



Nicole Galloway, CPA
Missouri State Auditor

CITIZENS SUMMARY

Findings in the audit of Charter School Oversight

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| Charter School Boards | State law does not require members of the board of directors for charter schools to obtain a specific amount of training or meet certain qualifications. As a result, it is unclear whether board members are adequately prepared to oversee charter schools. |
| Inconsistent Oversight | Charter school sponsor oversight of schools is not consistent and sponsor representatives indicated additional information or guidance would be useful regarding their duties. No standards have been established for the frequency of charter school reviews, contents of the annual oversight report, or what sponsors monitor at charter schools. |
| Charter School Sponsor Funding Comparison and Use | Charter school sponsor funding methods and use of sponsor funding should be periodically evaluated. A comparison of Missouri's funding methodology to methods used by 44 states and the District of Columbia that operate charter school programs found various funding methods used by these entities. Some Missouri sponsors use part or all of their funding to provide additional programs and services to their charter schools rather than for administrative costs related to oversight duties. |

Due to the nature of this report, no rating is provided.

*The rating(s) cover only audited areas and do not reflect an opinion on the overall operation of the entity. Within that context, the rating scale indicates the following:

- Excellent:** The audit results indicate this entity is very well managed. The report contains no findings. In addition, if applicable, prior recommendations have been implemented.
- Good:** The audit results indicate this entity is well managed. The report contains few findings, and the entity has indicated most or all recommendations have already been, or will be, implemented. In addition, if applicable, many of the prior recommendations have been implemented.
- Fair:** The audit results indicate this entity needs to improve operations in several areas. The report contains several findings, or one or more findings that require management's immediate attention, and/or the entity has indicated several recommendations will not be implemented. In addition, if applicable, several prior recommendations have not been implemented.
- Poor:** The audit results indicate this entity needs to significantly improve operations. The report contains numerous findings that require management's immediate attention, and/or the entity has indicated most recommendations will not be implemented. In addition, if applicable, most prior recommendations have not been implemented.



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RECOMMENDATION SUMMARY

Recommendations in the audit of Charter School Oversight

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| Charter School Boards | The DESE work with sponsors to ensure charter school board members meet the same training and qualification requirements of public school board members. The DESE should also work with the General Assembly to revise charter school laws to require charter school board member training and board member applicants meet certain qualifications. |
| Inconsistent Oversight | The DESE work with sponsors to determine what additional oversight resources or standards would be useful and provide that guidance. |
| Charter School Sponsor Funding Comparison and Use | The DESE review other sponsor funding methodologies and evaluate if sponsor funding allows for appropriate oversight and meets the needs of charter school students and make any necessary recommendations to the General Assembly. |