

Non-Classroom Based Charter School Do's and Don'ts

Presented by:

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QUESTIONS 1-6

Consequences of Noncompliance and Appeal Rights

1. A failure to meet the requirements of independent study law could result in:

a. A loss of some funds

b. A loss of all state funding

c. Revocation of the charter

d. All of the above

2. Your School's annual independent fiscal audit draft report has just been delivered, its conclusion is that your school operated with a pupil to teacher ratio above the legal maximum. The first step your School should take is:

- a. Cry, start close down procedures
- b. Deliver the report to your granting agency and start working on a corrective action plan
- c. Develop a response to the draft report to be included in the final audit report
- d. Seek summary review from the Education Audit Appeals Panel

3. Once in receipt of a final annual audit report that contains a finding that is apportionment significant (would result in a loss of funding), the School:

- a. Must appeal the decision to the Education Audit Appeals Panel within 90 days of receipt
- b. May file a request for summary review to the Executive Officer of the Education Audit Appeals Panel within 30 days of receipt of the State Controller's certification of the auditors report
- c. May appeal the decision to the Education Audit Appeals Panel within 60 days of receipt of the State Controller's certification of the auditors report or 30 days after receipt of summary review determination
- d. b & c

4. The Summary Review process is entirely voluntary and may proceed an appeal. What is the standard used by the Executive Office of the Educational Audit Appeals Panel when considering a summary review request?

- a. Substantial Compliance
- b. Mistake of Fact
- c. Mistake of Law
- d. Equitable Justice

5. The Education Audit Appeals Panel considers an appeal to be in addition to the summary review. Thus, if a School first requests summary review and is dissatisfied with the outcome, it may pursue a formal appeal, and the Panel will consider it, *de novo*, as if the summary review had never taken place. What are the grounds for making an appeal to the Education Audit Appeals Panel?

- a. Substantial Compliance
- b. Errors of Fact
- c. Errors of Interpretation of Law
- d. All of the above

6. Which is an accurate statement?

Charter revocation may be appealed...

- a. to the County Board of Education and then to the State Board of Education as necessary
- b. only in the case that the revocation relates to fiscal mismanagement
- c. and may always remain open pending the appeal
- d. to the Governor's special task force on "Charter School Revocation"

QUESTIONS 7-8

Special Education

7. If an enrolling student is an individual with exceptional needs whose IEP does not provide for participation in independent study, the charter school **MUST:**

a. Direct the student back to the school district of residence of last school of attendance for an IEP team meeting to consider change of placement to independent study

b. Hold an IEP team meeting prior to enrollment of the student to consider change of placement to independent study

c. Enroll the pupil, place the student on a thirty day placement, and then convene an IEP team within 30 days

d. Enroll the pupil, and hold an IEP at the Student's next annual review date

8. An IEP team considering a student who is coming from a site-based placement should :

- a. Not alter or reduce services from prior IEP without clear explanation and supporting data
- b. Invite the last school district of attendance to participate in the IEP
- c. Seek to assess as necessary to update the data to be considered by the IEP team
- d. All of the above

Question 9

Pupil to Teacher Ratio

9. Which of the following are accurate statements?

a. In a charter school, the ratio of average daily attendance for independent study pupils to full-time equivalent (FTE) certificated employees responsible for independent study may be a fixed pupils to certificated employee ratio of 25 to one or less.

b. In a charter school, the ratio of average daily attendance for independent study pupils to full-time equivalent (FTE) certificated employees responsible for independent study may be the ratio of pupils to full-time equivalent certificated employees for all other educational programs operated by the largest unified school district, as measured by average daily attendance, as reported at the second principal apportionment in the prior year, in the county or counties in which the charter school operates.

c. “A full-time equivalent certificated employee” is defined locally by the Charter School and its chartering authority.

d. It is nearly impossible to obtain the pupil to teacher ratio described above in b.

Question 10

Independent Study Board Policy

10. Which of the following are true about an Independent Study Policy:

- a. Useful, but optional
- b. Adopting the policy of the granting agency is best practice
- c. Sets forth the maximum pupil to teacher ratio
- d. None of the above

Questions 11-12

Master Agreements

11. Every student must have a written “master agreement” maintained on file. Which of the following statement(s) are true about the master agreement?

- a. As long as the Board policy is printed out and signed by parents, students, supervising teacher, no separate document is required.
- b. The master agreement must repeat verbatim the provisions of the independent study board policy.
- c. As long as the board policy provisions are within the master agreement, no other provisions are required to be included.
- d. No master agreement shall be valid for any period longer than one semester or one half year for a school on a year-round calendar.

12. The signatures on a master agreement:

- a. Must be obtained within twenty (20) days of tracking any attendance of the pupil
- b. Must be obtained within ten (10) days of tracking any attendance of the pupil
- c. Must be obtained prior to tracking any attendance of the pupil
- d. Must be obtained prior to the P2 reporting date

Questions 13-15

Attendance Accounting

13. Which of the following would accurately reflect the view of the CDE as to tracking attendance for Independent Study students in charter schools:

- a. Attendance means the attendance of charter school pupils while engaged in educational activities required of them by their charter school on days when the school is in session.
- b. Attendance means physical presence at a school site, resource center, or other satellite facility supervised by a certificated teacher.
- c. A charter school may claim apportionment credit for independent study only to the extent of the time value of pupil or student work products, as personally judged in each instance by a certificated teacher .
- d. None of the above.

