California Department of Education

Charter Schools Division

Created 05/2025

accs-jun25item03

Attachment 2

# Nonclassroom-Based Funding Determination Request

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

This document presents the determination of funding request from School of Unlimited Learning (Charter #0149). Information from the school has been exported from the web-based Funding Determination Form found on the [Nonclassroom-Based Determination of Funding web page](https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/ch/nclrbifunddet.asp#form).

Responses from the school have been provided, as is, and have not been edited by the California Department of Education (CDE) for capitalization, punctuation, or spelling.

## School of Unlimited Learning Determination of Funding Request 2024–25

### Section 1. General Information

Charter School Information

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Charter School Name | School of Unlimited Learning |
| Charter School Authorizer | Fresno Unified |
| Charter School Number | 0149 |
| County District School (CDS) Code | 10-62166-1030642 |
| Street Address | 2336 Calaveras Street |
| City | FRESNO |
| County | Fresno |
| ZIP Code | 93721 |
| Grade Levels Served | 9, 10, 11, 12 |
| Date Charter Expires | 6/30/2026 |
| Contact First Name | Susan |
| Contact Last Name | Lopez |
| Contact Title | Principal |
| Contact Phone Number | 559-500-5076 |
| Contact Email Address | susan.lopez@fresnoeoc.org |

Funding Determination Request Information

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Is this a reconsideration request? | Yes, this is a reconsideration request. |
| Requested Funding Level | 100% |
| Beginning Period Requested | FY 2023–24[[1]](#footnote-1) |
| Years of Funding Requested to be Reconsidered | 5 |
| Source Data | FY 2022-23 Audit |

### Section 2. Financial Information

#### A. Total Resources

Revenues and Other Resources

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Federal Revenues[[2]](#footnote-2) | $84,181 |
| Public Charter School Grant Program Funds (separately identified) | $0 |
| State Revenues[[3]](#footnote-3) | $3,176,411 |
| In-Lieu of Property Taxes (separately identified) | $194,939 |
| Local Revenues | $8,545 |
| Other Financing Sources | $0 |
| **Total Revenues** | **$3,269,137** |

**If Other Financing Sources were reported, provide a description:**

[No Response]

#### B. Total Expenditures and Other Uses

Instruction and Related Services

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Certificated Salaries and Benefits | $1,390,695 |
| Classified Salaries and Benefits | $450,733 |
| Books, Supplies, and Equipment | $107,848 |
| Services and Other Operating Costs: Contracts for Instructional Services | $0 |
| Services and Other Operating Costs: Contracts for Instructional Support | $0 |
| Services and Other Operating Costs: All Other Instruction-Related Operating Costs | $398,412 |
| **Total Instruction and Related Services** | **$2,347,688** |

Operations and Facilities

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Certificated Salaries and Benefits | $0 |
| Classified Salaries and Benefits | $26,077 |
| Books, Supplies, and Equipment | $2,060 |
| Services and Other Operating Costs | $148,863 |
| Facilities Acquisition and Construction | $0 |
| **Total Operations and Facilities** | **$177,000** |

Allowable Facilities Costs

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Total facility square footage occupied by the charter school | 12350 |
| Enter total classroom-based P-2 ADA reported in the prior fiscal year. Do not include nonclassroom-based ADA. | 5.1 |
| Enter total student hours attended by nonclassroom-based pupils at the school site in the prior fiscal year. | 27875 |
| Calculated Facilities Costs | $37,214 |
| **Allowable Facilities Costs** | **$37,214** |

Administration and All Other Activities

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Certificated Salaries and Benefits | $24,989 |
| Classified Salaries and Benefits | $166,267 |
| Books, Supplies, and Equipment | $11,040 |
| Contracts for Other Administrative Services | $0 |
| Supervisorial Oversight Fee | $24,172 |
| All Other Administration and Other Activities, Services, and Operating Costs | $192,604 |
| **Total Administration and Other Activities** | **$419,072** |

