

Waiver Request for Anne Arundel County Public Charter Schools

A. PURPOSE

Public Charter Schools are designed to offer innovative learning opportunities and creative educational approaches which do not currently exist within the local school system.

From time to time, in order to accomplish this, a public charter school in Anne Arundel County may seek a waiver from either an Anne Arundel County Board of Education Policy or an Administrative Regulation issued by the Superintendent.

B. POSITION

1. Upon demonstration of good cause by a public charter school, the Board of Education may grant waivers from Board policies and the Superintendent may grant waivers from specific Administrative Regulation(s).
2. A public charter school's waiver request must be filed on the AACPS Waiver Request Form, following the procedure set forth below.

C. TERM

1. The term of the requested waiver may not exceed the term of the charter school contract negotiated between the public charter school and the Board of Education.
2. Previously approved waivers must be resubmitted upon negotiating a new charter contract.

D. PROCEDURE

1. New charter schools must submit their waiver request during the application phase of the chartering process.
2. For currently operating charter schools, the principal or governing authority of the public charter school shall file a waiver request to the Superintendent on the established form no later than February 1 of the year prior to the waiver being implemented. The request shall include a description of the desired outcome and an explanation of why the waiver is necessary and justifiable under the circumstances, and any alternative approach to accomplishing the intent of the policy or regulation.
3. The Superintendent shall submit to the Board of Education each waiver request within 45 calendar days of its receipt, with a recommendation and rationale for either granting or denying the waiver.
4. The Board of Education shall be requested to render a decision at a regularly scheduled meeting.
5. If a waiver is sought that impacts current negotiated agreements, the applicable employee organization shall provide feedback relevant to the waiver request.

E. REVOCATION OF WAIVER

1. An approved waiver may be revoked if actions occurring after the approved waiver are contrary to the original intent of the approved waiver.