

Oregon's Model Charter School Application

June 18, 2015



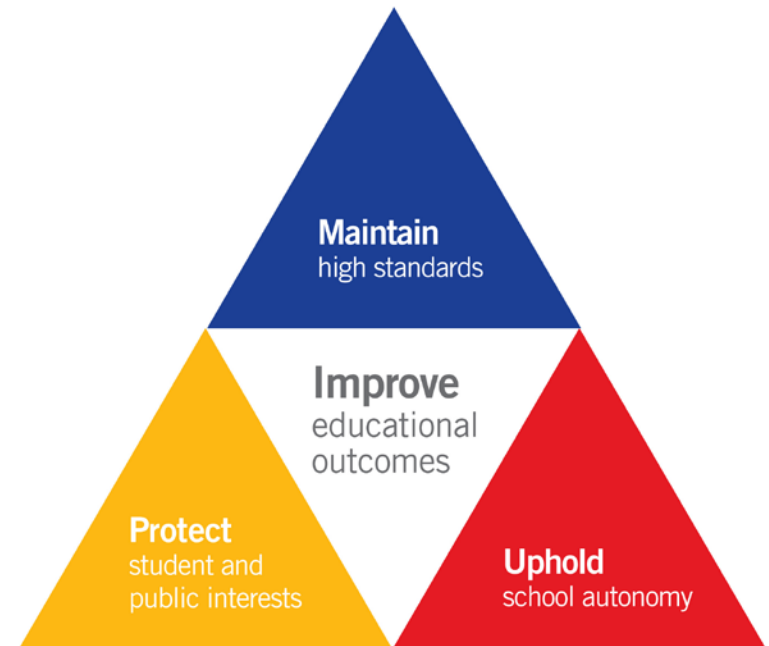
Agenda

- Quality application process overview
 - Who is NACSA?
 - What is an authorizer's role?
 - What's the plan for developing an Oregon model application?
 - What does a quality application process look like?
 - What does a quality application look like?
- Feedback
 - What's working in Oregon application evaluation that should be included in the model application?
 - What's not working in Oregon application evaluation that could be addressed in the model application?

QUALITY APPLICATION PROCESS OVERVIEW

About NACSA

- Mission: To achieve the establishment and operation of quality charter schools through responsible oversight in the public interest.
- Not-for-profit, non-partisan membership association since 2000
- Authorizer Development: application process management, strategic planning and training, models and templates, authorizer evaluation



The Charter Bargain



nacsa
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZERS

The Authorizing Process

The purpose is to improve the educational options available to children and families by...

Approving only strong, demonstrably viable applications

Renewing schools only if they meet or exceed performance expectations



Why have a model application?

