

- OPI provides [guidance documents](#), webinars, and discussions for charter schools, all of which are available on our website: <https://opi.mt.gov/Families-Students/Parent-Resources/Charter-Schools>
- OPI is preparing the [Request to Open a New Public Charter School or District](#) form for schools with approved applications for the 2025-2026 school year.
- OPI staff participated in a workgroup with BPE to develop the performance frameworks for the public charter schools. [These frameworks were approved at the BPE's last meeting](#). The intent of the collaboration was to avoid duplication of performance information that is submitted by all schools through the accreditation process at OPI. These frameworks will include:
 - Academic Performance Metrics
 - ELA and math student performance on state-wide assessments
 - Attendance
 - Graduation rates
 - Support for transitions, for example, into kindergarten or between elementary and middle/high school
 - Post-secondary readiness
 - Financial Performance Metrics
 - Financial performance and stability
 - Student enrollment and re-enrollment
 - Organizational
- BPE approved preliminary accreditation status for all public charters at their July 2024 board meeting.

Public Charter School	Grade level	Anticipated enrollment	Basic Entitlement Amount FY25
Billings Multilingual Academy	E2	71	\$58,963
Billings Multilingual Academy	H2	40	\$353,787
Billings Early College School	H3	125	\$353,787
Billings Opportunity School	H4	80	\$353,787
Missoula Connect Academy MS	E2	10	0
Missoula Connect Academy MS	M2	21	\$117,928
Missoula Connect Academy HS	H3	41	\$353,787
Missoula TEACH Academy	E3	80	\$58,963
Corvallis Rise Charter & Distance EL	E2	77	\$58,963
Corvallis Rise Charter & Distance 7-8	M2	21	\$117,928
Corvallis Rise Charter & Distance HS	H2	73	\$353,787
Corvallis Rise Charter & Pathways EL	E3	71	\$58,963
Corvallis Rise Charter & Pathways 7-8	M3	35	\$117,928
Corvallis Rise Charter & Pathways HS	H3	112	\$353,787
Great Falls CORE School at Morningside El	E2	350	\$58,963
Frenchtown Bronc Fast Track	H2	56	\$353,787
Kalispell Flathead Pace Academy	H2	48	\$353,787
Kalispell Rising Wolf Charter	H3	48	\$353,787
Hamilton Bitterroot Polytech 7-8	M2	25	\$117,928
Hamilton Bitterroot Polytech HS	H2	50	\$353,787
Helena Montessori Charter School	E3	198	\$58,963
Helena Mount Ascension Learning Ac EL	E2	31	0
Helena Mount Ascension Learning Ac MS	M2	21	\$117,928
Helena Mount Ascension Learning Ac HS	H2	41	\$353,787
Helena Project for Alternative Learning	H3	75	\$353,787
Bridger Charter School	H2	82	\$353,787

