



School Accountability

The Colorado Charter School Institute (CSI) is committed to fostering high-quality charter public schools. We understand charter schools and advocate for their success. We offer support, flexibility, and transparent accountability to ensure our schools are in the best position possible to serve their students.

CSI provides its schools with clear expectations for academic, organizational, and financial performance and allows schools the freedom to choose how best to achieve those expectations.

How are CSI schools held accountable?

The CSI Annual Review of Schools (CARS) is used to evaluate and accredit CSI schools annually based on academic, organizational, and financial performance. CARS builds off of the academic expectations in the state's accountability system by adding additional academic indicators and including measures of financial and organizational performance. This evaluation:

1. Adds to the body of evidence that is used to make authorization decisions;
2. Determines the school accreditation rating that is primarily used to inform authorization pathways; &
3. Determines the level of support/intervention to provide to the school.

What does CSI use to determine school performance?

The CSI Performance Framework provides the basis for the CSI Annual Review of Schools (CARS). The Performance Framework explicitly defines the measures by which CSI holds schools accountable with regards to academic, organizational, and financial performance. These are the broad indicators in the [CSI Performance Framework](#):

Academic	Financial	Organizational
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Growth➤ Achievement➤ Postsecondary & Workforce Readiness	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Enrollment➤ Debt➤ Balance Sheer➤ Operating Margin	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Governance➤ Education Program➤ Diversity, Equity of Access, & Inclusion➤ Financial Management➤ School Operations & Environment➤ Additional Obligations

To determine school accreditation ratings, CSI establishes a base rating based on academics and, if the school has demonstrated financial compliance and organizational compliance, the school keeps their base rating. If not, the base rating may be lowered. Below are the accreditation ratings available to CSI schools (from lowest to highest):

