

# ARIZONA

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**13**

RANK (OUT OF 44)

**160**

TOTAL POINTS (OUT OF 240)

**1994**YEAR PUBLIC  
CHARTER SCHOOL LAW  
WAS ENACTED**556**NUMBER OF PUBLIC  
CHARTER SCHOOLS IN  
2017-2018**188,000**ESTIMATED NUMBER OF  
PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL  
STUDENTS IN 2017-18

## Changes

- ▶ Arizona's score stayed at 160 points.
- ▶ Its ranking moved from No. 15 (out of 45) to No. 13 (out of 44).

## Recommendations

- ▶ Arizona's law does not have a cap on public charter school growth, allows multiple non-district authorizing entities, and provides a fair amount of autonomy and accountability to its charter schools. However, the law still provides inequitable funding to charter school students by barring their access to significant funding streams.
- ▶ Potential areas for improvement in Arizona's law include ensuring equitable operational funding and equitable access to capital funding and facilities, providing adequate authorizer funding, and strengthening accountability for full-time virtual charter schools.

ESSENTIAL COMPONENTS OF STRONG PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL LAW		RATING	WEIGHT	TOTAL
1	<b>No Caps</b> The state does not have a cap.	4	3	12
2	<b>A Variety of Charter Schools Allowed</b> The state allows new start-ups and public school conversion.	4	2	8
3	<b>Non-district Authorizers Available</b> The state allows multiple authorizing options in all situations, with direct access to each option.	4	3	12
4	<b>Authorizer and Overall Program Accountability System Required</b> The state law includes some of the elements of the model law's authorizer and overall program accountability system.	2	3	6
5	<b>Adequate Authorizer Funding</b> The state law includes some of the model law's provisions for adequate authorizer funding.	2	2	4
6	<b>Transparent Charter Application, Review, and Decisionmaking Processes</b> The state law includes some of the model law's provisions for transparent charter application, review, and decisionmaking processes.	2	4	8
7	<b>Performance-based Charter Contracts Required</b> The state law includes many of the model law's provisions for performance-based charter contracts.	3	4	12
8	<b>Comprehensive Charter School Monitoring and Data Collection Processes</b> The state law includes many of the model law's provisions for comprehensive charter school monitoring and data collection processes.	3	4	12
9	<b>Clear Processes for Renewal, Nonrenewal, and Revocation Decisions</b> The state law includes some of the model law's clear processes for renewal, nonrenewal, and revocation decisions.	2	4	8
10	<b>Transparency Regarding Educational Service Providers</b> The state law includes some of the model law's provisions for educational service providers.	2	2	4
11	<b>Fiscally and Legally Autonomous Schools with Independent Charter School Boards</b> The state law includes many of the model law's provisions for fiscally and legally autonomous schools with independent charter school boards.	3	3	9
12	<b>Clear Student Enrollment and Lottery Procedures</b> The state law includes many of the model law's requirements for student enrollment and lottery procedures.	3	2	6
13	<b>Automatic Exemptions from Many State and District Laws and Regulations</b> The state law provides automatic exemptions from many state and district laws and regulations and does not require any of a school's teachers to be certified.	4	3	12
14	<b>Automatic Collective Bargaining Exemption</b> The state law does not require any charter schools to be part of existing collective bargaining agreements.	4	3	12
15	<b>Multischool Charter Contracts and/or Multicharter Contract Boards Allowed</b> The state law allows both of these arrangements but does not require each school to be independently accountable for fiscal and academic performance.	2	2	4
16	<b>Extracurricular and Interscholastic Activities Eligibility and Access</b> The state law is silent about charter eligibility and access.	1	1	1
17	<b>Clear Identification of Special Education Responsibilities</b> The state law includes many of the model law's requirements for special education responsibilities.	3	2	6
18	<b>Equitable Operational Funding and Equal Access to All State and Federal Categorical Funding</b> The state law includes some of the model law's provisions for equitable operational and categorical funding, but evidence demonstrates an equity gap between district and charter students of between 10 percent and 19.9 percent.	2	4	8
19	<b>Equitable Access to Capital Funding and Facilities</b> The state law includes some of the model law's provisions for equitable access to capital funding and facilities.	2	4	8
20	<b>Access to Relevant Employee Retirement Systems</b> The state law provides access to relevant employee retirement systems but does not require participation.	4	2	8
21	<b>Full-time Virtual Charter School Provisions</b> The state law does not include any of the model law's requirements for full-time virtual charter schools.	0	3	0
<b>TOTAL SCORE</b>				<b>160</b>