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educational service center
of Central Ohio

New Applicant Update for 2026-2027

The ESCCO is currently accepting applications for the consideration of new schools. It is not accepting applications for replicators or schools seeking to change sponsors at this time. As sponsor, the ESCCO has as its priority authorizing quality community schools that meet academic, fiscal, and organizational requirements within a small portfolio. The purpose of the agency is:

PURPOSE

The ESC of Central Ohio leads when necessary, supports all stakeholders, and seeks to share and leverage resources on behalf of its client school districts and partners.

The ESCCO Community School Department supports the greater agency purpose while also providing the department's specific mission of monitoring each of its community schools through quality sponsorship for the benefit of the students in each of the sponsored schools.

Although sponsoring is a small part of the ESCCO's portfolio, it is dedicated to best practices for effective school choice options for parents, as supported by the National Association of Charter School Authorizers (NACSA) and has the following goals:

- Education: To monitor and assess the goals of the Education Plan of the sponsorship agreement, aligning them with the Assessment and Accountability Plan.
- Governance: To monitor and assist with governance compliance.
- Finance: To monitor and provide feedback for fiscal viability and sustainability, providing intervention if needed.
- Accountability: To monitor and evaluate legal compliance as well as areas of the contract.
- Technical Assistance: To provide technical assistance in all aspects of successful school programming.

All application information including processes and timelines can be found in the guidance document located on the Community School Sponsorship - Educational Service Center of Central Ohio webpage.

Please contact our office for assistance with the application process prior to submission. Linked here is an overview of the process.

Thank you for your interest in ESCCO Community School Sponsorship!