different and innovative forms of measuring outcomes.
- Establish new forms of accountability for schools.
- Create new professional opportunities for teachers and other educators, including the opportunity to be responsible for the learning program at the school site.

A public charter school that wishes to **RENEW** its charter status should be able to demonstrate improvement in student achievement and be able to produce data that supports achievement gains and successes. The school can offer evidence of new opportunities teachers, administrators, and students have been able to participate in due to the different and innovative focus of the charter school.

An application for **RENEWAL** will be an articulate, affirmative response based on clear, credible evidence to the areas of inquiry that guide charter school accountability. The school will present progress in meeting charter school goals as well as answer each question in the application. The application document will be supported by the Charter School Advisory Council as well as the local School Board and will become a part of the school’s documents to which they are held accountable.

**Steps for Application for Renewal of Charter Status:**

1. Application for Renewal of Status is approved by Charter School Advisory Council
2. Public hearing is held for renewal of status
3. Application for Renewal of Status is approved by local Board of Education
4. Application for Renewal of Status is sent to Iowa Department of Education, attn: Del Hoover
5. The renewal is presented to the State Board of Education. The State Board of Education may request the Charter School appear before the board to answer questions or further explain the Charter mission and innovation.
6. State Board of Education will approve or deny Renewal of Status.
7. Charter School Manager will be informed of State Board of Education’s determination regarding Renewal of Status.
Application Procedure
Items to be included in the application for renewal:

- Cover sheet, which includes Assurances and Signatures (sample included in application packet)
- Narrative detailing requested information about the charter’s existence - **not to exceed ten (10) single-spaced, type-written pages**
- Copies of Advisory Council and local School Board minutes supporting the renewal process and application
- The cover sheet and application, with original signatures should be sent to: Del Hoover, Deputy Division Administrator
  Iowa Department of Education
  400 E. 14th Street
  Des Moines IA 50319-0146
IOWA PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL PROGRAM
APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL OF CHARTER STATUS

Cover Sheet

A cover sheet template is a part of this application packet
- Name of Charter School
- Name of Public School District
- Name and contact information of Superintendent
- Name and contact information of Charter School Manager
- Brief (3-4 sentences) overview of Charter School
- Dates and Minutes from Charter School Advisory Council and local Board of Education meetings when approval of the renewal process and application was given
- Assurances checked
- Signatures of Superintendent, Charter School Manager, and President of Board of Education

Application Narrative

Using the headings and bullets as a guide for your reflection and answers, provide the requested information in narrative form, not to exceed ten (10) single-spaced, type-written pages.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT & GOALS

- Review the innovative approaches that were described in the original charter application. Explain how those approaches have been incorporated into the charter school.
- Share academic and non-academic goals the charter established at its inception and detail progress made toward these goals.
- Make a trend-line comparison of student achievement data, using the baseline data collected during the first year of the charter. Explain improvement in achievement as shown in the data.
  - Graphs illustrating student achievement may be included and do not count in the 10-page limit.
ORGANIZATIONAL ISSUES

- Is the school an effective, viable organization with effective leadership?
- What role has the Advisory Council played in the school?
- Are parents, students, teachers, and other stakeholders satisfied? How is information and input gathered from parents?
- Is the school fiscally sound?

FUTURE PLANS / GOALS

- Describe the successes and challenges the charter school has experienced since its inception. What impact have these had on the charter school and its future?
- What plans are in place for the financial stability of the charter?
The ______________________ Charter School seeks to RENEW its public charter school status. The Charter School Advisory Council and the ______________________ (school district) Board of Education have approved the Renewal process and application on the meeting dates listed below:

- Public Hearing: _________________________________________
- Advisory Council: _______________________________________
- Board of Education: _____________________________________

**Brief description of charter school** (3-4 sentences) (Text box, will expand if needed.)

If the renewal of charter school status is approved, the district agrees to the following assurances:

- ____ End of the Year Charter School report will be submitted

Renewal of the charter is sought for ____ years. (Maximum = 4 years)

Signatures needed for RENEWAL of Charter School Status:
- Superintendent of Schools: ________________________________
- Charter School Manager: _________________________________
- Board of Education President: ____________________________

**Iowa State Board of Education** has voted to approve / deny the renewal of charter status.