



MISD: ANNUAL CALL FOR QUALITY SCHOOLS

*For Schools to Operate in
SY 2027-2028*

Every child deserves a best-fit school, and one size does not always fit all. Learning is a deeply personal process, so families should be empowered to choose the school that best meets the needs of their children. When students can connect with one another around similar goals and aspirations in an environment that is personalized for them, their learning becomes more powerful and their possibilities for success are limitless.

The Midland Independent School District has a rich history of providing students with unique learning opportunities. The district has three in-district charter schools and 4 out of district charter schools offering a wide variety of models, such as Gifted & Talented, Dual Language, Single-Gender, Pre-Kindergarten, and more.

To continue to advance high-quality school options in the district, MISD is seeking proposals from qualified educators and leaders with a strong desire to leverage their skills and build upon their past successes to launch autonomous, in-district charter schools. Approved school applicants will receive autonomy over time, talent, and resources in return for greater accountability in the form of a performance contract. Additionally, current campus leaders have the opportunity to revise existing in-district charters through the Annual Call for Quality Schools.

The theory of action behind the Annual Call for Quality Schools is clear: if we provide skilled educators with the autonomies that they need to run a high-quality school in the manner they see fit, then they will provide Midland students with the option to attend and excel at a diverse array of high-quality, innovative schools.

The educators approved to run autonomous schools through the Annual Call will operate schools that will serve as models for the rest of the school district and catalyze school innovation and improvement for all of MISD.

Introduction

TEC Chapter 12 establishes charter schools to achieve the following purposes:

- Improve student learning
- Increase the choice of learning opportunities within the public school system
- Create professional opportunities that will attract new teachers to the public school system
- Establish a new form of accountability for public schools
- Encourage different and innovative learning methods

Charter Application Eligibility

The Board shall consider an application for a Campus charter or Program charter if the applicant:

- Meets the eligibility requirements for a Campus charter or Program charter set forth in TEC 12.052, TEC 12.0521
- Follows MISD's Annual Call for Quality Schools, as described in this document
- Provides evidence to the Board that the applicant will comply with the statutory and District requirements for a campus charter or program charter

The Board welcomes applications for a Campus charter or Program charter ("Subchapter C charter") pursuant to various paths as set forth in TEC Chapter 39, Subchapter C. The Board specifically invites and encourages applications pursuant to TEC 12.052, TEC 12.0521.

Regardless of authorization path, all groups and entities seeking to create a Subchapter C charter shall follow the Charter Application and Review Process set forth in this document.

Charter Application Process Overview

The application process shall include:

1. A comprehensive written application submitted by each applicant in accordance with application guidance and requirements provided by the Board
2. A rigorous review of the written application conducted by a review committee ("Review Committee") of at least three members, including at least one district staff member and one external evaluator, with relevant and diverse expertise
3. A formal recommendation from the Review Committee to the Superintendent for approval or denial of each application, based on evidence from the Review Committee's evaluation of the application
4. A formal recommendation from the Superintendent to the Board for approval or denial of each application, based on evidence from the Review Committee's evaluation of the application
5. A formal vote by the Board to approve or deny each application

Standard of Review

The Review Committee shall conduct a rigorous, evidence-based, and merit-focused evaluation of applications, including evaluating the proposed partner's capacity to meet the Board's established academic, financial, operational, and governance standards for charter schools. The Board shall grant a charter only in cases in which the Board determines that the proposed school is likely to:

1. Succeed in meeting academic, financial, operational, and governance standards, thereby meeting both performance and legal compliance expectations for campus charters in the District
3. Serve the best interests of the targeted students and community
4. Meet the district's established needs of improving performance at an existing, low-performing school, and/or provide a new, innovative school model that aligns to community demand
5. Fulfill the purposes and intent of Texas's charter school law
6. Maintain the applicant's demonstrated successful track record of managing campuses

Annual Call Timeline*

*For Schools to Operate in
SY 2027-28*

Important Dates	Action
September 1, 2026	MISD announces the Annual Call and requests school proposals
September 2026	Individual meetings may be requested as needed for clarification purposes. Campus engages the school community in proposed school (re)design.
September 30, 2026	Letter of Intent due
November 14, 2026	Final Application due to Office of Partnerships for formal evaluation <i>MISD will share feedback with applicants at least three business days before the capacity interview</i>
September 2026 - October 2026	For Existing Schools that require charter petitions, begin collecting teacher and parent petitions following MISD approval
November 2026 - December 2026	Application evaluation and capacity interviews conducted
January 2027	For Existing Schools that require charter petitions, classroom teacher and parent petitions due
January 2027	All documents and agreements finalized
February/March 2027	Recommendation to MISD Board of Trustees for authorization
March 2027	MISD submits to TEA the SB 1882 partnership benefits application(s)
April 2027- July 2027	MISD works with approved applicants and district departments to prepare for school launch

