

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS: AUTHORIZER FEES

Updated February 2014

How are authorizer fees calculated in Idaho?

Each school's authorizer fee is determined using the formula provided in [I.C. § 33-5208\(8\)](#). The spreadsheet at the end of this FAQ shows each PCSC-authorized school's fee for the 2013-14 school year (FY14). Note that up to 10% of each school's fee may be directed to an organization that provides technical support for public charter schools.

To what organizations may the 10% option be directed?

Statute provides that "each public charter school's board of directors may direct up to ten percent (10%) of the calculated fee to pay membership fees to an organization of association that provides technical assistance, training and advocacy for Idaho public charter schools."

Such organizations and associations include the Idaho Charter School Network, the Idaho School Boards Association, the Idaho Association of School Administrators, and Idaho Association of School Business Officials. Other organizations may also qualify; please query the PCSC office about particular organizations you wish to include.

Do authorizer fees supplement or replace the Public Charter School Commission's general fund appropriation?

The implementation of authorizer fees represents a change in the PCSC's funding source, rather than additional funding. In the Office of the State Board of Education's FY15 budget, you can see that authorizer fees have replaced the PCSC's general fund appropriation and now comprise the PCSC's sole source of funds.

Will the Public Charter School Commission's budget increase as a result of authorizer fees?

The PCSC's budget will expand modestly from FY14 to FY15; the increase in revenue is \$10,986.50, or 3.5%. (The number of operating schools authorized by the PCSC will increase by at least 6% in the 2014-15 school year.)

How does the Public Charter School Commission's budget compare to that of other authorizers nationwide?

[Authorizing Roadmap: National Perspectives on Quality Chartering](#), an October 2013 report commissioned by the J.A. and Katherine Albertson Foundation and the Idaho Charter School Network, observes that Idaho's Public Charter School Commission is

among the nation's lowest funded authorizers in terms of both budget-per-school and staff-per-school. (See page 18-19 of the report.)

The National Association of Charter School Authorizers' [2012 The State of Charter School Authorizing](#) reports that the national average staffing level for independent chartering boards, such as the PCSC, is .31 FTE per school. Idaho's PCSC is staffed at .07 FTE per school, or 23% of the average staffing level. (See page 24 of the report.)

The [National Alliance of Public Charter Schools' model charter law](#) recommends authorizer fees as a funding source for charter school authorizers. Nationwide, 60% of authorizers are funded through authorizer fees.

How do authorizer fees fit into the larger context of charter school finances?

The crafters of the bill that created the authorizer fee also included a new provision by which public charter schools receive facilities funding. Care was taken to ensure that despite the new expenditure (the authorizer fee), schools would net positive as a result of the new revenue source (facilities funding). When looking at the larger picture, schools should see an overall financial benefit as a result of the legislation.

