

MICHIGAN

RANK 21, SCORE 16/33



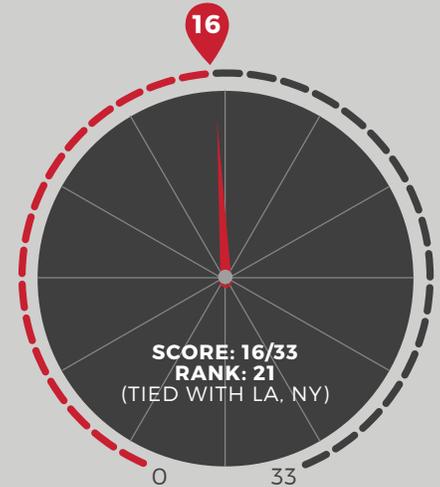
STATE WITH MANY CHARTERS (100+)
303 CHARTER SCHOOLS
 AVERAGE % OF PUBLIC SCHOOL ENROLLMENT (5-9%)



STATE WITH MANY AUTHORIZERS
45 AUTHORIZERS
10 AUTHORIZERS WITH 5 OR MORE SCHOOLS



YEAR LAW ESTABLISHED: **1993**



YEARLY COMPARISON

	1. Who Authorizes (6 points)	2. Standards (3 points)	3. Evaluations (3 points)	4. Sanctions (3 points)	5. Reports (3 points)	6. PMR (3 points)	7. Renewals (6 points)	8. Default Closure (6 points)	Total (33 points)
2016	6	1	0	1	0	2	0	6	16/33
2015	6	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	9/33

DETROIT REFORMS CAN CATALYZE OTHER STATEWIDE IMPROVEMENTS

Legislation passed in 2016 to address the Detroit schools crisis contains a number of charter reforms intended to turn around the city’s ailing charter sector. While a good start, more can be done—through policies such as performance frameworks and a strong renewal standard—to improve quality and choice in Detroit and statewide.

Noteworthy in 2016

Score Increase: +7

- **Authorizer Standards (+1).** Authorizers that seek to open any new charter schools in Detroit must be accredited by a “nationally recognized accreditation body.”
- **Default Closure (+6).** Any charter school that ranks in the bottom 5% of schools in the state for three consecutive years must be closed. In addition, under a new A-F accountability system that will be administered in Detroit, any charter school in Detroit that receives an F rating for the immediately preceding three school years must be closed or reconstituted.

NACSA RECOMMENDS

- **Require authorizer evaluations.** Michigan is the only state with multiple non-LEA authorizers that does not have an authorizer evaluation explicitly in state policy. While the new authorizer accreditation requirement is a promising start, it currently applies only to a very small number of authorizers—those who wish to open a new charter school in Detroit—and does not involve ongoing evaluation to maintain the right to authorize. A system of authorizer evaluation should be further developed and given the full weight of the law.

- **Strengthen authorizer sanctions.** Sanctions for underperforming authorizers should include the ability to revoke an authorizer’s authority to issue new charter contracts and oversee existing schools. These possible sanctions should apply to authorizers that fail in their duties, demonstrate poor practices or conduct, or oversee portfolios with too many persistently low-performing schools. A fully developed system of authorizer evaluations is a necessary counterpart to this policy.
- **Institute a strong renewal standard.**
- **Require all authorizers to use performance frameworks.** Many Michigan authorizers already use performance frameworks, a practice which should be required by law for all authorizers.

THE SCORE

POLICY	POINTS	DETAILS & CONTEXT
AUTHORIZER QUALITY		
Who Authorizes	6/6	LEAs, Higher Education Institutions (HEIs). LEA authorizers include both traditional school districts and regional bodies that can encompass multiple districts. There are 14 HEIs that authorize 83% of all charter schools in the state. Most HEI authorizers have a significant portfolio of more than 10 charter schools. New in 2016: Legislation passed in 2016 eliminates the Education Achievement Authority (EAA), a statewide recovery school district with limited jurisdiction.
Authorizer Standards	1/3	New in 2016: Authorizers that seek to open any new charter schools in Detroit must be accredited by a “nationally recognized accreditation body.” Authorizers are not required to be accredited in order to renew existing charter schools in Detroit. The content of the authorizer accreditation process piloted this year and last year is not fully consistent with NACSA’s <i>Principles & Standards for Quality Charter School Authorizing</i> , and as such, Michigan receives partial points in this category.
Authorizer Evaluations	0/3	State law provides for an accreditation process for authorizers seeking to open new charter schools within Detroit, which could in the future provide a foundation for authorizer evaluations. However, at this time accreditation is not required for authorizers that seek to open new charter schools solely outside of Detroit (meaning it does not apply to all authorizers), the accreditation process is not currently consistent with rigorous standards for quality authorizing, and it is unknown if accreditation review will be done periodically or as needed.
Authorizer Sanctions	1/3	The State Superintendent may suspend an authorizer’s ability to issue new contracts if the authorizer is not conducting appropriate oversight. In order for the state to implement this policy appropriately, it must first fully develop a system of authorizer evaluations and give it the full weight of the law. In addition to the Superintendent’s sanction authority, an authorizer may not grant charters for new schools within Detroit if the authorizer is not accredited.

THE SCORE

POLICY	POINTS	DETAILS & CONTEXT
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SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY

Reports on Performance	0/3	State law does not require authorizers to produce an annual public report on the academic performance of their portfolio of schools. In practice, some authorizers do produce annual reports on the performance of their portfolio of charter schools.
Performance Management and Replication	2/3	State law requires a charter contract but not performance frameworks. The law allows multiple schools under a single charter.
Renewal Standard	0/6	State law allows “reasonable progress” to be sufficient for a charter to be renewed.
Default Closure	6/6	New in 2016: 2016 legislation updated criteria in the state’s default closure provision to make it enforceable in the wake of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2009. Under the updated provision, charter schools that rank in the bottom 5% of schools in the state for three consecutive years must be closed, with few exceptions. In addition, a new A-F accountability system will be administered in Detroit in tandem with the general state accountability system. Once the A-F system is fully implemented, any charter school in Detroit that receives an F rating for the immediately preceding three school years must be closed or reconstituted.

TOTAL POINTS: 16/33, RANK 21 (TIED WITH LA, NY)