

Agency Name:	SC Public Charter School District		
Agency Code:	H610	Section:	1



**Fiscal Year FY 2021-2022
Agency Budget Plan**

FORM A - BUDGET PLAN SUMMARY

OPERATING REQUESTS <i>(FORM B1)</i>	For FY 2021-2022, my agency is (mark "X"):	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requesting General Fund Appropriations.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Requesting Federal/Other Authorization.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not requesting any changes.

NON-RECURRING REQUESTS <i>(FORM B2)</i>	For FY 2021-2022, my agency is (mark "X"):	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requesting Non-Recurring Appropriations.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requesting Non-Recurring Federal/Other Authorization.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not requesting any changes.

CAPITAL REQUESTS <i>(FORM C)</i>	For FY 2021-2022, my agency is (mark "X"):	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requesting funding for Capital Projects.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not requesting any changes.

PROVISOS <i>(FORM D)</i>	For FY 2021-2022, my agency is (mark "X"):	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Requesting a new proviso and/or substantive changes to existing provisos.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Only requesting technical proviso changes (such as date references).
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not requesting any proviso changes.

Please identify your agency's preferred contacts for this year's budget process.

	<i>Name</i>	<i>Phone</i>	<i>Email</i>
PRIMARY CONTACT:	Michael Thom	(803) 734-0117	mthom@sccharter.org
SECONDARY CONTACT:	Nick Michael	(803) 806-9002	nmichael@sccharter.org

I have reviewed and approved the enclosed FY 2021-2022 Agency Budget Plan, which is complete and accurate to the extent of my knowledge.

SIGN/DATE: TYPE/PRINT NAME:	<i>Agency Director</i>	<i>Board or Commission Chair</i>
	 11.10.20 Chris Neely, Superintendent	 John S. Payne

This form must be signed by the agency head – not a delegate.

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BUDGET REQUESTS			FUNDING					FTES				
Priority	Request Type	Request Title	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted	Total	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted	Total
1	B1 - Recurring	Amend Proviso 1A.49 to increase appropriation to fund requested per pupil amounts for brick & mortar and virtual students.	0	0	0	6,294,006	6,294,006	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTALS			0	0	0	6,294,006	6,294,006	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

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FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	1
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Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	Amend Proviso 1A.49 to increase appropriation to fund requested per pupil amounts for brick & mortar and virtual students.
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	General: \$0 Federal: \$0 Other: \$6,294,006 Total: \$6,294,006
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What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2021-2022? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS	0.00
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Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	Mark "X" for all that apply:	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	IT Technology/Security related
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Consulted DTO during development
<input type="checkbox"/>	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #	

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Education, Training, and Human Development
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Healthy and Safe Families
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
<input type="checkbox"/>	Government and Citizens	

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	<p>By statute and contract, all charter schools authorized by the SCPCSD are obligated to provide a high-quality education to students. The SCPCSD developed a School Performance Framework (SPF), an annual evaluation of school performance across academic, financial and operational components. This framework is based on guidance from NACSA, the best practices of high-quality charter school authorizers, and feedback provided by charter school stakeholders. The SPF includes criteria by which all SCPCSD charter schools are evaluated to determine if they are meeting their statutory and contractual obligations, informing both the SCPCSD, school communities and parents about school performance and sustainability.</p> <p>http://www.sccharter.org/distr...</p>
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What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF	<p>The SC Public Charter School District acts as a flow through entity as one of two charter school authorizers in the state. Proviso 1A.49 funds flow directly to our schools to supplement State Aid to Classroom – Education Finance Act funding as our</p>
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FUNDS

schools do not receive local tax revenues based on ITA. We anticipate opening 7 new schools for a total of 40 in the 2021-2022 school year.

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

Fiscal Year 2019-20:

Although there has been general cost inflation of more than 6.8% over the last 5 years, charter schools have been expected to operate with the same level of funding per pupil as has been allocated in the past.

