



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

OFFICE OF SCHOOL INNOVATION
ROOM 5N EB Mezzanine, 89 WASHINGTON AVENUE, ALBANY NY, 12234
Tel. 518/474-1762; Fax 518/474-1405; charterschools@mail.nysed.gov

To: Prospective Charter School Applicant Groups and Charter School Operators
From: New York State Education Department - Charter School Office
Subject: 2014 Request for Proposals (RFP) Round 3 -- **BUFFALO ONLY**
Date: October 10, 2014

The Charter School Office announces the release of an additional application round in 2014 to establish charter schools authorized by the Board of Regents. This opportunity is limited to the establishment of new charter schools prepared to launch in 2015 within the Buffalo City School District.

As part of an integrated charter authorization and grant review process, the Department may provide financial awards of up to \$750,000 to charter schools which satisfy one or more of the federal Charter Schools Program Planning and Implementation grants. Of particular interest to the Department and Board of Regents are charter schools which are designed to serve students who are at-risk of academic failure based on their enrollment in a persistently low-achieving designated school and/or approved to operate as a turnaround or restart school.

The timeline for Round 3 is compressed to allow for the Board of Regents to consider and act on high quality applications at its regular meeting scheduled for December 15-16, 2014. The timeline for submission of **Full Applications only** (*letters of intent are NOT required for this round*) begins on October 10, 2014 and closes on November 16, 2014. The full timeline is attached to this announcement and posted with the 2014 RFP and Application Kit on the Department's webpage at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/psc/startcharter>.

Charter School applicant groups and operators may submit questions to the Charter School Office mailbox: charterschools@mail.nysed.gov.

Thank you in advance for your commitment to providing high quality options for the students and families residing within the city of Buffalo.

2014 APPLICATION SUBMISSION AND REVIEW PROCESS AND TIMELINE

2014 Application Process	Round 3 Deadlines BUFFALO Only
2014 Final Request for Proposals (RFP) and Application Kit Posted	<u>Round 3 Open Date</u> October 10, 2014
Phase I: Letter of Intent Submission is by upload to https://nysed-cso.fluidreview.com . Letters of Intent that do not provide all requested information and meet submission requirements will not be accepted.	N/A WAIVED
Applicant Information Webinar/Conference Call Log-in and call-in details will be provided to all applicants who activate an account at https://nysed-cso.fluidreview.com	October 17 Webinar/Conference Call 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.
Notification of Intent to Apply Applicants are asked to indicate intent to submit an application by providing name of proposed school, proposed grade span, lead applicant name and contact information at https://nysed-cso.fluidreview.com . Notification of intent to apply is not required but is requested to assist in planning for application review.	November 3 (requested)
Phase II: Full Application Submission is by upload to https://nysed-cso.fluidreview.com . Each Full Application submitted must adhere to page limitations and must be uploaded before 6:00 p.m. The Certification and Assurances Statement must include the electronic signature of the lead applicant(s).	<u>Deadline</u> Sunday, November 16 6:00 p.m.
Public Comment The public may submit comments on applications through charterschools@mail.nysed.gov or by mail to NYSED Charter School Office, 89 Washington Avenue, Room 5N EB Mezzanine, Albany, NY 12234.	Comments Taken Throughout process
Public Hearings Public hearings on charter school applications must be conducted by the districts of location within 30 days of notification of receipt of an application by the NYSED Charter School Office.	<u>Deadline</u> November 17 - December 15
Panel Review of Full Application The Full Application will be screened by NYSED for completeness before being accepted and sent for full evaluation by review panels. (<i>Incomplete applications will not be accepted</i>).	<u>Deadline</u> November 17- November 21

2014 Application Process	Round 3 Deadlines BUFFALO Only
<p>Phase III: Capacity Interviews NYSED conducts interviews with qualified applicant groups and proposed boards of trustees. <i>(If applicable, CMO representatives may be included in capacity interview).</i></p>	<p><u>Deadline</u> November 20 – November 25</p>
<p>Phase IV: Request for Modifications Following the capacity interviews, NYSED may request that applicant groups/founding boards make technical modifications to charter applications.</p>	<p><u>Deadline</u> December</p>
<p>Reviewer Feedback to Applicants NYSED prepares written recommendations for the Board of Regents and provides applicants not recommended for Board of Regents approval with comments and summative feedback from reviewers.</p>	<p><u>Deadline</u> December</p>
<p>Charter Agreement Calls NYSED and the founding boards of the charter schools recommended for Board of Regents approval preview/discuss the terms and conditions of the proposed charter agreement with the Board of Regents.</p>	<p><u>Deadline</u> December</p>
<p>Board of Regents Action The Board of Regents will review the recommendations and vote to approve or deny at its regularly scheduled meeting. For those applicant groups whose applications are approved, the Board of Regents will issue a charter.</p>	<p><u>Deadline</u> December 15-16</p>