Public Charter School Name	Grades served	Anticipated enrollment SY 2024-25	Anticipated enrollment at full capacity	Program Overview
Billings Early College School	9--12	125	500	Billings Early College School will offer strong academic programming in a supportive environment through a defined and structured program that allows students the opportunity to earn both their high school diploma and an associate degree. The structure for BECS will be a hybrid school that allows students to spend half their day (three class periods) in 9th and 10th grade as a cohort of BECS students focusing on their core graduation requirements and the other half of their day on their home high school campus. Students in 11th and 12th grade will take most of their classes on the college campus, requiring collaboration with college partners to ensure any required courses through BECS do not conflict with college courses and pathways. BPS is exploring formal partnerships with Montana State University Billings and Rocky Mountain College, both located in Billings and accessible to our students.
Billings Multilingual Academy	6--12	71	97	The mission of the Billings Multilingual Academy (BMA) is to Inspire, Educate and Empower students and families of multicultural backgrounds to support a student's academic achievement and acculturation into the school communities to achieve their full potential. The BMA's vision to achieve this mission is based on three core goals: 1) Provide families with choices to better serve the needs of their language diverse learners; 2) Support newcomers, emergent bilingual students, and long-term ELs as they pursue their college, career, and military opportunities; and 3) Provide alternative pathways and a proficiency-based model to achieve their graduation requirements. Billings Multilingual Academy (BMA) will run a traditional six period day to allow for the opportunity for students to access CTE, work experiences, and elective offerings at other schools within Billing Public Schools.
Billings Opportunity School	9--12	104	260	The Billings Opportunity School will be a school for students in the Billings Public School system that are at-risk of not graduating and need an alternative environment to earn their high school diploma. The school will utilize a combination of in-person and hybrid learning environments as well as internships and workplace experience to ensure that students are meeting the Montana requirements for graduation.
Bozeman Bridger Charter Academy	9--12	80-100	80-100	Bridger Charter Academy is an alternative program that operates within Bozeman High School. The program offers core (and some elective) course credit through proficiency-based instruction in a smaller learning community. BCA is not an online program. Students attend both BCA and BHS to meet graduation requirements.
Corvallis Distance Learning Center	K--12	171	174	The Corvallis Distance Learning Charter's (CDLC) educational program is built on the understanding that there is an established need for a charter school in the community serving students with online platforms and distance learning options and giving families options for part distance learning and part on campus instruction as an additional flexibility.

Public Charter School Name	Grades served	Anticipated enrollment SY 2024-25	Anticipated enrollment at full capacity	Program Overview
Corvallis Transformational Learning Charter	K--12	218	218	The Transformational Learning Charter is uniquely correlated to the community and provides opportunities for families and students to explore a plethora of school to work pathways. Those pathways include; (a) Farm to Food (b) Salute to Service (c) Medical (d) Construction (e) Outdoor Recreation and Ecology. The school provides every student an opportunity to explore a multitude of educational experiences through direct instruction, field trips, guest speakers, internships, micro-credentials and dual enrollment classes.
Frenchtown Bronc Fast Track Public Charter	10--12	50-60	75-90	Bronc Fast Track Public Charter School aims to bridge the gap between high school and post-secondary education by offering students the opportunity to earn college credits during their high school years. By integrating post-secondary coursework into our curriculum, we offer students the opportunity to earn up to 30 college credits, which is the equivalent of their first year of college. Students will receive both in person and online instruction from Frenchtown High School educators and University of Montana professors.
CORE School at Morningside Elementary	K--6	70	70	The GFPS CORE School is an innovative elementary school that combines integrated and experiential K-6 education with an immersive teacher preparation program in partnership with the University of Montana-Western and GFCMSU. The mission of this school is to create a "learning exchange" that provides top notch education to both K-6 learners, preservice teachers and practicing teachers through immersive apprenticeship, instructional coaching, innovative classroom design, and high-quality instruction.
Hamilton Bitterroot Polytech	7--12	110	110	The Bitterroot Polytech will be anchored by three goals (1) Provide each student with an Individual Success Plan, (2) Ensure that students graduate with a sound foundation in an academic core through a proficiency-based model of learning, and (3) Facilitate student connection with in-demand and personally rewarding career opportunities upon graduation. The completion of the rigorous core is exclusively proficiency-based learning utilizing digital platforms, independent study, and direct instructional support when appropriate.
HPSD Montessori Charter School	K--5	198	264	The HPSD Montessori Charter School provides academic instruction through the Montessori model of instruction, available to elementary-aged students. The Montessori Charter School operates at three sites with plans for expansion. Montessori Charter School provides personalized learning experiences in which staff, students, and community members work in collaboration to create a rich, engaging learning experience, build vital community partnerships, and support students in an intellectually diverse, active learning community. Trained Montessori teachers ensure families and students are supported throughout their school journey, offering ongoing individualized academic planning, family support and continuity of services. Montessori Charter School engages students in a collaborative learning environment with staff and community members to provide engaging learning and teaching experiences, to contribute to significant increases in student retention and graduation rates, and to meet the diverse academic needs of our students.