Public Charter School Financial Support (Idaho Code §33-5208)*

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
School	2012-13 ADA	2013-14 Estimated ADA (First Reporting Period)	33-5208(8)(a) State Disbursement / State ADA	33-5208(8)(b)(i) Subsection (8)(a) Calculation x 4	33-5208(8)(b)(ii) 1.5% of Subsection (8)(a) Calculation x School's ADA	Lesser of 33-5208(8)(b)(i) or 33-5208(8)(b)(ii)	Greater of 33-5208(8)(a) or 33-5208(8)(b)	Authorizer Fee after applying Proportional Deflator based on Commission Appropriation +15%	10% Option	90% to PCSC
Academy at Roosevelt Center, The	271.91	266.73	\$4,320.58	\$17,282.33	\$17,286.43	\$17,282.33	\$17,282.33	\$13,013.55	\$1,301.36	\$11,712.20
American Heritage Charter School	0.00	220.22	\$4,320.58	\$17,282.33	\$14,272.18	\$14,272.18	\$14,272.18	\$10,746.92	\$1,074.69	\$9,672.22
Another Choice Virtual School	279.07	310.37	\$4,320.58	\$17,282.33	\$20,114.69	\$17,282.33	\$17,282.33	\$13,013.55	\$1,301.36	\$11,712.20
Blackfoot Community Charter Learning Center	256.68	292.00	\$4,320.58	\$17,282.33	\$18,924.15	\$17,282.33	\$17,282.33	\$13,013.55	\$1,301.36	\$11,712.20
Chief Tahgee Elementary Academy	0.00	81.80	\$4,320.58	\$17,282.33	\$5,301.35	\$5,301.35	\$5,301.35	\$3,991.91	\$399.19	\$3,592.72
Compass Public Charter School	529.70	566.33	\$4,320.58	\$17,282.33	\$36,703.13	\$17,282.33	\$17,282.33	\$13,013.55	\$1,301.36	\$11,712.20
Falcon Ridge Public Charter School	251.88	261.56	\$4,320.58	\$17,282.33	\$16,951.37	\$16,951.37	\$16,951.37	\$12,764.34	\$1,276.43	\$11,487.91
Heritage Academy	168.71	185.13	\$4,320.58	\$17,282.33	\$11,998.04	\$11,998.04	\$11,998.04	\$9,034.49	\$903.45	\$8,131.05
Heritage Community Charter School	428.71	466.97	\$4,320.58	\$17,282.33	\$30,263.73	\$17,282.33	\$17,282.33	\$13,013.55	\$1,301.36	\$11,712.20
Idaho Connects Online (Formerly KAID)	154.14	185.18	\$4,320.58	\$17,282.33	\$12,001.28	\$12,001.28	\$12,001.28	\$9,036.94	\$903.69	\$8,133.24
Idaho Science and Technology Charter School	179.61	213.09	\$4,320.58	\$17,282.33	\$13,810.09	\$13,810.09	\$13,810.09	\$10,398.97	\$1,039.90	\$9,359.07
Idaho Virtual Academy	2790.11	2563.70	\$4,320.58	\$17,282.33	\$166,150.15	\$17,282.33	\$17,282.33	\$13,013.55	\$1,301.36	\$11,712.20
INSPIRE Connections Academy	613.43	703.37	\$4,320.58	\$17,282.33	\$45,584.52	\$17,282.33	\$17,282.33	\$13,013.55	\$1,301.36	\$11,712.20
iSucceed Virtual High School	238.43	293.80	\$4,320.58	\$17,282.33	\$19,040.81	\$17,282.33	\$17,282.33	\$13,013.55	\$1,301.36	\$11,712.20
Kootenai Bridge Academy	160.34	178.92	\$4,320.58	\$17,282.33	\$11,595.58	\$11,595.58	\$11,595.58	\$8,731.44	\$873.14	\$7,858.30
Legacy Charter School	255.15	280.99	\$4,320.58	\$17,282.33	\$18,210.61	\$17,282.33	\$17,282.33	\$13,013.55	\$1,301.36	\$11,712.20
Liberty Charter School	420.50	421.55	\$4,320.58	\$17,282.33	\$27,320.12	\$17,282.33	\$17,282.33	\$13,013.55	\$1,301.36	\$11,712.20
Monticello Montessori Charter School	196.36	209.27	\$4,320.58	\$17,282.33	\$13,562.52	\$13,562.52	\$13,562.52	\$10,212.55	\$1,021.25	\$9,191.29
North Idaho STEM	257.62	304.87	\$4,320.58	\$17,282.33	\$19,758.24	\$17,282.33	\$17,282.33	\$13,013.55	\$1,301.36	\$11,712.20
North Valley Academy	273.15	226.61	\$4,320.58	\$17,282.33	\$14,686.31	\$14,686.31	\$14,686.31	\$11,058.75	\$1,105.88	\$9,952.88
Odyssey Charter School	0.00	191.60	\$4,320.58	\$17,282.33	\$12,417.35	\$12,417.35	\$12,417.35	\$9,350.24	\$935.02	\$8,415.21
Palouse Prairie School of Expeditionary Learning	159.76	160.80	\$4,320.58	\$17,282.33	\$10,421.24	\$10,421.24	\$10,421.24	\$7,847.17	\$784.72	\$7,062.45
Richard McKenna Charter High School	164.86	175.87	\$4,320.58	\$17,282.33	\$11,397.91	\$11,397.91	\$11,397.91	\$8,582.60	\$858.26	\$7,724.34
Rolling Hills Public Charter School	248.68	240.98	\$4,320.58	\$17,282.33	\$15,617.61	\$15,617.61	\$15,617.61	\$11,760.02	\$1,176.00	\$10,584.02
Sage International School of Boise	464.86	538.14	\$4,320.58	\$17,282.33	\$34,876.17	\$17,282.33	\$17,282.33	\$13,013.55	\$1,301.36	\$11,712.20
Taylor's Crossing Public Charter School	403.04	394.77	\$4,320.58	\$17,282.33	\$25,584.54	\$17,282.33	\$17,282.33	\$13,013.55	\$1,301.36	\$11,712.20
The Village Charter School	280.62	266.08	\$4,320.58	\$17,282.33	\$17,244.31	\$17,244.31	\$17,244.31	\$12,984.92	\$1,298.49	\$11,686.43
Victory Charter School	398.97	406.87	\$4,320.58	\$17,282.33	\$26,368.73	\$17,282.33	\$17,282.33	\$13,013.55	\$1,301.36	\$11,712.20
Vision Public Charter School	533.78	655.46	\$4,320.58	\$17,282.33	\$42,479.53	\$17,282.33	\$17,282.33	\$13,013.55	\$1,301.36	\$11,712.20
White Pine Charter School	444.19	440.48	\$4,320.58	\$17,282.33	\$28,546.95	\$17,282.33	\$17,282.33	\$13,013.55	\$1,301.36	\$11,712.20
Wings Charter Middle School (Formerly SILC)	113.92	64.27	\$4,320.58	\$17,282.33	\$4,165.26	\$4,165.26	\$4,320.58	\$3,253.39	\$325.34	\$2,928.05
Xavier Charter School	635.50	637.59	\$4,320.58	\$17,282.33	\$41,321.40	\$17,282.33	\$17,282.33	\$13,013.55	\$1,301.36	\$11,712.20
DaVinci Charter School	128.23	0.00	\$4,320.58	\$17,282.33	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL	11,701.91	12,405.37					\$479,397.34	\$360,985.00	\$36,098.50	\$324,886.50

STATEWIDE TOTAL ADA 266,482.61
 ALL STATE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISBURSEMENT FY13 \$1,151,360,048
33-5208(8)(a) State Disbursement / State ADA \$4,320.58
FY14 Charter Commission Appropriation plus 15% \$360,985.00
Deflation Factor 0.7530

* Each school's fee will equal that school's proportional share of the PCSC's annual appropriation plus 15%. The proportions are based on the initial fee calculation found in Column H.