- Local school districts have increased their funding to schools by over 16% over the last 5 years.
- The SCPCSD worked intensively with the SDE to make significant improvements to the charter school application process.
- 2 new SCPCSD schools were opened successfully in FY20.
- Likewise, in accordance with its accountability system, the SCPCSD Board voted to revoke the charter of one of its schools during FY19.

Fiscal Year 2020-21:

• Although there has been general cost inflation of more than 6.8% over the last 5 years, schools have been expected to operate with the same level of funding per pupil as has been allocated in the past.

- Local school districts have increased their funding to schools by over 16% over the last 5 years.
- The SCPCSD worked intensively with the SDE to make significant improvements to the charter school application process.
- 1 new SCPCSD school has opened successfully in FY21.
- The COVID-19 pandemic caused a lot of financial burdens on our schools, as it did for much of the rest of the state. The current funding method compounded this problem, and our new school opened in the midst of a pandemic without any state or federal financial support such as ESSER funding, LEAP day funding, or Academic Recovery Camp funding.

Brick and Mortar schools are currently funded at \$3,600 per WPU and Virtual at \$1,900 per WPU. With anticipated growth and increasing costs associated with providing an innovative and high-quality education we are requesting a 7.5% increase in funding per WPU for both Brick & Mortar and Virtual students.

Estimates based on projected enrollment for the 2021-2022 school year:

Increase in Proviso per Pupil: It is recommended that the per pupil as set forth in the Proviso be increased a modest 7.5%, to \$3,870 for brick and mortar schools and \$2,043 for virtual schools.

Fiscal impact = \$6,294,006 (amount does not include other state authorizer)

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

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FORM D – PROVISO REVISION REQUEST

NUMBER	1A.49
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Cite the proviso according to the renumbered list (or mark "NEW").

TITLE	SDE-EIA: South Carolina Public Charter School Funding
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Provide the title from the renumbered list or suggest a short title for any new request.

BUDGET PROGRAM	Education Improvement Act
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Identify the associated budget program(s) by name and budget section.

RELATED BUDGET REQUEST	Priority 1
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Is this request associated with a budget request you have submitted for FY 2021-2022? If so, cite it here.

REQUESTED ACTION	Amend
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Choose from: Add, Delete, Amend, or Codify.

OTHER AGENCIES AFFECTED	Charter Institute at Erskine - Other South Carolina Public Charter School Authorizer
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Which other agencies would be affected by the recommended action? How?

SUMMARY & EXPLANATION	<p>Fiscal Year 2019-20:</p> <p>Although there has been general cost inflation of more than 6.8% over the last 5 years, schools have been expected to operate with the same level of funding per pupil as has been allocated in the past.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local school districts have increased their funding to schools by over 16% over the last 5 years. • The SCPCSD worked intensively with the SDE to make significant improvements to the charter school application process. • 2 new SCPCSD schools were opened successfully in FY20. • Likewise, in accordance with its accountability system, the SCPCSD Board voted to revoke the charter of one of its schools during FY19. <p>Fiscal Year 2020-21:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Although there has been general cost inflation of more than 6.8% over the last 5 years, schools have been expected to operate with the same level of funding per pupil as has been allocated in the past. • Local school districts have increased their funding to schools by over 16% over the last 5 years. • The SCPCSD worked intensively with the SDE to make significant improvements to the charter school application process. • 1 new SCPCSD school has opened successfully in FY21. • The COVID-19 pandemic caused a lot of financial burdens on our schools, as it did for much of the rest of the state. The current funding method compounded this problem, and our new school opened in the midst of a pandemic without any state or federal financial support such as ESSER funding, LEAP day funding, or Academic Recovery Camp funding. <p>Brick and Mortar schools are currently funded at \$3,600 per WPU and Virtual at \$1,900 per WPU. With anticipated growth and increasing costs associated with providing an innovative and high-quality education we are requesting a 7.5% increase in funding per WPU for both Brick & Mortar and Virtual students.</p>
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Summarize the existing proviso. If requesting a new proviso, describe the current state of affairs without it. Explain the need for your requested action. For deletion requests due to recent codification, please identify SC Code section where language now appears.

