Elements of a Charter

The petition must contain a reasonably comprehensive description of the following element:

1. Educational Program

Education Code Section 47605(b)(5)(A)(i)

A description of the educational program of the school, designed, among other things, to identify those whom the school is attempting to educate, what it means to be an "educated person" in the 21st century, and how learning best occurs. The goals identified in that program shall include the objective of enabling pupils to become self-motivated, competent, and lifelong learners.

Elements of a Charter

The petition must contain a reasonably comprehensive description of the following element:

1. Educational Program (Continued)

Education Code Section 47605(b)(5)(A)(ii)

If the proposed school will serve high school pupils, a description of the manner in which the charter school will inform parents about the transferability of courses to other public high schools and the eligibility of courses to meet college entrance requirements. Courses offered by the charter school that are accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges may be considered transferable and courses approved by the University of California or the California State University as creditable under the "A" to "G" admissions criteria may be considered to meet college entrance requirements.

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Elements of a Charter

The petition must contain a reasonably comprehensive description of the following element:

2. Measurable Pupil Outcomes

Education Code Section 47605(b)(5)(B)

The measurable pupil outcomes identified for use by the charter school. "Pupil outcomes," for purposes of this part, means the extent to which all pupils of the school demonstrate that they have attained the skills, knowledge, and attitudes specified as goals in the school's educational program.

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Elements of a Charter

The petition must contain a reasonably comprehensive description of the following element:

3. Outcome Measurement

Education Code Section 47605(b)(5)(C)

The method by which pupil progress in meeting those pupil outcomes is to be measured.

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Elements of a Charter

The petition must contain a reasonably comprehensive description of the following element:

4. Governance Structure

Education Code Section 47605(b)(5)(D)

The governance structure of the school, including, but not limited to, the process to be followed by the school to ensure parental involvement.

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Elements of a Charter

The petition must contain a reasonably comprehensive description of the following element:

5. Employee Qualifications

Education Code Section 47605(b)(5)(E)

The qualifications to be met by individuals to be employed by the school.

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Elements of a Charter

The petition must contain a reasonably comprehensive description of the following element:

6. Health and Safety

Education Code Section 47605(b)(5)(F)

The procedures that the school will follow to ensure the health and safety of pupils and staff. These procedures shall include the requirement that each employee of the school furnish the school with a criminal record summary as described in Section 44237.

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Elements of a Charter

The petition must contain a reasonably comprehensive description of the following element:

7. Racial and Ethnic Balance

Education Code Section 47605(b)(5)(G)

The means by which the school will achieve a racial and ethnic balance among its pupils that is reflective of the general population residing within the territorial jurisdiction of the school district to which the charter petition is submitted.

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Elements of a Charter

The petition must contain a reasonably comprehensive description of the following element:

8. Admissions Requirements

Education Code Section 47605(b)(5)(H)

Admission requirements, if applicable.

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Elements of a Charter

The petition must contain a reasonably comprehensive description of the following element:

9. Independent Financial Audits

Education Code Section 47605(b)(5)(I)

The manner in which annual, independent financial audits shall be conducted, which shall employ generally accepted accounting principles, and the manner in which audit exceptions and deficiencies shall be resolved to the satisfaction of the chartering authority.

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Elements of a Charter

The petition must contain a reasonably comprehensive description of the following element:

10. Student Suspension and Expulsion

Education Code Section 47605(b)(5)(J)

The procedures by which pupils can be suspended or expelled.

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Elements of a Charter

The petition must contain a reasonably comprehensive description of the following element:

11. Employee Retirement Systems

Education Code Section 47605(b)(5)(K)

The manner by which staff members of the charter schools will be covered by the State Teachers' Retirement System, the Public Employees' Retirement System, or federal social security.

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Elements of a Charter

The petition must contain a reasonably comprehensive description of the following element:

12. Student Attendance Alternatives

Education Code Section 47605(b)(5)(L)

The public school attendance alternatives for pupils residing within the school district who choose not to attend charter schools.

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Elements of a Charter

The petition must contain a reasonably comprehensive description of the following element:

13. Return Rights of District Employees

Education Code Section 47605(b)(5)(M)

A description of the rights of any employee of the school district upon leaving the employment of the school district to work in a charter school, and of any rights of return to the school district after employment at a charter school.

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Elements of a Charter

The petition must contain a reasonably comprehensive description of the following element:

14. Dispute Resolution

Education Code Section 47605(b)(5)(N)

The procedures to be followed by the charter school and the entity granting the charter to resolve disputes relating to provisions of the charter.

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Elements of a Charter

The petition must contain a reasonably comprehensive description of the following element:

15. Collective Bargaining (EERA)

Education Code Section 47605(b)(5)(O)

A declaration whether or not the charter school shall be deemed the exclusive public school employer of the employees of the charter school for the purposes of Chapter 10.7 (commencing with *Section 3540) of Division 4 of Title 1 of the Government Code.*

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Elements of a Charter

The petition must contain a reasonably comprehensive description of the following element:

16. Procedures for Closing

Education Code Section 47605(b)(5)(P)

A description of the procedures to be used if the charter school closes. The procedures shall ensure a final audit of the school to determine the disposition of all assets and liabilities of the charter school, including plans for disposing of any net assets and for the maintenance and transfer of pupil records.

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Other Requirements

In addition, petitioners need to provide other information to the District:

- The facilities to be utilized by the school
- How administrative services will be provided to the School
- Potential effects and civil liability effects, if any upon the school and school district
- First year operational budget, including startup costs (include assumptions page)
- Monthly Cash flow and financial projections for first three years

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Required Affirmations – Education Code Section 47605(d)

- Shall be non-sectarian in its programs, admissions policies, employment practices, and all other operations. [Ref. Education Code Section 47605(d)(1)]
- Shall not charge tuition. [Ref. Education Code Section 47605(d)(1)]
- Shall not discriminate against any pupil on the basis of the characteristics listed in Section 220 (actual or perceived disability, gender, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or any other characteristic that is contained in the definition of hate crimes set forth in Section 422.55 of the Penal Code or association with an individual who has any of the aforementioned characteristics). [Ref. Education Code Section 47605(d)(1)]

Required Affirmations– Education Code Section 47605(d) (cont.)

- Shall admit all students who wish to attend the Charter School. However if the number of pupils who wish to attend the Charter School exceeds the School's capacity, attendance, except for existing pupils of the Charter School, shall be determined by public random drawing. Preference in the public random drawing shall be extended only in accordance with Education Code Section 47605(d)(2)(B). In the event of a drawing, the chartering authority shall make reasonable efforts to accommodate the growth of the Charter School in accordance with Education Code Section 47605(d)(2)(C)
- Except as provided in Education Code Section 47605(d)(2), admission to the Charter School shall not be determined according to the place of residence of the student or his or her parents within the State. [Ref. Education Code Section 47605(d)(2)(A)-(B)]

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Required Affirmations– Education Code Section 47605(d) (cont.)

- If a pupil is expelled or leaves the charter school without graduating or completing the school year for any reason, the charter school shall notify the superintendent of the school district of the pupil's last known address within 30 days, and shall, upon request, provide that school district with a copy of the cumulative record of the pupil, including a transcript of grades or report card and health information. [Ref. California Education Code Section 47605(d)(3)]
- (See sample affirmations in packet)