



Founding a public charter school in Maryland is hard but rewarding work. The Maryland Alliance of Public Charter Schools' Charter Starter workshop series (all free) encompasses each stage of opening a charter school, from learning about the process to understanding the components of a quality application.

### **Intro to Maryland Charter Schools**

Offered two times a year

The first step in the Charter Starter workshop series. This hour-long webinar will answer basic questions about the Maryland Charter School law, provide an overview of the movement, explain how charter schools are authorized in Maryland, provide a roadmap for creating a charter school, and announce the availability of the MSDE Charter School Grant.

### **Charter Starter Workshop**

Offered two times a year

The second step in the Charter Starter workshop series. This intensive three-hour training is designed to give school developers foundational knowledge about chartering in Maryland. This session will cover the application and design process, the importance of a strong Mission & Vision statement, team-building, and community outreach/mapping.

### **Charter Design Workshop Series**

Offered twice a year

Offered in the Spring and the Fall, this series is designed for groups that have established a founding group, and intend to submit a charter school application to a district authorizer in the next 12 months.

The series is approximately 15 hours (four evening virtual workshops), and on-demand specialized topics. To maximize tailored input, attendees will be expected to complete interim projects and view on-demand topic webinars. Because registration is limited, registrants must commit to sending a representative to all four sessions.

### **FOR MORE CHARTER STARTER RESOURCES & WORKSHOP INFO:**

<https://mdcharters.org/start-a-school>

### **Series Topics Include**

- Refining your mission & vision statements
- Defining your target student population
- Establishing a need, family and community engagement
- Student recruitment strategies
- Budgets and financial management
- Governance
- Educational design, including curriculum and assessment, goals, and accountability
- Serving students with disabilities and English language learners
- School culture and organizational structure
- Facilities

### **Mentorship Cohort**

MAPCS will take on 1-2 founding groups per year for a 12-month mentorship cohort designed to provide additional resources and institutional knowledge for promising founders in designing their proposed schools. Cohort members will meet monthly with staff, be provided with a read and review of their application, and engage in a mock interview.