14. A child enrolled in independent study who does a little bit of his assignment at home for five (5) days in a row (Wednesday through Sunday) will be credited for how many days of attendance for that work:

- a. 5, unless the certificated teacher determines that the time value of the work product is less than 5 days
- b. 0, because the child must be at the school site for attendance credit
- c. 3
- d. 3, unless the certificated teacher determines that the time value of the work product is less than 3 days.

15. The legally required minimum day of a charter school is:

a. 4 hours

b. 6 hours

c. 7 hours

d. Determined by the certificated teacher

Questions 16-17

Supervising Teacher

16. Which of the following are individuals who may assign work to pupils to be tracked as attendance:

- a. A certificated teacher
- b. Any parent or guardian or caregiver
- c. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction
- d. Either a or b

17. Which of the following are NOT true about the supervising teacher:

- a. Must be certificated
- b. Have the responsibility for coordinating, evaluating, and providing general supervision of a pupil's independent study pursuant
- c. Can be an employee of the Charter School or a contracted third-party, such as a management company
- d. Are responsible tracking time-value

Question 18

Teacher/Student Meetings

18. How many meetings, per semester, between teacher and student, are required to be in-person?

- a. 2
- b. 4
- c. 1
- d. 0

Questions 19-20

Work Samples

19. What is the minimum number of work samples legally required to be collected each semester?

a. 3

b. 5

c. 7

d. Enough to be a representative sample

20. Which of the following must be done with a sample of student work product?

a. Maintained in a file for three (3) years

b. Supervising Teacher must sign or initial

c. Supervising Teacher must date

d. Supervising Teacher must indicate time value

Question 21

Funds or Other Things of Value

21. Part of the purpose behind charter school is to provide vigorous competition within the public school system to stimulate continual improvements in all public schools. In order to compete”, a charter school can provide the following to pupils and parents as an incentive toward enrollment:

- a. \$1 per student enrolled in the Charter School at the time of pupil enrollment up to a maximum of \$500, only to be used on school supplies
- b. A brand new computer for the family to keep
- c. A Wii game system
- d. None of the above

Questions 22-24

Geographic Restrictions

22. If a charter school is granted in San Diego County, it can legally accept independent study students who reside in which of the following counties?

- a. Los Angeles
- b. Orange
- c. Imperial
- d. Riverside

23. If a charter school is granted in San Diego County and has 500 students in San Diego County and 100 students in Riverside County and 50 students in Orange County, it can maintain resource centers within its the boundaries of its granting school district and where else?

- a. Riverside County
- b. Orange County
- c. Elsewhere in San Diego County
- d. Imperial County

24. Same San Diego County charter, approved by San Diego Unified, but it only has 100 students residing in San Diego with 300 Riverside County and 150 in Orange County, which of the following facilities would be legal for the charter school to establish?

- a. A resource center within San Diego Unified boundaries
- b. A storage facility for storing instructional materials in Orange County
- c. A meeting space in Carlsbad (Northern San Diego County)
- d. A resource center in Imperial County

Questions 25-27

Funding Determinations

25. My nonclassroom based charter school is in its 3rd year of operation. In the past year the school spent 85% of its funds on instruction and related services, but only 35% of its revenue was spent on credentialed employees. What is the most likely funding determination?

- a. 100%
- b. 85%
- c. 70%
- d. 0

26. My nonclassroom based charter school is in its 3rd year of operation. In the past year the school spent 85% of its funds on instruction and related services, and 42% of its revenue was spent on credentialed employees. The pupil to teacher ratio is 29:1, what is the most likely funding determination?

- a. 100%
- b. 85%
- c. 70%
- d. 0

27. Which of the following statements are true?

- a. A charter school that has achieved a six on the academic performance index for two consecutive years, must receive a five-year funding determination.
- b. A charter school providing instruction exclusively through a virtual program (on-line instruction) does not have to consider pupil to teacher ratio as a legal requirement.
- c. First year charter schools do not need to file for a funding determination.
- d. Small charter schools (under 100 ADA) will most likely receive a 100% funding determination.

Questions 28-29

Student Rights

28. Which of the following would be a legal basis for pupil expulsion (or any form of disenrollment)?

- a. Parent waiver of standardized testing
- b. Violation of charter school suspension and expulsion policy as described in the charter
- c. Failure of parent to meet parent commitment requirements (i.e. parent volunteer hours)
- d. Performance below basic on standardized testing

29. Students over the age of 19 may be enrolled in a charter school and the charter school may generate apportionment for their attendance as long as which conditions are met:

- a. The pupil has been continuously enrolled in public school in pursuit of a high school diploma while 19 years of age and without a break in public school enrollment since that time
- b. The pupil is making satisfactory progress toward award of a high school diploma
- c. The pupil is not over the age of 22 years
- d. The pupil is kind

Question 30

Sectarian Materials

30. School funds may be used to purchase sectarian instructional materials under the following circumstances:

- a. The parent signs a waiver and release
- b. Any proverbs or other religious sayings are covered up
- c. Clearance has been obtained by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction
- d. None of the Above

ANSWERS – DON'T PEEK