Public Charter School Name	Grades served	Anticipated enrollment SY 2024-25	Anticipated enrollment at full capacity	Program Overview
Helena Mount Ascension Learning Academy	1--12	133	489	<p>The “Mount Ascension Learning Academy” charter school offers students in grades 6-12 a choice of virtual learning courses or a blend of virtual and in-person classes. Interested families are provided guidance to help identify the best learning options for their student’s needs. All courses are taught by certified in-person and virtual instructors. Mount Ascension Learning Academy provides personalized learning experiences in which staff, students, and community members work in collaboration to create a rich, engaging learning environment, build vital community partnerships, and support students in an intellectually diverse, active learning community. Students have an opportunity to learn asynchronously or synchronously through a hybrid approach of online learning and on-campus courses depending on their choice. Each student is supported by an education advocate who works with the family throughout the student’s school experience. This professional ensures families and students are supported throughout their school journey, offering ongoing individualized academic planning, family support, and continuity of services.</p>
Helena Project for Alternative Learning Academy	9--12	75	120	<p>The HPSD Project for Alternative Learning Charter School’s mission and vision are to include and empower students who struggle socially, emotionally, and academically in a learning environment that is conducive to their unique needs. Project for Alternative Learning Charter school will recognize every student’s individuality and help provide them and the community with educational, personal, and vocational resources. The PAL Charter School instructional framework blends academics with intervention to address the social, emotional, and behavioral needs of each individual student. The instructional framework scaffolds tools and strategies to support teachers' efforts to target these areas. A daily check in/check out model with each student’s school advisor is built into the schedule. The advisor helps with school planning, career planning, and support in all areas of students’ lives. The learning environment is often dependent on the subject matter of the class. Classes may require both outdoor and indoor classroom time. Many of the classes will center around project-based learning or experience opportunities. Class sizes will vary but will not typically exceed 15 students in any single class period. Classes will be offered in a three-week block system rather than the traditional semester model. This will allow students to more easily catch up on content if they are experiencing an educational disruption for a period of time.</p>

Public Charter School Name	Grades served	Anticipated enrollment SY 2024-25	Anticipated enrollment at full capacity	Program Overview
Kalispell Flathead PACE Academy Charter	10--12	50	150	Flathead PACE Academy serves high school students in the Flathead Valley in grades 10-12 who wish to explore a career path through the development of personal and professional skills, work-based learning, competency-based education, and flexible completion of high school requirements. Every student, in collaboration with the Career Coordinator, creates an independent learning plan based on their interests and abilities. This plan includes both core academics, career exploration, and graduation requirements. This plan is completed or updated by the end of each school year. Students take core academic courses and the Career Exploration course. In addition, they complete an internship, career exploration project, or advanced coursework through International Baccalaureate, concurrent enrollment, or Running Start. The internship or career exploration project receives high school elective credit, like the way our current high school students earn credit for an internship. International Baccalaureate and college credit fulfills the career requirements of the PACE Academy.
Kalispell Rising Wolf Charter	9--12	80	300	The Rising Wolf Charter School creates a learning block, modeled after the University of Montana Western XI program, that facilitates a more in-depth study of one class at a time for a longer period of time before moving on to their next required core or elective course. Allowing students to enroll in a half or full day of the longer learning block will provide students learning experiences that better facilitate more hands-on learning and afford the teaching staff time to offer more learning interventions to ensure mastery of learning before students move to the next course of study. The goal of our charter school will be to reduce the stress load of students who want a smaller load of courses while not falling behind on their graduation requirements.
Missoula CONNECT Academy	6--12	72	175	The Connect Academy Charter School provides a flexible and innovative virtual 6-12 grade school for Montana residents. By providing an accredited online public-school option, students can access a wider range of courses and instructors than may be available at a single traditional school. The online format allows for innovative teaching methods and individualized support for each student. Students will have access to a variety of education pathways including AP, CTE Courses, Work Based Learning opportunities, and credit recovery.
Missoula TEACH Academy	P--5	80	258	TEACH Academy is an integrated arts academy and CTE Aspiring Teacher pathway that will serve students in elementary grades while also providing internship opportunities for high school students and preservice teachers.