

INDIANA

Changes

- ▶ Indiana's score stayed at 181 points.
- ▶ Its ranking remained at No. 1 (out of 45).

Recommendations

- ▶ Indiana's law does not cap public charter school growth, includes multiple authorizers, and provides a fair amount of autonomy and accountability. It has also made notable strides in recent years to provide more equitable funding to charter public schools—although some work remains to be done.
- ▶ The biggest area for improvement in Indiana's law is continuation of efforts to close the inequitable funding gap between charter school students and their counterparts in district public schools. Another area is strengthening accountability for full-time virtual charter schools.

1

RANK (OUT OF 45)

181

TOTAL POINTS (OUT OF 240)

2001YEAR PUBLIC
CHARTER SCHOOL LAW
WAS ENACTED**96**NUMBER OF PUBLIC
CHARTER SCHOOLS IN
2017-2018**38,800**ESTIMATED NUMBER OF
PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL
STUDENTS IN 2017-18

ESSENTIAL COMPONENTS OF STRONG PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL LAW		RATING	WEIGHT	TOTAL
1	No Caps The state does not have a cap.	4	3	12
2	A Variety of Charter Schools Allowed The state allows new start-ups and public school conversions.	4	2	8
3	Non-district Authorizers Available The state allows multiple authorizing options in all situations, with direct access to each option.	4	3	12
4	Authorizer and Overall Program Accountability System Required The state law includes all of the elements of the model law’s authorizer and overall program accountability system.	4	3	12
5	Adequate Authorizer Funding The state law includes many of the model law’s provisions for adequate authorizer funding.	3	2	6
6	Transparent Charter Application, Review, and Decisionmaking Processes The state law includes many of the model law’s provisions for transparent charter application, review, and decision-making processes.	3	4	12
7	Performance-based Charter Contracts Required The state law includes many of the model law’s provisions for performance-based charter contracts.	3	4	12
8	Comprehensive Charter School Monitoring and Data Collection Processes The state law includes many of the model law’s provisions for comprehensive charter school monitoring and data collection processes.	3	4	12
9	Clear Processes for Renewal, Nonrenewal, and Revocation Decisions The state law includes some of the model law’s provisions for educational service providers.	3	4	12
10	Transparency Regarding Educational Service Providers The state law includes some of the model law’s provisions for educational service providers.	2	2	4
11	Fiscally and Legally Autonomous Schools with Independent Charter School Boards The state law includes all of the model law’s provisions for fiscally and legally autonomous schools with independent charter school boards.	4	3	12
12	Clear Student Enrollment and Lottery Procedures The state law includes many of the model law’s requirements for student recruitment, enrollment, and lottery procedures.	3	2	6
13	Automatic Exemptions from Many State and District Laws and Regulations The state law provides automatic exemptions from many state and district laws and regulations for some schools but not others, and it requires all of a school’s teachers to be certified but provides exceptions.	3	3	9
14	Automatic Collective Bargaining Exemption The state law does not require any charter schools to be part of district collective bargaining agreements.	4	3	12
15	Multischool Charter Contracts and/or Multicharter Contract Boards Allowed The state law allows both of these arrangements and requires each school to be independently accountable for fiscal and academic performance.	4	2	8
16	Extracurricular and Interscholastic Activities Eligibility and Access The state law is silent about charter eligibility and access.	1	1	1
17	Clear Identification of Special Education Responsibilities The state law all of the model law’s requirements for special education responsibilities.	4	2	8
18	Equitable Operational Funding and Equal Access to All State and Federal Categorical Funding The state law includes many of the model law’s provisions for equitable operational funding and equal access to all state and federal categorical funding, and evidence demonstrates an equity gap between district and charter students of greater than 30 percent.	0	4	0
19	Equitable Access to Capital Funding and Facilities The state law includes many of the model law’s provisions for equitable access to capital funding and facilities.	3	4	12
20	Access to Relevant Employee Retirement Systems The state law provides access to relevant employee retirement systems but does not require participation.	4	2	8
21	Full-time Virtual Charter School Provisions The state law includes a small number of the model law’s requirements for full-time virtual charter schools.	1	3	3
TOTAL SCORE				181