Date: June 25, 2025

To: Local Educational Agency Leads

From: Ambrose F. Duckett III, Assistant Commissioner

Division of Field and Support Services

Deadline: September 15, 2025

2025-2026 New Jersey Charter School Renewal Process

New Jersey charter schools undergo a comprehensive charter renewal review after their first four years of operation and every five years thereafter in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:11-2.3. The review includes the submission of a charter renewal application to the Commissioner, the county executive superintendent, and the district board of education or State district superintendent by October 15th of the eligible school year or on a date prescribed by the Commissioner. The Commissioner renders renewal decisions on or before February 1st of that same school year or on a date prescribed by the Commissioner. This memo provides notification that the Commissioner is modifying the October 15th submission deadline to September 15th for the 2025-2026 renewal cycle.

During the 2025-2026 school year, 22 charter schools are eligible for charter renewal. To account for the large cohort of charter renewals, the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) is allotting additional time for application review, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:11-2.3(b)(1), by requiring all charter schools in the 2025-2026 renewal cohort to submit renewal applications to all required parties by September 15, 2025 to be eligible for a charter renewal. Please note, for the 2025-2026 renewal cohort, applications submitted after September 15, 2025 will not be accepted.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:11-2.3, recommendations from the district board of education or State district superintendent of the district of residence of each eligible charter school should be sent to the Commissioner within 30 days of the application submission. Please note the 30-day period will begin upon the district board of education's receipt of the application.

Information regarding the 2025-2026 charter school renewal process, including the renewal application template, can be found on the NJDOE's <u>Office of Charter and Renaissance Schools webpage</u>.

Contact Information

For additional questions or inquiries, please contact the Office of Charter and Renaissance Schools at charters@doe.nj.gov.

c: Members, State Board of Education
NJDOE Staff
Statewide Parent Advocacy Network
Garden State Coalition of Schools
NJ LEE Group
New Jersey Public Charter School Association
Camden Education Fund
New Jersey Children's Foundation