

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 (1. Strong Academic Performance, 2. Fiscally Sound, 3. Appropriate Governance, 4. Is in Compliance with **all** laws as spelled out in O.R.C., and 5) Addresses a Community Need) 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 **Effective** 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.

<p><b>Timeline for New School, Replicators, or Change of Sponsor Applicants</b></p>	<p><b>New School, Change Sponsor or Replicate Applicants</b> Opening Fall 2019 or after</p>
<p>Online application available on Findlay City Schools (FCS) website</p>	<p><b>February 2017</b></p>
<p>Deadline to submit application.</p>	<p>June 1 prior to year of opening</p>
<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>Between June 1- 30 ( a year prior to proposed school opening)*</p>

<p><i>Applications are reviewed by a Review Team of 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 Developer is written.</p>	<p>August 1-September 15</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>(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 year 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