



Audubon Center of the North Woods

Experience Your Environment

Request for New Charter School Proposals

Introduction

The Audubon Center of the North Woods (ACNW) authorizes 35 charter schools throughout Minnesota. Our vision is to authorize a portfolio of high performing charter schools that instill a connection and commitment to the environment in their school communities, while working towards a healthy planet where all people live in balance with the Earth. Our authorizing mission is to ensure quality academic and environmental literacy outcomes for students in Minnesota by conducting effective oversight and evaluation of authorized schools, providing strategic support to schools, and making informed and merit-based decisions about our portfolio of charter schools.

ACNW aims to expand learning opportunities for students in Minnesota; therefore, we seek high quality new school proposals from individuals and groups who have the skill, capacity, and vision to initiate and sustain high quality, innovative public charter schools. Successful proposals will present plans to provide all students, include those with special needs and English learners, with a quality education that develops the whole child, ensure efficient use of public resources, and develop the environmental literacy of children and youth.

ACNW New Charter School Proposals Process

1. Developers should become familiar with Minnesota statutes [Chapter 124E](#) which govern charter school formation and operation. Visit [ACNW's website](#) to learn about our authorizing activities and expectations.
2. Contact ACNW's Charter School Division at 612-331-4181 or admin@auduboncharterschools.org to schedule a time to discuss initial ideas for the new school as well as the application process.
3. Review ACNW's [New Charter School Proposal Guide](#).
4. Submit a **Notice of Intent to Apply** to ACNW by **September 15, 2017**.
5. Submit a **full proposal** to ACNW by **January 5, 2018**.
6. Interviews with qualified applicant groups will be held on February 1-3, 2018 at the Audubon Center of the North Woods in Sandstone, MN. Mark your calendar to ensure availability on these dates.