



HAWAI'I EDUCATIONAL POLICY CENTER

Informing the Education Community

Charter School Facts (Prepared by the Charter Schools Administrative Office)

The Schools

- 27 Schools, 500 employees, 5,000 students.
- 60% grades K-6 (3,190), 40% 7-12 (2,107).
- Oahu – 10 schools.
- Hawai'i – 12 schools.
- Maui/Molokai – 2 schools.
- Kauai – 3 schools.

Enrollment

- Growth in enrollment

2001–2002	2002–2003	2003–2004	2004–2005
3,066	3,350	4,502	5,297

- Projected enrollments for 2005-06 is 5,369; for 06-07: 5,753.
- 1,418 students attend schools with a special focus on Hawaiian culture (27%).
- 19 of the 27 schools qualify for Title I funds.

Achievement

- As a group, in 2004 charter schools outperformed regular public school students in the most recent Hawai'i State Assessment and SAT tests.
- In 2004, 40% of charter schools met the SAT honor roll criteria (77% of students in a grade scored at or above the national norm on both reading and math).

Financing

- In 2001–02, charters received \$3,564 per pupil. They enrolled 251 special education (SPED) students but received no per pupil allocation for these students, representing a short fall of \$894,564.
- In 2002–03, charters received \$3,805 per pupil, with 269 SPED students, but received no per pupil allocation for the SPED students, representing a shortfall of \$1,023,545.
- The official enrollment count for 2004–05 is about 20 students over the May estimate, requiring a transfer from DOE to charters of approximately \$115,000.
- In 2003–04, the state supported charters at \$5,355 per pupil.
- In 2004–05, the formula indicated that charters should have received \$5,736 per pupil, however over \$5.4 million was removed from charter school operating funds resulting from an over-calculation of actual fringe benefit costs of approximately \$2.4 million. Nearly 24% (\$1,100 per pupil) was deducted from all charter operating funds because of this error. Thus, charters received an allocation of \$4,600 per pupil, or \$700 less than the previous year.

- In 2004–05, charter school employees covered by collective bargaining increases will receive \$254,000 in increased wages. While the DOE did receive additional funds for their employee raises, the charters did not receive any additional funds.
- In 2004–05, charter schools will spend approximately \$1.2 million on rents or leases, \$306,000 on repair and maintenance. However, charters do not receive any funding for facilities.
- The proposed 2005–06 budget will seek a funding level of \$6,700 per pupil.