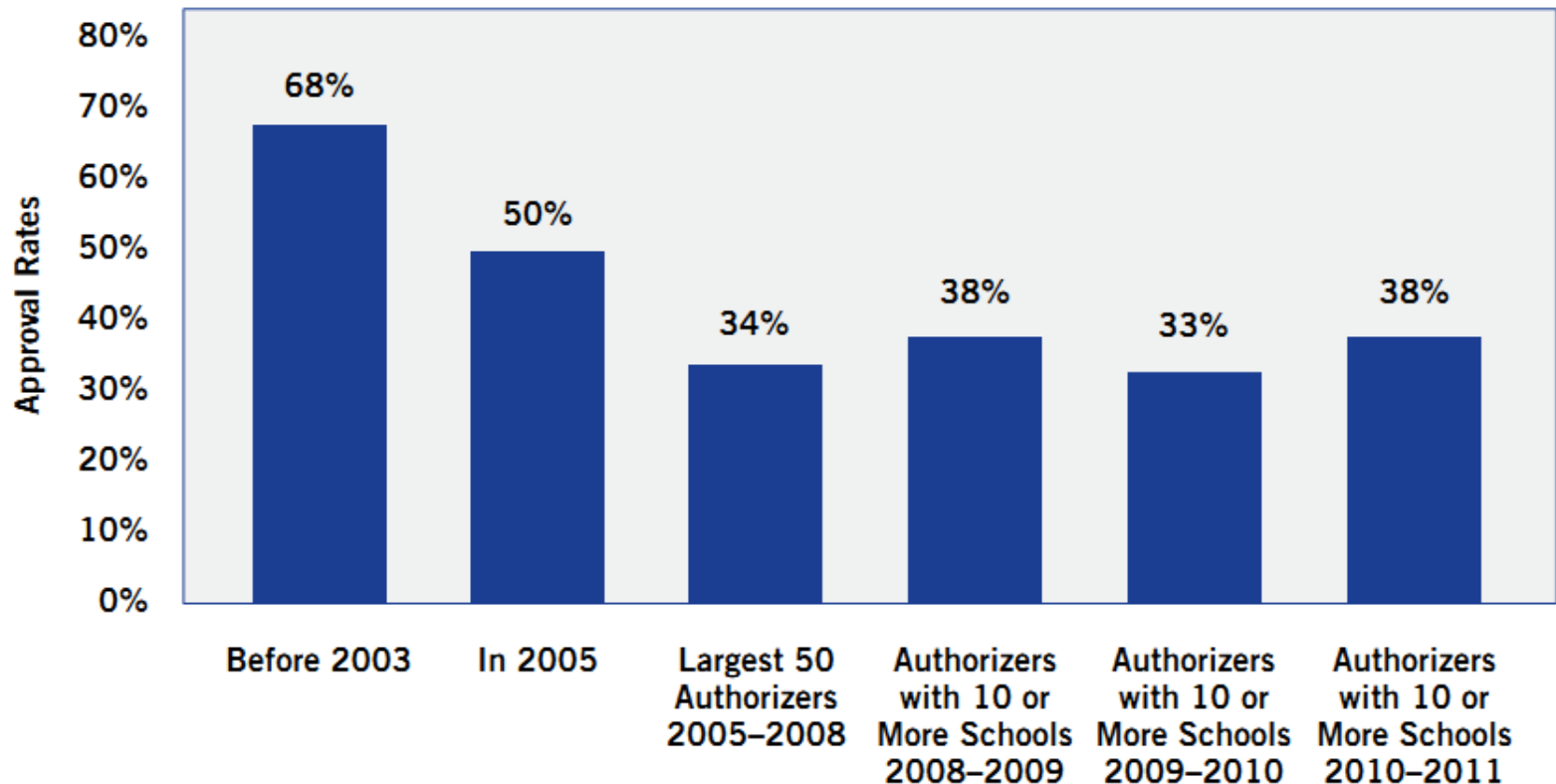
A quality authorizer implements a comprehensive application process that:

- includes clear application questions and guidance;
- follows fair, transparent procedures and rigorous criteria; and
- grants charters only to applicants who demonstrate a strong capacity to establish and operate a quality charter school.

OR Model Application Development Process

- Start with the NACSA Core and Crosswalk with Oregon Law
- Receive Feedback from OR Practitioners
 - “Designing Oregon’s Model Charter School Application” 6/19, 11-12:00 Shilo, Whale 1
- Draft OR-Specific Application Materials
- Receive More Feedback from OR Practitioners
 - Webinar Tent. 6/30, 1-2:30
- Revise and Finalize

National Trends in Application Approval Rates



Process Steps

- Assemble Evaluation Team
- Paper Review
- Due Diligence (experienced operators)
- Consensus Call
- Interview
- Written Recommendation
- Decision

Evaluation basics

Evidence

- Application including attachments
- Due diligence (If applicable)
- Interview

Characteristics of a high-quality school plan

- Internally aligned
 - Cohesion of elements
 - Mission/vision connected
- Externally valid
 - Evidence based
 - Demonstrated track record
- Sufficient detail

Rating categories

Rating	Characteristics
Meets/Exceeds the Standard	The response reflects a thorough understanding of key issues. It addresses the topic with specific and accurate information that shows thorough preparation; presents a clear, realistic picture of how the school expects to operate; and inspires confidence in the applicant's capacity to carry out the plan effectively.
Partially Meets the Standard	The response meets the criteria in many respects, but lacks detail and/or requires additional information in one or more areas.
Does Not Meet the Standard	The response is wholly undeveloped or significantly incomplete; demonstrates lack of preparation; is unsuited to the mission of the authorizer or otherwise raises substantial concerns about the viability of the plan or the applicant's ability to carry it out.

Key Sections of Model Application

School Overview

- ORS 338.045.2.a,b,c,g,h,u

1. Educational Program Design & Capacity

- ORS 338.045.2.d,e,l,l,o,p,r,s,t

2. Operations Plan & Capacity

- ORS 338.045.2.f,i,j,k,q,v,w,y

3. Financial Plan & Management Capacity

- ORS 338.045.2.m,n,x

4. CMO/Network Replication (if applicable)

FEEDBACK

What's working in Oregon application evaluation that should be included in the model application?

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Discussion

www.qualitycharters.org

