



SCSC Academic Accountability Report 2021-2022

March 2023

State Charter Schools Commission of Georgia



Executive Summary

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Assessing State Charter School Performance

In 2016, the State Charter Schools Commission of Georgia (SCSC) adopted a Comprehensive Performance Framework (CPF) to set forth clear, quantifiable, rigorous, and attainable goals in the areas of academic achievement, financial viability, and organizational compliance. A school's performance on the CPF informs SCSC decision making over the course of the charter term and at renewal.

- The academic portion of the CPF incorporates various components of the College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI, Georgia's state accountability tool) and predictive indicators that control for a school's unique and/or challenging student population.
- The financial portion of the CPF includes short-term and long-term measures to assess the school's financial viability.
- The organizational portion of the CPF reflects the school's ability to comply with all applicable laws (state and federal), rules and regulations.

State Charter Schools are expected to meet academic, financial, and operational standards during every year of the charter term. However, schools that demonstrates a consistent track record of strong performance over multiple years may earn a standard five-year renewal. Additionally, schools that finish their first charter term strong (despite early struggles), and schools that consistently perform on par with the attendance zone they serve may earn an abbreviated three-year charter renewal. The intent of an abbreviated charter term is to assess the school's ability to sustain the requisite performance level. Specific renewal criteria are defined within the CPF document. SCSC renewal eligibility criteria are meant to serve as a guideline to inform renewal decisions. However, the SCSC may exercise discretion in approving renewal terms outside of these guidelines.

Academic Section of the Comprehensive Performance Framework

The academic portion of the CPF assesses a variety of indicators to measure a school's performance in alignment with the SCSC's mission. The academic portion of the CPF seeks to answer the following fundamental question:

- Is the educational program offering students a better educational opportunity than they would otherwise receive in traditional district schools?

“The mission of the SCSC is to improve public education throughout the state by authorizing high-quality charter schools that provide students with better educational opportunities than they would otherwise be afforded in traditional schools.”

In any year of the charter term, a state charter school may satisfy annual academic requirements, and be considered Meeting SCSC academic standards, by outperforming its attendance zone on any one or combination of academic measures derived from the statewide accountability system (the College and Career Readiness Performance Index [CCRPI]) and other statistical, predictive measures (Value-Added Measure [VAM] and Beating the Odds [BTO]). Please refer to prior year academic accountability documents and CPF reports for details on those measures. However, due to data disruptions resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, SCSC utilized alternative academic measures for the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 school years.

Explanation of the 2021-2022 Scores

The U.S. Department of Education (USED) provided State Education Agencies (SEAs) the opportunity to amend their consolidated State plans under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) for the 2021-2022 school year. The Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) submitted a request to amend the State's consolidated plan on March 3, 2022, and a revised request on April 26, 2022. USED [approved GaDOE's COVID-19 State Plan Addendum for the 2021-2022 school year](#) on May 26, 2022.

The request included the suspension of certain academic indicators utilized within the statewide academic accountability system to account for pandemic-related data disruptions. Those indicators include those used to calculate the Progress, Closing the Gaps and Readiness components of CCRPI. As such, those component scores as well as overall summative ratings and letter grades for the state, districts and schools were not reported. To account for the absence, the SCSC contracted with a researcher at Georgia Southern University to calculate Student Growth Percentiles (SGPs) and value-added measures (VAM).

2021-2022 Academic Measures

1. GaDOE Content Mastery Scores
2. SCSC Progress Scores
3. SCSC Value-Added Impact Scores (VAM)

Meeting Goals

In the 2021-2022 school year, a state charter school may satisfy academic requirements, and be considered **Meeting** SCSC academic standards if it:

- Outperforms the schools from which it enrolls students on any one or combination of measures 1-3 in all grades bands served OR
- Outperforms the schools from which it enrolls students on a grade-band enrollment weighted overall school score for any measure 1-3.

If a school performs the same as the comparison score (no more than 3% below) on any measure 1-3 in all relevant grade bands or on a grade-band enrollment weighted score it is considered **Approaching** standards.

