

# Curriculum and Assessments in WI Charter Schools

100%

Charter schools must assess the early literacy skills of every student in 4K through 3rd grade and are mandated to provide science-based interventions for all at-risk pupils to ensure reading proficiency for all students.

“You can’t go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are and change the ending!” – C.S. Lewis

## Essential Guidance for Charter School Teachers:

*Providing Required Academic Support to Identified Students*

### The Legal Framework

Charter schools are subject to all federal laws governing education, including the **Elementary and Secondary Education Act** and the **Individuals with Disabilities Education Act**.

Unless specifically mentioned in statute, charter schools are not subject to the provisions of Chapters 115 through 121 of the Wisconsin Statutes.

### Charter School Requirements Workflow

Requirement Area	Mandatory Action
Assessments	Administer state standardized pupil assessments and the civics assessment required for high school graduation. Despite being remote, pupils in virtual charter schools are still required to participate in state pupil assessments.
Academic Standards	Adopt academic standards in mathematics, science, reading and writing, geography, and history. For Charter Schools including grades 5 through 12, the curriculum must include instruction on the Holocaust and other genocides.

Requirement Area	Mandatory Action
Promotion Criteria	Enforce a policy for promoting pupils from 4th to 5th grade and 8th to 9th grade; pupils must satisfy criteria for promotion or graduation.
Early Literacy & Intervention	Assess early literacy skills for pupils in 4K through 3rd grade and provide interventions for at-risk pupils.
Progress Measurement	Outline the specific methods that will be used to measure pupil progress in attaining the state’s educational goals and expectations.
Accountability & Reporting	Participate in the DPI school accountability reports, annual performance reports, and the statewide student information system. Provide a copy of their accountability report to the parents of each enrolled pupil.

## Service Delivery & Collaboration

**Who:** All instructional staff must hold a license or permit to teach issued by the Department of Public Instruction (DPI).

**What:** Schools must provide parents with a copy of the school’s accountability report and a list of available educational options in the district.

**Where:** Virtual Charters provide instruction via the internet, with pupils and staff being geographically remote from one another.

## Evaluation and Effectiveness

- **Educator Effectiveness:** Charter schools must participate in the DPI educator effectiveness evaluation system or an approved alternative process.
- **Intervention for At-Risk Pupils:** Schools must proactively identify literacy gaps in early grades and provide the necessary intervention services to support student success.



## Key Resources on the DPI Website:

- [DPI School Accountability](#)
- [Wisconsin Educator Effectiveness System](#)