

Findlay City Schools
Sponsorship Application
Timeline

Thank you for your interest in charter/community school sponsorship with Findlay City School. Findlay City Schools as its Sponsoring **priority** sets rigorous standards for any school that it sponsors or considers sponsoring. At the present time Findlay City Schools sponsors Findlay Digital Academy which is an on-line Dropout Prevention and Recovery school.

Findlay City Schools does not desire to sponsor any additional charter/community schools for the 2018-19 school year. Should we desire to sponsor any additional schools we would adhere to the timeline outlined below for both new charter schools and existing charter schools seeking a new sponsor.

Timeline for New School Applicants	New School Applicants Opening Fall 2018 or School desiring to Change Sponsor or Replicate
Online application available on Findlay City Schools (FCS) website	2/1/17
Deadline to submit application.	10/15/17
<p>FCS staff and external reviewers evaluate application. The process includes:</p> <p><i>Content review. Applications that are incomplete or poorly drafted will not be considered.</i></p> <p><i>Individual evaluator review. Applications are reviewed by a team of Findlay City Schools' staff and external application evaluators.</i></p> <p><i>Evaluation team debrief meeting. The evaluation team convenes to discuss the application's strengths and weaknesses, and decide whether to approve an applicant for an interview.</i></p>	11/30/17
<p>Interviews conducted, lead summaries finalized.</p> <p><i>Applicants are interviewed by the evaluation team.</i></p>	12/01-12/30/17

<p><i>Interviews are in-person at Findlay City Schools' administrative office. Prior to the interview, applicants will receive an agenda of topics to be covered.</i></p> <p><i>Following the interview, the team convenes to reach consensus on the application. The team leader subsequently drafts the team's analysis and submits it to Fordham's senior sponsorship staff.</i></p>	
<p>Developers whose applications are not recommended to move forward are notified in writing.</p> <p>Developers whose applications are recommended to move forward are notified by phone or email.</p>	1/15/2018
<p>Findlay City Schools' senior staff notifies the Findlay City School board of applications that are recommended for a sponsorship contract.</p>	1/15/18
<p>Findlay City Schools' board vote on new school contracts. Applicants are notified as to whether the Findlay City Schools board approved or did not approve the applicant for a sponsorship contract</p>	2/18/18
<p>Contracts are drafted and sent to school. Note: New school contracts must be submitted to ODE by 3/15/18 for a new school fall open.</p>	3/01/18 for new and start-up applicants
<p>Frequent consultation concerning preparations for school opening.</p>	March - August 2018

Existing Schools

Existing schools seeking Findlay City Schools sponsorship will be evaluated initially based on the following rubric for academic performance:

Primary Academic Indicators	Exceeds the Standard	Meets the Standard	Does Not Meet the Standard	Falls Far Below the Standard
Performance Index (PI) ¹	90% or higher	80%–89%	70%–79%	69% and below
Value Added ²	+4.00 and above	0 to 3.9	–0.99 to –3.9	–4.0 and below
Graduation Rate (4 years)	93%–100%	84%–92%	79%–83%	Below 79%
Graduation Rate (5 years)	95%–100%	85%–94%	80%–84%	80% and below
K–3 Literacy Improvement	B or better	C	D	F
Performance versus Local Market: ³ PI	Ranked in top 20th percentile in PI score	Ranked in 70th–79th percentile in PI score	Ranked in 50th–69th percentile in PI score	Ranked in bottom 49th percentile in PI score
Performance versus Local Market: VA	Ranked in top 20th percentile in VAM score	Ranked in 70th–79th percentile in VAM score	Ranked in 50th–69th percentile in VAM score	Ranked in bottom 49th percentile in VAM score
Performance versus Statewide Charters: PI	Ranked in top 20th percentile in PI score	Ranked in 70th–79th percentile in PI score	Ranked in 50th–69th percentile in PI score	Ranked in bottom 49th percentile in PI score
Performance versus Statewide Charters: VA	Ranked in top 20th percentile in VAM score	Ranked in 70th–79th percentile in VAM score	Ranked in 50th–69th percentile in VAM score	Ranked in bottom 49th percentile in VAM score

Finance will be evaluated by looking at the past years audits and general financial health. Only schools that are able to operate in the black would be considered for sponsorship.

Operations/Governance will be evaluated by looking at the primary indicators of Records Compliance, On-Time Records Submission Rate, Monthly Financial Records submission, the quality of LEA Special Education services.

In developing this timeline Findlay City Schools relied on the expertise of the Thomas B. Fordham Institute and the National Association of Charter School Authorizers.

References: Thomas B. Fordham Institute <https://edexcellence.net/applying-sponsorship>

National Association of Charter School Authorizers <http://qualitycharters.org/>