

# LOUISIANA

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**8**

RANK (OUT OF 45)

**168**

TOTAL POINTS (OUT OF 240)

**1995**YEAR PUBLIC  
CHARTER SCHOOL LAW  
WAS ENACTED**154**NUMBER OF PUBLIC  
CHARTER SCHOOLS IN  
2017-2018**80,200**ESTIMATED NUMBER OF  
PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL  
STUDENTS IN 2017-18

## Changes

- ▶ Louisiana's score increased from 164 points to 168 points.
- ▶ Its score increased because of clarification about the policies for Component #19 (Equitable Access to Capital Funding and Facilities).
- ▶ Its ranking moved from No. 11 (out of 44) to No. 8 (out of 45).

## Recommendations

- ▶ Louisiana's law does not cap public charter school growth, includes multiple authorizers, provides a fair amount of autonomy and accountability, and provides relatively equitable operational and categorical funding to charter schools. However, it does not provide equitable facilities funding to charter schools.
- ▶ Potential areas for improvement are ensuring equitable access to capital funding and facilities 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 conversions.	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 all of the model law’s provisions for adequate authorizer funding.	4	2	8
6	<b>Transparent Charter Application, Review, and Decisionmaking Processes</b> The state law includes all of the model law’s provisions for transparent charter application, review, and decision-making processes.	4	4	16
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 all of the model law’s provisions for fiscally and legally autonomous schools with independent charter school boards.	4	3	12
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 exempts some schools from existing collective bargaining agreements but not other schools.	3	3	9
15	<b>Multischool Charter Contracts and/or Multicharter Contract Boards Allowed</b> The state law allows multicharter contract boards and requires each school to be independently accountable for fiscal and academic performance.	4	2	8
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 some of the model law’s requirements for special education responsibilities.	2	2	4
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 funding and equal access to all state and federal categorical funding, but there is no evidence of the amount of funds charter students versus district students receive.	1	4	4
19	<b>Equitable Access to Capital Funding and Facilities</b> The state law includes a small number of the model law’s provisions for equitable access to capital funding and facilities.	1	4	4
20	<b>Access to Relevant Employee Retirement Systems</b> The state law provides some charter schools with the option to participate in the relevant state employee retirement systems but not other schools.	3	2	6
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>164</b>