

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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July 5, 2006

John L. Winn
Commissioner of Education



MEMORANDUM

TO: District School Superintendents, Finance Officers, and Charter School Contacts

FROM: Spessard Boatright 

SUBJECT: Distribution of Capital Outlay Funds for Charter Schools

Section 1013.62(1), Florida Statutes, establishes eligibility criteria and allocation procedures for the distribution of capital outlay funds to charter schools. Funds are first allocated to charter schools that received funding in 2005-2006. To the extent that funds are available, charter schools that did not receive funding in 2005-2006 may be eligible for an allocation. Verification of eligibility is required to receive an allocation of capital outlay funds. To accomplish the required verification of eligibility, the Charter School Capital Outlay Plan includes certifications attesting to a district's determination of eligibility. The form and department procedures are attached, and may also be found on our website at: <http://www.firn.edu/doe/oef/>. To be included in funding distributions subsequent to August 31, 2006, a charter school must meet the following requirements:

- Submit a completed Charter School Capital Outlay Plan (Revised June 2006) to the Office of Educational Facilities no later than August 31, 2006; and
- Meet the eligibility requirements as attested to within the Plan.

Distributions after the established deadline may be reduced to reflect the omission of a school's Charter School Capital Outlay Plan.

Distributions are to be made monthly. Your district's first charter school allocation for 2006-2007 will be sent via electronic funds transfer on July 27th. The remaining distributions will be made on the fourth Thursday of each month thereafter, except for November, which will be the

SPESSARD BOATRIGHT
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

fourth Wednesday. Recalculations of allocations will be done during the fiscal year to reflect revised student membership data; therefore, your future distributions may be less.

Pursuant to Section 1013.62(2), Florida Statutes, Charter School Capital Outlay funds may be used **ONLY** for the following purposes:

- purchase of real property;
- construction of school facilities;
- purchase, lease purchase, or lease of permanent or relocatable school facilities;
- purchase of vehicles to transport students to and from the charter school; and
- renovation, repair, and/or maintenance of school facilities that the charter school owns or is purchasing through a lease-purchase or long-term lease of 5 years or longer.

When a charter school is non-renewed or terminated, any unencumbered funds and all equipment and property purchased with public funds shall revert to the ownership of the district school board, as provided in Section 1002.33(8)(e) and (f), Florida Statutes. The reversion of such equipment, property, and furnishings shall focus on recoverable assets, but not on intangible or irrecoverable costs such as rental or leasing fees, normal maintenance, and limited renovations. If there are additional local issues such as the shared use of facilities or partial ownership of facilities or property, these issues shall be agreed to in the charter contract prior to the expenditure of funds.

For your reference, attached is the Technical Assistance Paper on Charter School Capital Outlay Funding that has been issued by the Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice. Also attached is a copy of the current Charter School Capital Outlay Plan.

If you need additional assistance, please contact William Fontaine at (850) 245-9240 or Suncom 205-9240.

SB/wef/h

Attachments