



## Charter School Quality Review

Oregon’s charter school legislation, ORS 338.095, requires the sponsor (or the sponsor’s designee) of a public charter school to at least annually visit the charter school site and review the public charter school’s compliance with the terms and provisions with the charter.

The Northwest Center for Educational Options, as part of their menu of district services, offers a basic and comprehensive quality review. The following table provides information on each of these services.

<b>Elements</b>	<b>Basic Quality Review</b>	<b>Comprehensive Quality Review</b>
<b>Purpose</b>	This basic review will fulfill the sponsor’s statutory requirement in ensuring the charter school is in compliance with federal and state law and the provisions of the charter.	A comprehensive review is an in-depth evaluation of the performance and quality of the charter school. The five major domains that will be examined are the educational program, governance and operations, financial management, staffing and parent relations and legal compliance.
<b>Recommended Use</b>	The basic review can be used for charter schools that are not up for renewal, seem to be meeting the terms of their charter agreement and/or to satisfy annual site review requirements	The comprehensive review is recommended for charters that are scheduled for renewal and for any charter schools that seems to be having difficulty in meeting the terms of their charter (i.e. financial, governance, academic performance etc.)
<b>Approach</b>	<p>Two basic questions will be explored:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Did the charter school comply with all conditions, requirements and obligations of the charter agreement?</li> <li>2. Did the charter school comply with all federal, state laws governing charter schools and non-profits?</li> </ol> <p>These questions will be answered by reviewing foundational documents and interviews with the district and key charter school staff.</p> <p>The basic review includes a comprehensive report and executive summary of the findings. There will also be recommendations for the development of an action plan, if necessary.</p>	<p>The comprehensive review will explore two broad questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Is the educational program a success?</li> <li>2. Is the school a viable organization (i.e. fiscally solvent with sound, compliant governance and operations?)</li> </ol> <p>This thorough, in-depth review includes a school staff/board self-evaluation, a review of the foundational documents, two-day site visit, comprehensive report and executive summary of the findings. There will also be recommendations for the development of an action plan, if necessary.</p>
<p>The primary tool for both the basic and comprehensive quality review is a <b>NWCEO Charter School Quality Review Rubric</b>. This rubric outlines specific, objective criteria that is based on Oregon law and an accumulation of accountability best practices for charter schools and public school districts.</p>		
<b>Timeframe</b>	Requires approximately 40 NWCEO hours Two-three week timeframe	Requires approximately 100 NWCEO hours Six to eight week timeframe
<b>Cost</b>	NWCEO Membership Rate   \$5,000 Non-membership Rate       \$6,000	NWCEO Membership Rate   \$12,500 Non-membership Rate       \$15,000
<b>Personnel</b>	The NWCEO staff is highly experienced in the many facets of charter schools, in particular accountability and oversight.	The NWCEO staff is highly experienced in the many facets of charter schools, in particular accountability and oversight.

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