

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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July 15, 2008

MEMORANDUM

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

FROM: Spessard Boatright

SUBJECT: Distribution of Charter School Capital Outlay Funds for Fiscal Year 2008-2009

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. Charter school capital outlay funds for fiscal year 2008-2009 are provided pursuant to Specific Appropriation 18, Chapter 2008-09, Laws of Florida.

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.fldoe.org/edfacil/oef/chartsup.asp>. To be included in funding distributions subsequent to October 10, 2008, a charter school must meet the following requirements:

- Submit a completed Charter School Capital Outlay Plan (Revised July 2008) to the Office of Educational Facilities no later than October 10, 2008; and,
- Meet the eligibility requirements as attested to within the Plan.

Distributions are transferred monthly to the sponsoring school district. Your district's first charter school capital outlay allocation for 2008-2009 will be sent via electronic funds transfer on July 24, 2008. The remaining distributions will be made on the fourth Thursday of each month thereafter, except for November, which will be the fourth Wednesday. Districts are to remit the funds to charter schools within 10 days of receipt.

SPESSARD BOATRIGHT
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

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Charter school allocations are recalculated during the fiscal year to reflect revised student membership data; therefore, your future distributions may be more or less. Recalculations are prompted by updated student membership data pursuant to the second and third enrollment surveys and reflections of closed charter schools and/or the addition of newly eligible charter schools. Until receipt of the results of the second enrollment survey, allocations of charter school capital outlay funds are based on the final enrollment data of the previous fiscal year (i.e., fiscal year 2006-2007). Fluctuations in funding throughout the 2008-2009 fiscal year are adjusted when the Office of Educational Facilities conducts the final charter school calculations toward the end of fiscal year 2008-2009. The final calculations ensure each school receives its actual entitlement of funds for fiscal year 2008-2009.

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 of partial ownership of facilities or property, these issues shall be agreed to in the charter contract prior to the expenditure of funds.

If you need additional assistance, please contact William Fontaine at (850) 245-9240 or by email at: william.fontaine@fldoe.org.

SB/wef

Attachments