



MEMORANDUM

TO: Charter Schools Review Board (CSRB)
RE: 2026 Application Updates - For CSRB Review

Application Review Calendar

Application Sections	CSRB Discussion Date
Sections 1-6	Monday, March 10, 2025
Sections 7-9	Monday, April 7, 2025
Sections 10-17	Monday, May 5, 2025

CSRB Pre-work: Please review the proposed schedule below in order to make suggestions for revisions to the 2026 charter application. Please review and provide feedback of the specified sections on or before the proposed CSRB review due dates. Please review this document in tandem with the current charter application (2025) which is provided [online with this document](#).

CSRB Action: CSRB should discuss and approve any proposed revisions to the charter application in a public meeting. OCS must have an approved application to get to the platform developers in Fall 2026. The 2026 application window will open on Friday, January 30, 2026.

Public Comment: The public is welcome to provide comment on these proposed changes and/or the application in general. Please send comment to the Office of Charter Schools Executive Director ashley.baquero@dpi.nc.gov. They will be provided to the CSRB prior to its discussion each month per the schedule above.

- Notes on each section’s proposed revisions are below. Deletions (-) are in Black font. **Blue font** indicates additional questions (+) or revisions (+) to existing questions.
- These revisions are brought to CSRB by OCS after a full review of the existing application and internal discussions regarding areas we often see cause confusion and/or areas that routinely come up in interviews, but are not asked or need

clarification in the existing application. OCS's goal in CSRB authorizing support is to facilitate a transparent, understandable, and rigorous process that holds charter boards to high expectations resulting in quality charter schools.

Section 1 Application Contact

+ OCS suggests - Revise Section name to reflect " Application Contact and **Student Enrollment Information.**"

*Rationale - to make enrollment projections more streamlined and prominent at the start of application.

Question	Suggested Addition, Revision or Deletion
Q1	
Q2	
Q3	
Q4	
Q5	OCS suggests - <i>adding clarifying language to continue to allow applicants to input multiple prospective zip codes for proposed school sites.</i> *Rationale - to prevent repetitive amendment requests during the RTO process when facility acquisition is difficult and often changing.
Q6	
Q7	
Q8	
Q9	
Q10	
Q11	
Q12	
Q13	OCS suggests - adding clarifying language to specify that <i>state law requires a minimum of 80 enrolled students</i>
Q14	
Q15	
Q16	
Q17	
+	OCS suggests - adding a new question immediately after Q15 (+), <i>Provide a narrative explaining the projected demographics of your targeted county/LEA/region over the next 10-25 years. Please provide</i>

	<p><i>your data sources. This information should provide evidence of school age populations corresponding to the grade levels you plan to serve, and whether those populations are increasing or decreasing. This information should support the applicant's stated demand for this charter school and the growth plan outlined in the enrollment chart provided in Q12.</i></p> <p>*Rationale - recent years have seen most new schools enrolling under projections and not having an accurate idea of demand for the given area. In addition, data shows some counties in NC are declining in school age populations. This information is to provide evidence that applicants have thoroughly researched the demographics and demand within its targeted county/LEA.</p>
+	Add new Qs here
+	Add new Qs here
+	Add new Qs here

Section 2 (Non-Profit Corporation Information)

+OCS suggests moving Articles of Incorporation and bylaws into this section. Currently bylaws and AOI are in Section 11 (Governance and Capacity)

Question	Suggested Addition, Revision or Deletion
Q18	
Q19	
Q20	
Q21	
Q22	
Q23	
Q24	
Q25	
+	OCS suggests - moving bylaws to this section. Currently bylaws is located in Section 11 at 183
+	OCS suggests - moving Articles of Incorporation attachment upload to this section. Currently AOI is located in Section 11 at Q184
+	Add new Qs here
+	Add new Qs here

+	Add new Qs here
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Section 3 (Acceleration)

Question	Suggested Addition, Revision or Deletion
Q26	
Q27	
Q28	
Q29	
Q30	
Q31	
Q32	
Q33	
Q34	
Q35	
Q36	
Q37	
Q38	
Q39	
+	Add new Qs here
+	Add new Qs here
+	Add new Qs here

Section 4 (Conversion)

Question	Suggested Addition, Revision or Deletion
Q40	
Q41	
Q42	
Q43	
Q44	
Q45	
Q46	

Q47	
Q48	
Q49	OCS suggests reviewing Question 49 in relation to Questions 53-55 to determine if duplicative.
Q50	
Q51	
Q52	
Q53	OCS suggests reviewing Question 49 in relation to Questions 53-55 to determine if duplicative.
Q54	OCS suggests reviewing Question 49 in relation to Questions 53-55 to determine if duplicative.
Q55	OCS suggests reviewing Question 49 in relation to Questions 53-55 to determine if duplicative.
Q56	
+	Add new Qs here
+	Add new Qs here
+	Add new Qs here

Section 5 (Replication)

Question	Suggested Addition, Revision or Deletion
Q57	
Q58	
Q59	
Q60	
Q61	
Q62	
Q63	
Q64	
Q65	
Q66	
Q67	
+	Add new Qs here

+	Add new Qs here
+	Add new Qs here

Section 6 (Alternative)

Question	Suggested Addition, Revision or Deletion
Q68	
Q69	
+	<p>OCS suggests - adding the question, <i>"Please provide a written narrative explaining which of the above alternative charter school requirement(s) will be met."</i></p> <p>* Rationale: simply checking a box for the requirements being met is not sufficient for a high-quality application.</p>
+	Add new Qs here
+	Add new Qs here
+	Add new Qs here