If the state charter school fails to adequately perform on any of the academic measures, the school is designated as **Not Meeting** SCSC academic standards.

SCSC Academic Standings 2021-2022

84% of state charter schools **OUTPERFORMED THE SCHOOLS** their students would otherwise attend in 2021-2022

SCHOOLS MEETING STANDARDS

Academy for Classical Education	International Academy of Smyrna
Atlanta Heights Charter School	International Charter Academy of Georgia
Atlanta Unbound Academy	International Charter School of Atlanta
Baconton Community Charter School	Ivy Prep Academy at Kirkwood
Brookhaven Innovation Academy	Liberty Tech Charter School
Cirrus Academy Charter School	Northwest Classical Academy
Coweta Charter Academy	Odyssey Charter School
D.E.L.T.A. STEAM Academy	Pataula Charter Academy
DuBois Integrity Academy	Resurgence Hall Charter School
Ethos Classical Charter School	Scintilla Charter Academy
Furlow Charter School	Southwest Georgia STEM
Genesis Innovation Academy for Boys	Spring Creek Charter Academy
Genesis Innovation Academy for Girls	Statesboro STEAM Academy
Georgia Connections Academy	Utopian Academy for the Arts
Georgia Cyber Academy	Yi Hwang Academy of Language Excellence
Georgia School for Innovation and the Classics	

SCHOOLS APPROACHING STANDARDS

Cherokee Charter Academy	Fulton Leadership Academy
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SCHOOLS NOT MEETING STANDARDS

Atlanta SMART	SAIL – School for Arts-Infused Learning
Georgia Fugees Academy	SLAM Academy of Atlanta

Summary Table

Table 1. Performance Comparison Across Measures and Grade Bands

SCSC School	Grade band	Content Mastery		Progress		Value-Added Measure		
		SCSC School Score	Comparison Score	SCSC School Score	Comparison Score	SCSC School Effect	Comparison Effect	Statistically Different from Comparison?
Academy For Classical Education	E	97.5	57.0	85.9	86.7	-0.0229	0.0853	Lower
Atlanta Heights Charter School	E	31.8	28.0	56.0	82.0	-0.0761	0.1718	Lower
Atlanta SMART Academy	E	31.6	34.4	45.5	82.2	-0.2809	0.1211	Lower
Baconton Community Charter School	E	59.5	37.9	80.9	79.1	-0.0237	0.0248	No
Brookhaven Innovation Academy	E	62.5	53.5	90.6	81.1	0.0400	0.0338	No
Cherokee Charter Academy	E	58.2	72.7	73.8	83.0	-0.0736	0.0161	Lower
Cirrus Charter Academy	E	23.9	28.9	77.2	71.4	0.0261	0.0291	No
Coweta Charter Academy	E	78.5	64.8	69.8	75.8	-0.1121	-0.0392	Lower
D.E.L.T.A. STEAM Academy	E	59.9	50.9	67.3	84.7	-0.1732	0.0754	Lower
Dubois Integrity Academy	E	42.3	32.2	78.6	76.8	0.0930	0.0282	No
Ethos Classical Charter School	E	52.4	40.3	100.0	83.6	0.3116	0.1372	Higher
Furlow Charter School	E	63.6	24.5	90.2	57.7	0.1229	0.0588	No
Genesis Innovation Academy for Boys	E	50.5	37.9	81.9	80.7	0.1211	0.1128	No
Genesis Innovation Academy for Girls	E	62.5	37.9	100.0	81.5	0.1992	0.1102	No
Georgia Connections Academy	E	49.1	58.3	53.9	78.7	-0.1827	0.0127	Lower
Georgia Cyber Academy	E	48.5	52.9	61.4	77.6	-0.1191	0.0211	Lower
Georgia School for Innovation and the Classics	E	69	44.8	73.8	74.7	-0.1281	0.0204	Lower
International Academy of Smyrna	E	53.2	52.0	98.4	85.5	0.0098	0.0099	No
International Charter Academy of Georgia	E	88.8	74.1	97.5	87.6	-0.0064	0.0271	No
International Charter School of Atlanta	E	89.7	84.4	88.7	86.9	-0.1021	0.0521	No
Ivy Preparatory Academy, Inc	E	46.4	32.8	76.3	83.8	-0.0310	0.1620	Lower
Liberty Tech Charter Academy	E	65.3	61.5	80.0	80.6	-0.0657	0.0072	No
Northwest Classical Academy	E	71.6	73.0	66.5	82.6	-0.1233	-0.0083	Lower
Odyssey Charter School	E	60.1	66.2	76.8	82.2	-0.0751	0.0422	Lower
Pataula Charter Academy	E	49.1	32.3	82.5	70.6	0.0370	0.0002	No
Resurgence Hall Charter School	E	87.6	42.6	77.6	84.9	0.0028	0.1518	Lower
SAIL Charter Academy	E	72.3	74.8	66.4	79.2	-0.1945	0.0083	Lower

