

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

F. PHILIP HANDY, *Chairman*

T. WILLARD FAIR, *Vice Chairman*

Members

DONNA G. CALLAWAY

JULIA L. JOHNSON

ROBERTO MARTÍNEZ

PHOEBE RAULERSON

LINDA K. TAYLOR

John L. Winn
Commissioner of Education



CONTACT PERSON:

NAME: Charlene Waltz
PHONE: (850) 245-9244
SUNCOM: 205-9244
COEFO: 05-33

MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 28, 2005

TO: District School Superintendents, Finance Officers, and Charter School Contacts

FROM: Spessard Boatright

SUBJECT: Distribution of Capital Outlay Funds for Charter Schools

Section 1013.62(7), Florida Statutes, establishes eligibility criteria for charter schools which impact the distribution procedures for charter school capital outlay funds. Funds are allocated to charter schools which received funding in 2002-2003. Additionally, new schools must meet requirements relating to prior long-term financial commitments or be part of an expanded feeder pattern of schools that received funding in 2002-2003. Application of these requirements results in limiting the first distribution (for July 2005) to charter schools that received funding in 2004-2005. Verification of eligibility is required before any distribution can be made to the new schools. To accomplish the required verification of eligibility, the required Charter School Capital Outlay Plan includes certifications attesting to the district's determination of eligibility. The form and department procedures are attached and are also located on our website at <http://www.firn.edu/doe/oef/>. To be included in the August 2005 distribution, a charter school must meet the following requirements:

- Submit a completed Charter School Capital Outlay Plan to the Office of Educational Facilities on or before July 31, 2005, and
- Meet the eligibility requirements as attested to within the Plan.

SPESSARD BOATRIGHT
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

If a Charter School Capital Outlay Plan is not received by this office prior to July 31, 2005, capital outlay funding will not continue for the particular school(s) until the Plan has been submitted.

Distributions are to be made monthly. Your district's charter school allocation will be sent via electronic funds transfer on July 21st. Recalculations of entitlements will be done five times during the year, and distribution amounts may be less based on revised data; therefore, your future distributions may be less. Distributions will be made on the fourth Thursday of each month thereafter, except for November, which will be the fourth Wednesday. Additional information may be found on our website at <http://www.firn.edu/doe/oef/> as the entitlements are recalculated.

Pursuant to Section 1013.62(2), Florida Statutes, Charter School Capital Outlay funds may be used **ONLY** for the following purposes:

- (a) purchase of real property;
- (b) construction of school facilities;
- (c) purchase, lease purchase, or lease of permanent or relocatable school facilities;
- (d) purchase of vehicles to transport students to and from the charter school; and
- (e) renovation, repair, and/or maintenance of school facilities that the charter school owns or is purchasing through a lease-purchase or long-term lease of 5 years or longer.

When a charter school is non-renewed or terminated, any unencumbered funds and all equipment and property purchased with public funds shall revert to the ownership of the district school board, as provided in Paragraphs 1002.33(8)(e) and (f), Florida Statutes. The reversion of such equipment, property, and furnishings shall focus on recoverable assets, but not on intangible or irrecoverable costs such as rental or leasing fees, normal maintenance, and limited renovations. If there are additional local issues such as the shared use of facilities of partial ownership of facilities or property, these issues shall be agreed to in the charter contract prior to the expenditure of funds.

If you need additional assistance, please contact Charlene Waltz at (850) 245-9244 or Suncom 205-9244.

SB/cw/crh

Attachments