FISCAL IMPACT

Estimates based on projected enrollment for the 2021-2022 school year:

Increase in Proviso per Pupil: It is recommended that the per pupil as set forth in the Proviso be increased a modest 7.5%, to \$3,870 for brick and mortar schools and \$2,043 for virtual schools.

Fiscal impact = \$6,294,006

Provide estimates of any fiscal impacts associated with this proviso, whether for state, federal, or other funds. Explain the method of calculation.

PROPOSED PROVISO TEXT

The funds appropriated in Part IA, Section VIII.H.- South Carolina Public Charter School Statewide Sponsor must be allocated in the following manner to students at charter schools within the South Carolina Public Charter School District or within a registered Institution of Higher Education: Pupils enrolled in virtual charter schools sponsored by the South Carolina Public Charter School District or a registered Institution of Higher Education shall receive ~~\$1,900~~ **\$2,043** per weighted pupil and pupils enrolled in brick and mortar charter schools sponsored by the South Carolina Public Charter School District or a registered Institution of Higher Education shall receive ~~\$3,600~~ **\$3,870** per weighted pupil. Three and four year old students with a disability, who are eligible for services under IDEA and enrolled in brick and mortar charter schools sponsored by the South Carolina Public Charter School District or registered IHE, shall receive ~~\$3,600~~ **\$3,870** per student for brick and mortar charter schools. Three and four year old students with a disability, who are eligible for serves under IDEA and enrolled in charter schools sponsored by the South Carolina Public Charter School District or a registered IHE, shall be included in student counts for the South Carolina Public Charter School District and registered IHE's solely for purposes of funding under this proviso. Any unexpended funds, not to exceed ten percent of the prior year appropriation, must be carried forward from the prior fiscal year and expended for the same purpose. Any unexpended funds exceeding ten percent of the prior year appropriation must be transferred to the Charter School Facility Revolving Loan Program established in Section 59-40-175. For Fiscal Year 2020-21, the timelines set forth for ruling on charter school applications are extended for sixty calendar days for all applications submitted to the South Carolina Public Charter School District if the district determines that an applicant should be permitted to amend its application to meet the requirements of Section 59-40-60 and Section 59-40-70, of the 1976 Code, based on an applicant's proposal to address an existing achievement gap utilizing an evidence-based educational program in an underserved geographical area of the state including, but not limited to, charter schools proposed to be located in any school district that is a plaintiff in the Abbeville law suit. The South Carolina Public Charter School District shall report to the Senate Finance Committee and the House Ways and Means Committee on the outcomes of this extended time for a hearing at the end of the application cycle.

In addition, from the EIA funds appropriated in and carried forward from Act 97 of 2017, the Department of Education shall distribute to the South Carolina Public Charter School District, an amount equal to ~~\$3,600~~ **\$3,870** per pupil for three and four year old students with a disability, who were eligible for services under IDEA and who were enrolled in brick and mortar charter schools sponsored by the district or registered institution of higher education during the 2017-2018 School Year and for whom EIA funding previously was not provided. The district shall distribute the funds on a per pupil basis to the charter schools which provided the IDEA services and shall not retain any portion thereof. The schools shall submit documentation of the student count to both the district and the department before the funds are dispersed.

The Education Oversight Committee shall issue a report to the General Assembly recommending one or more funding systems for charter schools using such indicators as graduation rate and academic achievement data. At a minimum the report will break out graduation and achievement data by school. Any charter school receiving funding pursuant to this proviso must send the required information to the Education Oversight Committee by October 1 and the Education Oversight Committee shall issue its report to the General Assembly by June 1. Any school failing to report this information to the

Education Oversight Committee shall have one percent of the funds received pursuant to this proviso withheld until they become compliant with the data submission requirements.

Paste existing text above, then bold and underline insertions and strikethrough deletions. For new proviso requests, enter requested text above.