



What is the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF)?

California state law sets out the system for funding public schools. State leaders largely decide how much money is available to schools each year as part of the state budget process.

In 2013, California adopted a new formula for deciding how much money each charter school gets, called the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF). Charter schools will decide how to use the funds, but under the new

system they must get input from their local communities. They also have to tie their budgets to improvement goals by creating a Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP).

What is the Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP)?

The LCAP is a critical part of the new Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF).

Each charter school must engage parents, educators, employees and the community to establish these plans. The plans will describe the charter school's overall vision for students, annual goals and specific actions the charter school will take to achieve the vision and goals.

The LCAPs must focus on eight areas identified as state priorities. The plans will also demonstrate how the charter school's budget will help achieve the goals, and assess each year how well the strategies in the plan were able to improve outcomes.

What are the eight state priority areas that must be addressed in the plans?

There are eight areas for which charter schools, with parent and community input, must establish goals and actions. The areas are:

1. Providing all students access to fully credentialed teachers, instructional materials that align with state standards, and safe facilities.
2. Implementation of California's academic standards, including the Common Core State Standards in English language arts and math, Next Generation Science Standards, English language development, history social science, visual and performing arts, health education and physical education standards.
3. Parent involvement and participation, so the local community is engaged in the decision-making process and the educational programs of students.
4. Improving student achievement and outcomes along multiple measures, including test scores, English proficiency and college and career preparedness.
5. Supporting student engagement, including whether students attend school or are chronically absent.
6. Highlighting school climate and connectedness through a variety of factors, such as suspension and expulsion rates and other locally identified means.
7. Ensuring all students have access to classes that prepare them for college and careers, regardless of what school they attend or where they live.
8. Measuring other important student outcomes related to required areas of study, including physical education and the arts.

In addition to these eight areas, the charter school may also identify and incorporate in its plan goals related to its own local priorities.