



**Hawai'i State Public Charter School Commission
Early Learning Program**

**Pre-K-only Charter School Application 2023
Frequently Asked Questions**

1. **QUESTION:** Regarding the DHS requirement for a minimum of five years of operation of a child care program, does the associated non-profit have to be the primary organization who is operating the proposed Pre-K-only charter school?

RESPONSE: The associated non-profit organization is the applying entity however it should not be the administrators of the charter school.

2. **QUESTION:** If we are a non-profit group of experienced educators in early childhood education, are we allowed to partner with another non-profit or an existing charter/DOE program with a DHS license to operate the preschool?

RESPONSE: Yes, you are allowed to partner with another non-profit. This non-profit entity must meet the requirements as stated in the application.

3. **QUESTION:** If a non-profit entity is a group of experienced educators in early childhood education, are we allowed to partner with an existing charter/DOE program with a DHS license to operate the preschool?

RESPONSE: Yes, you are allowed to partner with another charter school. If this is the case, you need not apply to become a **new** pre-K-only charter school since you will be part of an existing charter school entity.

4. **QUESTION:** Can an existing non-profit Board also be the Board for the non-profit or does the Charter School need a different BOD set up as it's own non-profit?

RESPONSE: The new charter school must have its own board of directors separate from its applying non-profit organization. This new BOD should have at least five qualified members.

5. **QUESTION:** For the attachments, do I upload everything separately, in sections, or all combined?

RESPONSE: You may upload the entire application into your ShareFile. Be sure it follows the criteria as described in the Application and is properly labeled using the required format.

6. **QUESTION:** With regards to language of instruction for opening a pre-k only preschool, are English and Hawaiian the only acceptable options for immersion programs? Can charter schools also have bilingual immersion programs in combination with either English or Hawaiian?

RESPONSE: Charter school applicants can select the language medium of their choice and the curriculum model that best suits their mission and vision. The applicant will need to provide supporting evidence on the reasons a particular method of instruction has been selected including but not limited to bilingual immersion programs in combination with either English or Hawaiian.