



NJDOE News

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**DOE to Host Workshop On Early Action Charter School Application;
Technical Information on New Process to be Reviewed**

Commissioner Lucille E. Davy today announced that the Department of Education will hold a workshop next week about the proposed early action charter school application for people who are interested in learning how the new process will unfold.

The anticipated expedited process is designed to add a shortened application and approval timeline for new charter schools while maintaining the extensive and rigorous review by DOE. It is expected that people who have experience initiating and operating quality charter programs will utilize the shortened timeframe.

The accelerated timeline stems from Commissioner Davy's review of charter school application procedures. The review was conducted at the request of Governor Jon S. Corzine in an effort to expand options for experienced charter school operators without sacrificing the longer review and support timeline for new applicants.

The technical assistance workshop for potential applicants will be held from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, September 9 in the first-floor board room of 200 Riverview Plaza, Trenton.

Anyone interested in attending the workshop is asked fill out the registration form that can be found at <http://www.nj.gov/education/chartsch/app/docs/ta.pdf>. Completed forms can be e-mailed to njcharter@doe.nj.gov or faxed to 609-633-9825.

Early action applications are due by October 15, 2009, with the Commissioner's decision being announced by January 15, 2010. This will reduce to 11 months the time period between submission of applications and the opening of new charter schools. The regular application process takes 18 months; those applications are due March 31, 2010. In conjunction, another technical assistance workshop will be held on January 12, 2010.

New Jersey currently has 68 charter schools, six of which opened their doors for the first time this month. Twenty-seven applications for new charters were received earlier this year and the Commissioner's decisions will be made by September 30.