



## DETAILED TIMELINE AND DESCRIPTION OF APPLICATION PROCESS

Deadline	Deliverables and Deadlines – Opening Fall 2027	
<b>Step One:</b> Submit New School Proposal	July 1, 2026	<b>Submit New School Proposal</b>  Applicants interested in sponsorship must submit a New School Proposal. Applicants that demonstrate academic and financial capacity will be invited to fill out the New School Application.  Interested applicants should fill out and submit a proposal (available on our website) and may contact Jason Wall at <a href="mailto:jason@ohioschools.org">jason@ohioschools.org</a> .
<b>Step Two:</b> Submit New School Application	September 1, 2026	<b>Submit New School Application</b>  The New School Application will describe the elements of the applicant’s plan for the charter school. It will be reviewed and evaluated against criteria described in the application packet.  Upon submission, the Council’s New School Development Team will review the application and decide if the applicant is invited to the New School Interview. In the case of a rejected New School Application, the Council will provide the applicant with a written explanation. The New School Development Team will provide written feedback to all applicants by September 26, 2026.
<b>Step Three:</b> Participate in a New School Interview	October 12-15, 2026	<b>New School Interview</b>  Following the review of the New School Application, the Council’s New School Development Team will conduct an applicant interview, which will include governing authority members, school leaders, corporate management, and other key stakeholders.
<b>Step Four:</b> Preliminary Agreement – Adoption and Execution	November 2026	<b>Adoption of a Preliminary Agreement</b>  The New School Development Team will make recommendations to the Council’s Board to adopt and issue a Preliminary Agreement. The Governing Authority then needs to meet to approve, execute, and return the Preliminary Agreement to the Council.  Though this step is crucial in the new school development process, it is important to note that the adoption of a charter contract happens at a later date and is subject to the continuing work of the governing authority.
<b>Step Five:</b> Adoption of a Charter Contract	February 2027	<b>Adoption of a Charter Contract</b>  No later than February 2027, the Council and governing authority must adopt a charter contract. The Council will continue to evaluate the progress of the school when it considers its adoption of the charter contract resolution.
<b>Step Six:</b> Negotiate and Execute a Contract	April 2027	<b>Negotiate and Execute a Contract – Effective Date July 1, 2027</b>  Once a contract has been adopted, the entities will finalize the terms and execute the contract. The contract should be executed in April 2027, but the deadline is May 15, 2027.