**** Dates subject to change; advanced notice will be provided***

Applicant Types

Applicant types include: Non-profits, Institutes of Higher Education, Existing Charter Operators, and Governmental Entities

In this application cycle, two types of applicants will be considered, each with specific requirements:

- **Existing Partners** – Partners that have operated at least one campus in MISD prior to submitting this application
- **New Partners** – Partners that have campus management experience, but have not previously operated campuses in MISD

Applicants must complete all sections of the application. Applications with missing information will be considered incomplete and will not be evaluated.

Instructions

The Board is pleased to invite proposals from quality partners seeking to open a partnership school in the school year 2026-2027. Prior to developing a proposal, please read this entire document.

Components of the Proposal

- **Narrative Proposal**: The proposal is the formal application to the Board and is a comprehensive description of the school's educational, operational, and financial plans.
- **Attachments**: Throughout the proposal, specific documents are requested in addition to narrative answers. Attachments may not contain additional narrative unless specified. A comprehensive list of the attachments is provided in these instructions.
- **Capacity Interview(s)**: All applicant teams will participate in a capacity interview as part of the proposal evaluation process. The capacity interview is an in-person interview designed to yield further detail about the applicants' plan and their capacity to implement the proposal. The capacity interview will focus on standards that the proposal evaluators have identified as not met by the applicant team. To help applicant teams prepare for the capacity interview, MISD will provide applicant teams with proposal feedback in preparation for the capacity interview at least 3 business days prior to the capacity interview. The capacity interview may include a performance task for the applicant team. The performance task will be evaluated across relevant areas and included as part of the final quality evaluation. The entire applicant team must participate in the capacity interview.

Specifications

- **The application must be completed by the operating partner and without assistance from the district or a district assigned vendor.**
- Applicants must use this application and submit proposals electronically to MISDCallForQualitySchools@midlandisd.net
- All elements of the proposal must be presented in 11-point font and single-spaced.
- Each major section of the proposal (School Overview, Educational Program, etc.) and each attachment must begin on a separate page. **Application responses, including the existing questions and content must not exceed 40 pages. This does not include attachments.**
- If you believe a particular question does not apply to your team or proposal, respond "Not Applicable" and state the reason this question is not applicable to your team or proposal.
- All required documents must be uploaded as PDF files.
- Late or incorrectly formatted submissions will not be accepted.
- When submitting résumés, label each document with the individual's affiliation with the proposed school (e.g., board member, principal, etc.).
- Plagiarism, including the copying of language from any other charter application without proper attribution, is grounds for immediate denial of the proposal. It is not acceptable to copy and paste a discussion or description of an existing curriculum, instructional framework, or educational model (e.g., Montessori, arts integration, project-based learning, blended learning, etc.) from another source. A high-quality applicant team with the capacity to operate

a high-quality school must be able to thoughtfully explain in their own words how they intend to educate children. Existing operators proposing to replicate a model may use their own intellectual property, which is appropriate and acceptable.

Attachments

The following is a list of attachments to accompany the proposal. Note that not all attachments will be applicable for all applicants. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure they submit all attachments required for their proposal. Do not upload documents for any attachment that is not applicable. Please upload applicable attachments as PDFs.

1. Executive Summary
2. Graduation Standards (*high school applicants only*)
3. Discipline Policy (*if proposed to be different from district policy*)
4. Organization Chart
5. Governing Board Documents
6. Governing Board Member Information Form
7. Leadership team qualifications or role description
8. Staff Recruitment and Hiring Plan
9. Staff Development Plan
10. Financial Plan

Applicant Code of Conduct

Members of the Board are obligated to make decisions in the best interests of children, free from personal or political influences. Similarly, charter school applicants have the responsibility of respecting and upholding the integrity of the charter school proposal process.

Specifically, charter school applicants shall not:

- Initiate, or attempt to initiate, any activity with a Trustee
- Initiate, or attempt to initiate, any activity with a member of the Evaluation Team
- Direct any communications, including proposal documents, to a Trustee or to a member of the Evaluation Team

Charter school applicants found to be in violation of these requirements may be deemed ineligible for consideration in future proposal processes.

Public Disclosure

All charter school proposal materials submitted to the Board become public record.