

**METHODS FOR DISTRICTS TO OBTAIN WAIVERS OF STATUTES AND RULES**

	DISTRICT CONVERSION CHARTER	WAIVERS GRANTED TO OPEN-ENROLLMENT CHARTERS SERVING STUDENTS WHO RESIDE IN THE DISTRICT	SCHOOL OF INNOVATION DESIGNATION
<b>Authority</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A.C.A. § 6-23-201 et seq.</li> <li>- ADE Rules Governing Public Charter Schools</li> </ul>	A.C.A. § 6-15-103 et seq.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A.C.A. § 6-15-2801 et seq.</li> <li>- ADE Rules Governing Schools of Innovation</li> </ul>
<b>Approved By</b>	Charter Authorizer	The State Board of Education	The Commissioner of Education
<b>Granted For</b>	The district conversion charter school	The district / all schools in the district	The designated school of innovation
<b>Process for Approval</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- An application and at least one public hearing conducted by the Charter Authorizing Panel</li> <li>- Subject to review by the State Board of Education who may conduct a second public hearing</li> </ul>	The district petitions for waivers using a required form and appears before the State Board of Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Must have 60% approval of eligible employees to submit an application</li> <li>- Review by Arkansas Department of Education staff and determination by the Commissioner</li> </ul>
<b>Waiver Restrictions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>** Monitoring compliance</li> <li>** Public school accountability Code</li> <li>** High school graduation requirements</li> <li>** Special education</li> <li>** Criminal background checks for employees</li> <li>** Health and safety codes</li> <li>** Ethical guidelines and prohibitions</li> <li>** <b>NOTE:</b> While these restrictions explicitly apply to open-enrollment charters, it has been common practice for the authorizer to prohibit district conversion charters from waivers of these laws and rules.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Monitoring compliance</li> <li>- Public school accountability Code</li> <li>- High school graduation requirements</li> <li>- Special education</li> <li>- Criminal background checks for employees</li> <li>- Health and safety codes</li> <li>- Ethical guidelines and prohibitions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Health, safety, civil rights, and disability rights requirements</li> <li>- High school curriculum and graduation requirements</li> <li>- Financial audits, audit procedures, and audit requirements</li> <li>- Criminal background checks for school employees and volunteers</li> <li>- Open records and open meetings</li> <li>- Purchasing limitations and requirements</li> <li>- Teacher Fair Dismissal Act</li> <li>- State laws and rules regarding gifted and talented education</li> </ul>
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