Scintilla Charter Academy	E	89.9	59.6	82.1	71.7	0.0277	-0.0202	No
SLAM Academy of Atlanta	E	17	31.0	53.9	77.4	-0.1850	0.1424	Lower
Southwest Georgia S.T.E.M. Charter Academy	E	57.1	37.9	63.5	74.2	-0.0369	0.0270	No
Spring Creek Charter Academy	E	58	51.9	89.4	58.4	0.0879	-0.1343	Higher
Yi Hwang Academy of Language Excellence	E	93.9	81.2	84.0	87.4	-0.1727	0.0338	Lower
Academy For Classical Education	M	94.1	44.4	95.4	79.7	-0.0094	0.0694	Lower
Atlanta Heights Charter School	M	34.6	29.1	98.7	77.1	0.3103	0.2077	No
Atlanta SMART Academy	M	27.1	36.5	57.9	78.3	-0.0831	0.1429	Lower
Atlanta Unbound Academy	M	36.3	36.4	89.3	75.5	0.0033	0.0952	No
Baconton Community Charter School	M	63.6	36.6	78.9	80.4	-0.0170	0.0533	Lower
Brookhaven Innovation Academy	M	62.5	52.1	96.8	81.5	0.1038	0.0433	No
Cherokee Charter Academy	M	56.9	68.8	73.6	73.0	-0.0583	-0.0919	No
Cirrus Charter Academy	M	27.6	30.0	73.6	72.4	0.0403	0.0618	No
Coweta Charter Academy	M	74.2	56.6	79.3	77.8	-0.0569	-0.0165	No
Dubois Integrity Academy	M	41.5	33.6	100.0	76.8	0.1864	0.0233	Higher
Fulton Leadership Academy	M	34.9	37.0	76.7	74.6	0.0073	0.0987	No
Furlow Charter School	M	46.4	31.8	90.5	93.5	0.0070	0.1672	Lower
Genesis Innovation Academy for Boys	M	48.7	34.6	77.7	76.8	0.0119	0.1027	No
Genesis Innovation Academy for Girls	M	54.1	35.4	94.8	77.1	0.0873	0.0980	No
Georgia Connections Academy	M	56.7	54.1	65.7	77.9	-0.1077	0.0145	Lower
Georgia Cyber Academy	M	62	50.6	84.4	76.8	0.0647	0.0177	Higher
Georgia Fugees Academy Charter School	M	22.1	39.2	77.2	83.0	-0.1229	0.0775	Lower
Georgia School for Innovation and the Classics	M	73	28.8	98.2	60.5	0.0395	-0.0883	Higher
International Charter School of Atlanta	M	94.2	78.7	90.4	88.2	0.2429	0.0601	Higher
Ivy Preparatory Academy, Inc	M	49.3	32.4	100.0	77.3	0.2611	0.1135	No
Liberty Tech Charter Academy	M	75.8	63.0	87.8	84.8	0.0437	0.0315	No
Northwest Classical Academy	M	80.7	71.4	79.8	88.9	-0.0455	0.0627	No
Odyssey Charter School	M	69.6	61.8	93.7	79.7	0.0651	-0.0110	No
Pataula Charter Academy	M	49.7	31.4	93.3	79.4	0.1157	0.0830	No
SAIL Charter Academy	M	52.5	63.8	62.5	72.7	-0.2524	-0.0918	Lower
Scintilla Charter Academy	M	84.4	57.6	100.0	74.1	0.0963	-0.0127	Higher
SLAM Academy of Atlanta	M	TFS	30.4	-	-	-	-	-
Southwest Georgia S.T.E.M. Charter Academy	M	46.3	35.7	86.1	79.8	0.0694	0.0925	No

