

Findlay City Schools
Sponsorship Application
Timeline

Thank you for your interest in charter/community school sponsorship with Findlay City Schools. 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 Digital Academy is one of highest performing community schools in the state. Findlay City Schools, as a Sponsor, is rated Exemplary by the Ohio Department of Education.

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 or those wishing to replicate a school.

Timeline for New School, Replicators, or Change of Sponsor Applicants	New School, Change Sponsor or Replicate Applicants Opening Fall 2019 or after
Online application available on Findlay City Schools (FCS) website	February 2017
Deadline to submit application.	June 1 prior to year of opening
<p><i>Applications are reviewed by a Review Team of Findlay City Schools' staff and external application evaluators.</i></p> <p><i>The Review Team will use the Application Rubric to evaluate applications.</i></p> <p><i>Applications that are incomplete or poorly drafted will not be considered.</i></p> <p><i>Applications are reviewed by a Review Team of</i></p>	<p>Between June 1-30 (a year prior to proposed school opening)*</p>

<p><i>Findlay City Schools' staff and if needed external application evaluators. Review Team members score the application independently.</i></p> <p><i>At the Review Team debrief meeting Reviewer average scores and discuss the application's strengths and weaknesses, and decide whether to approve an applicant for an interview. The application must score 75% of the possible points to be considered for sponsorship.</i></p> <p>Those applications scoring 75% of possible points are invited to a mandatory interview.</p> <p>After the interview, the Review Team meets and drafts a recommendation to approve or deny sponsorship.</p>	
<p>Both the Sponsor Oversight Committee and the Findlay City Schools' Board of Education review and approve the recommendation of the Review Team.</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 and in writing.</p> <p>A Preliminary Agreement is entered into by the Findlay City Schools Board and the Developer.</p>	<p>July 1-30 (a year prior to proposed school opening)</p>
<p>Contract between Findlay City Schools and the</p>	

<p>Developer is written.</p> <p>Developer indicates acceptance of the terms of the contract.</p> <p>Findlay City Schools' board vote on new school contracts.</p> <p>Applicants are notified as to whether the Findlay City Schools board approved or did not approve the applicant for a sponsorship contract.</p> <p>Approved contracts are signed by both parties.</p> <p>ODE is notified prior to 3/15/18.</p>	<p>August 1- September 15 (a year prior to proposed school opening)</p>
<p>9+ Month Developer Planning Stage.</p> <p>Frequent consultation between Developer and Findlay City Schools concerning preparations for school opening.</p> <p>School cannot open prior to August 1 of the agreed upon year.</p>	<p>September 15, (a prior to school opening) – July of the year the school is opening</p>

All documents referenced in this timeline can be found on the Findlay City Schools website.

*If a school desires to open in the summer/fall of 2019 the completed application must be received by June 2018.

References: Thomas B. Fordham Institute <https://edexcellence.net/applying-sponsorship>, National Association of Charter School Authorizers <http://qualitycharters.org/>, other Charter Schools