



TCSA Model Board Policy Series

400.160. Miscellaneous Provisions Relating to Students

*Charter Board Policy for CEDARS INTERNATIONAL
ACADEMY*

INTRODUCTION

The Model Board Policies for Charter Schools is a series of publications by the Texas Charter Schools Association (TCSA). These publications are an educational tool for charter school leaders to aid in the operation and management of open-enrollment charter schools in Texas.

Overall Policy Framework

Each module in the Board Policy Series provides a summary of federal and state statutes, regulations, and related materials applicable to open enrollment charter schools. Citations to these materials are provided throughout the module and many contain a hyperlink so the actual statutory or regulatory provision can be accessed on the Internet. The summary is designated by the LEGAL AUTHORITY tab on the right edge of each page.

After the LEGAL AUTHORITY portion of the module you will find the model policy section designed to comply with current statutory and regulatory requirements described in the LEGAL AUTHORITY summaries. These policies are designated by the red CHARTER BOARD POLICY tab on the right edge of each page.

These are suggested policies to address the requirements set forth in this Module. Prior to adoption of the model policies by the Board of a charter school, each policy should be customized by including the school's name and by tailoring the language, if appropriate, to fit the specific needs, culture and requirements of the school. TCSA recommends that the Board of a charter school consult with and obtain the advice of the school's legal counsel in connection with adopting policies to comply with laws governing charter schools.

TCSA plans to update the Model Board Policies for Charter Schools after each Texas Legislative Session to reflect changes in applicable laws. We also will regularly and continually update the Policy Series when changes occur in state and federal case law and administration regulations that affect open enrollment charter schools. We encourage you to renew your subscription to the policy series each year to ensure that your school has the most recent laws and regulations.

Scope of Service & Copyright Notice

This policy module prepared by the TCSA is designed and intended as a resource of information for charter schools and is not to be construed as legal advice. It should be used in connection with consulting and obtaining the advice of the school's legal counsel to ensure compliance with applicable legal requirements.

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Module 400: Students

The Students Module 400, is the fourth module of the Model Board Policies. The material included in this module provides a comprehensive summary of statutes and regulations that apply to charter schools, as well as specific model board policies designed to comply with these legal requirements. Other policy modules in the series include:

Module 100: Financial Operations

Module 200: Charter School Governance & Organization

Module 300: General School Operations

Module 500: Open Government

Module 600: Human Resources

Legal Abbreviations Used In the TCSA Model Board Policy Series

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| Atty. Gen. Op. | Attorney General Opinion |
| C.F.R | Code of Federal Regulations |
| Tex. Admin. Code | Texas Administrative Code |
| Tex. Educ. Code | Texas Education Code |
| Tex. Gov't Code | Texas Government Code |
| Tex. Labor Code | Texas Labor Code |
| Tex. Loc. Gov't Code | Texas Local Government Code |
| U.S.C.A | United States Code Annotated |

400.160. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS RELATING TO STUDENTS

The governing body (“Board”) of CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY adopts the following policy which shall be effective on the date that the policy is adopted by the Board.

Section 1. Religious Discrimination Prohibited

CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY prohibits discrimination, harassment, or retaliation on the basis of religion. A student enrolled at CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY has the right to silently pray or meditate at CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY so long as it does not disrupt the instructional or other activities of the school. CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY shall not require, encourage, or coerce any student to engage in or to refrain from prayer or meditation during any school activity.

Section 2. Homeless Children

Section 2.1. Homeless Liaison. School Counselor is appointed the homeless liaison of CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY.

Section 2.2. Compliance. The Superintendent shall ensure legal compliance with applicable federal and state laws and regulations regarding homeless children.

Section 3. The Texas Virtual School Network (VSN).

The governing body (“Board”) of CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY adopts the following policy which shall be effective on the date that the policy is adopted by the Board.

Section 4.1. Enrollment in VSN Courses. Students of CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY shall have the opportunity to enroll in courses through the Texas Virtual School Network (VSN) in accordance with this Policy. A student enrolled full-time in CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY student shall not be denied enrollment in an electronic course through the VSN unless CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY determines:

- a. The student requests to enroll in a VSN course(s) that is inconsistent with the student’s graduation plan, the requirements for college admission or the requirements for earning an industry certification (as applicable to the student);
- b. The student seeks to enroll in a VSN course prior to, or after the expiration of, the course enrollment period of Cedars International Academy;
- c. CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY offers a substantially similar course;
- d. The student seeks to enroll in more than three electronic courses through the VSN at no cost to the student.

Section 4.2. Inducements Prohibited. No employee, board member or other representative of CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY shall promise or provide equipment or any other thing of value to a student or a student’s parent as an inducement for the student to enroll in an electronic course offered through the Texas VSN.

Section 4.3 Fees for Enrollment in Additional VSN Courses.

CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY shall charge a fee for a student seeking to enroll in a course through the VSN if the Executive Director, or designee, determines;

- a. the student seeks to enroll in a course through the VSN that is beyond the normal course load taken by students in the equivalent grade level; or
- b. the student is currently enrolled in three (3) full-time courses through the VSN and the student seeks to enroll in an additional course through the VSN.
- c. The fee charged by CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY for enrollment in a course through the VSN under this policy shall not exceed the lesser of the cost of providing the course or \$400.

Section 4.4 Parental Notification.

The principal, or designee of each CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY middle school or high school campus shall be responsible for annually distributing a copy of this policy to a parent of each student enrolled in the school.