Spring Creek Charter Academy	M	51.0	51.0	81.7	71.2	0.0010	-0.0444	No
Statesboro STEAM Academy	M	48.4	46.3	63.8	65.0	-0.1160	-0.0576	No
Utopian Academy for the Arts Charter School	M	43.4	37.5	85.5	75.0	0.1179	-0.0046	Higher
Academy For Classical Education	H	98.8	43.6	100.0	67.1	0.2978	-0.1250	Higher
Baconton Community Charter School	H	63.7	32.5	85.5	89.6	0.0640	0.1652	No
Fulton Leadership Academy	H	26	37.2	65.3	68.8	-0.1903	0.0471	Lower
Furlow Charter School	H	42.9	34.3	62.1	36.9	-0.2093	0.0493	Lower
Genesis Innovation Academy for Boys	H	TFS	37.0	-	-	-	-	-
Genesis Innovation Academy for Girls	H	40.6	36.3	43.5	59.3	-0.0590	0.0128	No
Georgia Connections Academy	H	62.5	59.7	80.7	73.3	-0.0553	0.0064	Lower
Georgia Cyber Academy	H	62.1	55.0	82.9	70.7	0.1399	-0.0025	Higher
Georgia Fugees Academy Charter School	H	16.7	42.6	-	-	-	-	-
Georgia School for Innovation and the Classics	H	63.9	29.3	71.1	48.5	-0.2560	-0.2712	No
Pataula Charter Academy	H	55.2	35.4	76.7	77.3	-0.0224	0.1663	Lower
Southwest Georgia S.T.E.M. Charter Academy	H	56.7	47.4	28.9	59.4	-0.1449	0.1011	No
Statesboro STEAM Academy	H	58.1	53.3	19.2	78.0	-0.2480	0.0372	Lower

Green cells indicate a state charter school score higher than the comparison score. Yellow cells indicate a state charter school score that is the same as the comparison score.

Calculations Explained

Academic Measures 2021-2022

Measures 1 and 2 were calculated using the Content Mastery and Progress methodologies as described in the Department's CCRPI Calculation Guides.

- [CCRPI Elementary School Calculation Guide](#)¹
- [CCRPI Middle School Calculation Guide](#)
- [CCRPI High School Calculation Guide](#)

1. GaDOE Content Mastery Scores – an achievement measure intended to serve as an indicator of whether students are prepared for the next grade, college, or career.
2. SCSC Progress Scores – a measure of academic growth relative to academically similar peers. The SCSC used student growth percentiles (SGPs) calculated by a research partner at Georgia Southern University to carry out Progress score calculations.

Measure 3 was calculated by a researcher at Georgia Southern University.

3. SCSC Value-Added Impact Scores (VAM) – a measure of the school's impact on average student performance versus predicted student performance.

School Weighted Score

The School Weighted score is calculated using the proportion of students the school enrolls from each school attendance zone served. The student-level address element in the GaDOE Data Collections Student Record report is used to determine which school each student enrolled in a state charter school is zoned to attend (the school the student would attend if they were not enrolled in the charter school). The SCSC weights those schools' CCRPI scores based on the proportion of students enrolled.

District Weighted Score

The District Weighted Score is calculated using the proportion of students the school enrolls from each district served. For instance, if a state charter school enrolls 80% of its students from District A and 20% of its students from District B, then the comparison score is 80% of District A's score plus 20% of District B's score. This is the same process followed in the School Weighted Score.

SCSC School	Grade band	Content Mastery Score	District-Weighted Comparison
Northwest Classical Academy	E	71.6	71.1
	M	80.7	69.2

¹ The calculation methodologies were last updated in 2018. Since then, the social studies test was removed from elementary schools. Thus, the weighting of total score has been adjusted for that removal but following the same methodology- subjects are weighted based on the frequency of test occurrence in the grade band.

