

# WASHINGTON

**RANK 1, SCORE 33/33**



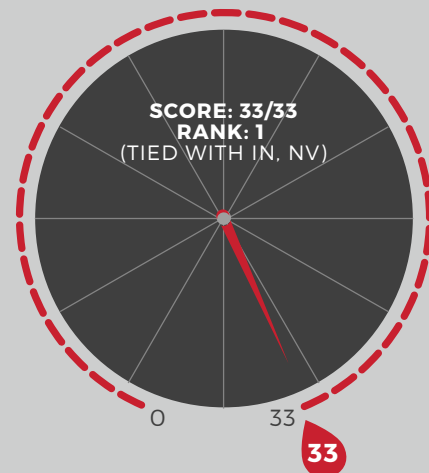
STATE WITH FEW CHARTERS (0-24)  
**8 CHARTER SCHOOLS**  
 BELOW AVERAGE % OF PUBLIC SCHOOL ENROLLMENT (0-4%)



STATE WITH FEW AUTHORIZERS  
**2 AUTHORIZERS<sup>1</sup>**  
**75% OF SCHOOLS AUTHORIZED BY THE**  
 WASHINGTON STATE CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION



YEAR LAW ESTABLISHED: **2016**



## 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	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>33/33</b>
2015	- <sup>2</sup>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

## VOICES RAISED RESTORE ONE OF THE STRONGEST LAWS IN NATION

A remarkable, parent-led, grassroots advocacy campaign restored Washington's charter school law. Unfortunately, charter school opponents recently filed a new lawsuit that once again threatens quality school options in the state.

## NACSA RECOMMENDS

- *Washington has all of NACSA's recommended policies in law.*

## THE SCORE

POLICY	POINTS	DETAILS & CONTEXT
<b>AUTHORIZER QUALITY</b>		
Who Authorizes	6/6	LEAs, Independent Charter Board (ICB). The Washington State Charter School Commission, an independent body within the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, is the only statewide authorizer. School districts must apply to and receive approval from the State Board of Education to become authorizers and, if approved, are granted a six-year renewable authorizing contract.
Authorizer Standards	3/3	State law requires all authorizers to develop and follow chartering policies consistent with NACSA's <i>Principles &amp; Standards for Quality Charter School Authorizing</i> in at least organizational capacity and infrastructure, soliciting and evaluating charter applications, performance contracting, ongoing charter school oversight and evaluation, and charter renewal decision making.
Authorizer Evaluations	3/3	By law, the Washington State Board of Education (SBE) oversees and evaluates LEA authorizers. Districts must be approved to authorize by the State Board before they begin any authorizing work.
Authorizer Sanctions	3/3	State law allows sanctions of LEA authorizers for failure to meet standards for quality authorizing, failure to comply with a charter contract, and failure to comply with an authorizing contract with the SBE. Sanctions can include revocation of authorizing power.
<b>SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY</b>		
Reports on Performance	3/3	By law, all authorizers must submit to the state an annual report on the performance of their charter school portfolio.
Performance Management and Replication	3/3	State law requires the use of a charter contract and performance frameworks. Multiple schools may be governed under one charter contract and a single not-for-profit charter board may hold multiple charters.
Renewal Standard	6/6	State law establishes a standard for renewal that a charter school must meet in the absence of extenuating circumstances.
Default Closure	6/6	By law, a charter contract may not be renewed if at the time of renewal the charter school's performance is in the bottom quartile on the state achievement index. The authorizer may justify keeping the school open under exceptional circumstances.

**TOTAL POINTS: 33/33, RANK 1 (TIED WITH IN, NV)**

<sup>1</sup> Data obtained from the Washington State Charter Schools Association. Updated December 6, 2016.

<sup>2</sup> In 2015, the Washington State Supreme Court held Washington's charter school statute unconstitutional under "common school" and other provisions of the state constitution, based primarily on how those provisions relate to public school funding and governance. The state's charter school law remained invalidated for that year and therefore did not receive a score in NACSA's 2015 State Policy Analysis report. Bipartisan legislation in 2016 reestablishing the state's charter school is scored here.