Charter public schools are accountable to the same standards and assessments as other public schools in the state (CRS 22-30.5-104(6)(c)(II)). Charter public schools are bound by the same state and federal laws barring discrimination in enrollment practices; charters are open to all and may not request entrance exams (CRS 22-30.5-104(3)).

Charter public schools serve a statewide student population that is just as diverse as non-charters:

- Currently, 47.3% of Colorado charter public school students identify as students of color compared to 46.1% of the state’s traditional PreK-12 public school students.
- Additionally, 15.4% of Colorado charter public school students identify as English Language Learners compared to 13.9% of the state’s traditional PreK-12 public school students.

All charter public schools must be set up and run as nonprofit entities (CRS 22-30.5-104(4)(a)).

Charter public schools must complete an independent financial audit each year (CRS 22-30.5-104(4)(a)); all charter public schools are subject to the same “Public School Financial Transparency Act” as every district in the state, which requires them to regularly post detailed financial information online for free public access.

Charters are subject to the same sunshine laws regarding open meetings and open records as other schools in the state.

Charters must undergo annual performance reviews by their districts examining the school’s academic progress as well as its most recent financial audit (CRS 22-30.5-110).

If charters continually underperform, the timeline for districts to begin closely examining and considering action against them is just two years (CRS 22-30.5-110(3.5); this same timeline can be as much as five years in the case of other poor-performing public schools.

Other facts about charter public schools:

- Charter public schools are accountable to the same standards and assessments as other public schools in the state (CRS 22-30.5-104(6)(c)(III)).
- Charter public schools are bound by the same state and federal laws barring discrimination in enrollment practices; charters are open to all and may not request entrance exams (CRS 22-30.5-104(3)).
- Charter public schools serve a statewide student population that is just as diverse as non-charters:
  - Currently, 47.3% of Colorado charter public school students identify as students of color compared to 46.1% of the state’s traditional PreK-12 public school students.
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Learn more about charter public schools at www.CharterPublic.org.

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