Grade Band Enrollment Weighted Overall Score

The Grade Band Enrollment Weighted Overall Score is calculated based on the proportion of students the state charter school enrolls in each grade band served. The SCSC uses the March FTE count to determine enrollment numbers. For instance, if a state charter school serves grades K-8 and enrolls 60% of its students in the elementary grade band and 40% of its students in the middle grade band, then the Grade Band Enrollment Weighted Score is 60% of the school's elementary school score plus 40% of the school's middle school score. The state charter school's score is then compared to the same weighting of the School Comparison Score. For state charter schools that serve across grade bands, this measure seeks to determine whether, as a whole, the school is providing a better opportunity for most students. If a school is already outperforming all grade bands, the Grade Band Enrollment Weighted Overall Score was not generated.

Genesis Academy for Boys – GaDOE Content Mastery Scores

Grade band	School Score	Comparison Score	Grade band %	School Score	Comparison Score
E	50.5	37.9	62.9%	$(50.5 * 62.9\%) = 31.8$	$(37.9 * 62.9\%) = 23.8$
M	48.7	34.6	30.2%	$(48.7 * 30.2\%) = 14.7$	$(34.6 * 30.2\%) = 10.5$
H	TFS	37.0	6.9%	$(0 * 6.9\%) = 0$	$(37 * 6.9\%) = 2.5$
Overall Score (grade band enrollment weighted)				46.5	36.9

*TFS indicates Too Few Students (i.e., fewer than 15). The SCSC used a score of zero for the high school grade band as it still results in a higher score. Please note the SCSC is NOT assigning the school a score of zero for the high school grade band. It will still be publicly reported as TFS. The zero was simply used to move forward with designating the school as Meeting Standards.

Georgia Connections – GaDOE Content Mastery Scores

Grade band	School Score	Comparison Score	Grade band %	School Score	Comparison Score
E	49.1	58.3	5.5%	$(49.1 * 5.5\%) = 2.7$	$(58.3 * 5.5\%) = 3.2$
M	56.7	54.1	42.5%	$(56.7 * 42.5\%) = 24.1$	$(54.1 * 42.5\%) = 23$
H	62.5	59.7	52%	$(62.5 * 52\%) = 32.5$	$(59.7 * 52\%) = 31$
Overall Score (grade band enrollment weighted)				59.3	57.2

Georgia Cyber – GaDOE Content Mastery Scores

Grade band	School Score	Comparison Score	Grade band %	School Score	Comparison Score
E	48.5	52.9	46.4%	$(48.5 * 46.4\%) = 22.5$	$(52.9 * 46.4\%) = 24.5$
M	62	50.6	27%	$(62 * 27\%) = 16.7$	$(50.6 * 27\%) = 13.7$
H	62.1	55.0	26.6%	$(62.1 * 26.6\%) = 16.5$	$(55 * 26.6\%) = 14.6$
Overall Score (grade band enrollment weighted)				55.8	52.8

Fulton Leadership Academy – SCSC Progress Score

Grade band	School Score	Comparison Score	Grade band %	School Score	Comparison Score
M	76.7	74.6	55.5%	$(76.7 * 55.5\%) = 42.6$	$(74.6 * 55.5\%) = 41.4$
H	65.3	68.8	44.5%	$(65.3 * 44.5\%) = 29.1$	$(68.8 * 44.5\%) = 30.6$
Overall Score (grade band enrollment weighted)				71.6	72.0

Odyssey Charter School – SCSC Progress Score

Grade band	School Score	Comparison Score	Grade band %	School Score	Comparison Score
E	76.8	82.2	70.12%	$(76.8 * 70.1\%) = 53.8$	$(82.2 * 70.1\%) = 57.6$
M	93.7	79.7	29.88%	$(93.7 * 29.9\%) = 28$	$(79.7 * 29.9\%) = 23.8$
Overall Score (grade band enrollment weighted)				81.9	81.4