CHARTER SCHOOL POLICY

CURRICULUM

Applicability of Title Relating to Prekindergarten Program

An open-enrollment charter school is subject to a prohibition, restriction, or requirement, as applicable, imposed by Title 2 (Public Education) of the Texas Education Code, or a rule adopted under Title 2 (Public Education) of the Texas Education Code, relating to prekindergarten programs under Subchapter E (Kindergarten and Prekindergarten Programs), Chapter 29, Texas Education Code. (TEC §12.104(b)(2)(H))

Prekindergarten Program

Universal Academy open-enrollment charter school's educational program does include a prekindergarten program. The open-enrollment charter school shall comply with Subchapter E (Kindergarten and Prekindergarten Programs), Chapter 29, Texas Education Code in the operation of a prekindergarten program.

Applicability of Title Relating to Reading Instruments and Accelerated Reading Instruction

An open-enrollment charter school is subject to a prohibition, restriction, or requirement, as applicable, imposed by Title 2 (Public Education) of the Texas Education Code, or a rule adopted under Title 2 (Public Education) of the Texas Education Code, relating to reading instruments and accelerated instruction programs under TEC §28.006 (Reading Diagnosis). (TEC §12.104(b)(2)(C))

Universal Academy open-enrollment charter school adopts the requirements of TEC §28.006 (Reading Diagnosis) pursuant to TEC §12.104(b)(2)(G). Where "school or school district" is used in TEC §28.006, Universal Academy open-enrollment charter school hereby substitutes "open-enrollment charter school" to conform to these requirements.

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Reading Diagnosis and Accelerated Reading Instruction

Universal Academy open-enrollment charter school must administer at the kindergarten and first and second grade levels, a reading instrument as required by TEC §28.006. (TEC §28.006(c) and (f))

The open-enrollment charter school shall administer at the beginning of the seventh grade a reading instrument as required by TEC 28.006. (TEC 28.006(c-1) and (f))

The chief administrative officer of the open-enrollment charter school shall report the results of the reading instruments. (TEC §28.006(d)).

Universal Academy open-enrollment charter school must notify the parent or guardian of each student in kindergarten or first or second grade that is determined, on the basis of reading instrument results, to be at risk for dyslexia or other reading difficulties. (TEC §28.006(g))

The open-enrollment charter school shall implement an accelerated reading instruction program that provides reading instruction that addresses reading deficiencies to those students and shall determine the form, content, and timing of that program. (TEC §28.006 (g))

The admission, review, and dismissal (ARD) committee of a student who participates in an open-enrollment charter school's special education program under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and who does not perform satisfactorily on a reading instrument under TEC §28.006 shall determine the manner in which the student will participate in an accelerated reading instruction program under TEC §28.006(g). (TEC §28.006 (g))

The open-enrollment charter school shall provide additional reading instruction and intervention to each student in seventh grade assessed under TEC §28.006(c-1), as appropriate to improve the student's reading skills in the relevant areas identified through the assessment

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instrument. Training and support for activities required by TEC §28.006(c-1) shall be provided by regional education service centers (ESC) and teacher reading academies established under TEC §21.4551 (Teacher Reading Academies), and may be provided by other public and private providers. (TEC §28.006 (g-1))

The open-enrollment charter school shall make a good faith effort to ensure that the notice required under TEC §28.006 is provided either in person or by regular mail and that the notice is clear and easy to understand and is written in English and in the parent or guardian's native language. (TEC §28.006 (h))

The Commissioner shall certify, not later than July 1 of each school year or as soon as practicable thereafter, whether sufficient funds have been appropriated statewide for the purposes of TEC §28.006. A determination by the Commissioner is final and may not be appealed. For purposes of certification, the Commissioner may not consider Foundation School Program funds. (TEC §28.006 (i))

No more than 15 percent of the funds certified by the Commissioner under TEC §28.006(i) may be spent on indirect costs. The Commissioner shall evaluate the programs that fail to meet the standard of performance under TEC §39.301(c)(5) (Review by Commissioner: Accountability Ratings) and may implement interventions or sanctions under Subchapter E (Accreditation Interventions and Sanctions), Chapter 39, Texas Education Code. The Commissioner may audit the expenditures of funds appropriated for purposes of TEC §28.006. The use of the funds appropriated for purposes of TEC §28.006 shall be verified as part of the open-enrollment charter school audit under TEC §44.008 (Annual Audit; Report). (TEC §28.006(j))

The provisions of TEC §28.006 relating to parental notification of a student's results on the reading instrument and to implementation of an accelerated reading instruction program may be implemented only if the Commissioner certifies that funds have been appropriated during a school year for administering the accelerated reading instruction program specified under this TEC §28.006. (TEC §28.006(k))

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