

Questions and ideas every Charter School Applicant should consider:

1. What unique educational opportunities will your school provide?
2. Describe the key components of the educational model, including a brief explanation of how it will drive success for the identified student population.
3. Describe the expected outcomes for the students in both the short run--after they graduate from your school-- and in the long run as adults.
4. How will our proposed school contribute to the public school system as a whole?
5. Does our proposed Charter School address:
 - a. recognized system needs or challenges?
 - b. communities with gaps between enrollment and school capacity
 - c. urban community needs / rural community needs?
 - d. Student populations the system has struggled to serve:
 - i. Micronesian populations
 - ii. Male students (address learning styles, middle school)
 - e. Workforce opportunities and challenges
 - i. "pipeline" issues, growth areas for high-skill employment
 - f. STEM, high-skill trades
6. Have we thoughtfully considered whether serving high school (eg K-12 model) is feasible?
7. What is our perspective on questions of socioeconomic diversity?
8. What can we learn from other jurisdictions?
9. What do we need to learn about Hawaii and the specific community that we seek to serve?
10. What skill sets and institutional players does our founding group need?
11. Is our focus on the institution we envision and not on the individuals in our group?
12. When beginning with the idea of starting a Public Charter School, you need individual instigators, but there are weaknesses to the model of an individual visionary founder with an idea who then recruits friends to help out? If so, how do you tweak your model to address the weaknesses?

13. Think in terms of the institution first; what if none of the individuals currently part of your applicant team were there? Could the school continue to operate and deliver a high-quality program with the expected outcomes for students?
14. Think about the potential of forging strategic collaboration with high capacity institutions in building your Charter School.