**Additional information regarding Supervisorial Oversight Fee:**

[No Response]

Other Outgo and Other Financing Uses

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Debt Services | $0 |
| Transfers to Local Educational Agencies | $0 |
| All Other Transfers and Outgo | $0 |
| **Total Other Outgoing and Other Financing Uses** | **$0** |

**Describe the nature of the transaction(s) for Transfers to Local Educational Agencies and identify the accounts or entities involved in the transfer(s).**

[No Response]

**Describe the nature of the transaction(s) for All Other Transfers and Outgo and identify the accounts or entities involved in the transfer(s).**

[No Response]

#### C. Fund Balance

Total Expenditures and Fund Balance

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Total Expenditures | $2,943,760 |
| Revenues Over Expenditures | $325,377 |
| Beginning Fund Balance | $1,672,521 |
| **Ending Fund Balance – June 30** | **$1,997,898** |

#### D. Reserves

Reserves

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Designated for Economic Uncertainties | $400,000 |
| Facilities Acquisition or Capital Projects | $400,000 |
| Reserves Required by Charter Authorizer | $0 |
| Other Reserves | $200,000 |
| Unassigned/Unappropriated Fund Balance | $997,898 |
| **Total Reserves** | **$1,997,898** |

Reserves as a Percentage of Total Expenditures

| **Reserves** | **Percentage of Total Expenditures** |
| --- | --- |
| Designated for Economic Uncertainties | 13.59% |
| Facilities Acquisition or Capital Projects | 13.59% |

**Explanation for reserves designated for economic uncertainties if these reserves exceed the greater of $50,000 or 5 percent of total expenditures:**

As the political climate in the California legislature changes, funding is never guaranteed at the rate it currently is. With 100% funding, we would be able to provide upgrades to the building, expand our staff in needed areas, and provide training in current methodologies. We also are at capacity for student enrollment. The need for expanding our current building and/or building an addition to the campus is imminent.

**Explanation of Other Reserves:**

In addition to the possible need to add staff and the proper training for said staff, SOUL focused its expenditures on qualifying ESSER fund related items. The ESSER funds were due to expire much sooner than our other reserves which led to the decision to spend those funds first. Our current needs and those not met last year will be charged to our reserve. We have budgeted for the current year at 100% of funding. Any less would deplete reserves which are needed for future expenditures.

**Explanation for reserves designated for facilities acquisition or capital projects if these reserves exceed the greater of $50,000 or 5 percent of total expenditures:**

As previously stated, the political climate in the California legislature changes, funding is never guaranteed at the rate it currently is. With 100% funding, we would be able to provide upgrades to the building, expand our staff in needed areas, and provide training in current methodologies. We also are at capacity for student enrollment. The need for expanding our current building and/or building an addition to the campus is imminent. In addition, staff is not compensated at fair market value. In order to retain our staff and provide support to them, we will need 100% funding.

**Explanation of school’s unassigned/unappropriated fund balance and details regarding the school’s plans for these funds: *(Optional)***

Our school is housed in a building which is 95 years old. This leads to many unforeseen and unplanned expenditures as repairs come up. We will need to update electrical systems this year as insurance adjusters are requiring us to do so. In a building of this age, there is no guarantee that new wiring will be a simple task. In addition, we are renewing our charter this year and are in need of consultants and/or professional development to train staff in current educational practices. We have also expanded our career classes which come at a cost in the way of contracts and transportation.

### Section 3. Pupil-Teacher Ratio

Pupil-Teacher Ratio

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| FY 2022-23 Audit Average Daily Attendance for independent study pupils pursuant to 5 *CCR* Section 11963.3(b)(2) | 185.51 |
| FY 2022-23 Audit Full-Time Equivalent certificated employees responsible for independent study pursuant to 5 *CCR* Section 11963.3(b)(2) | 12 |
| FY 2022-23 Audit Full-Time Equivalent certificated employees pursuant to 5 CCR Section 11963.3(b)(8) | 12 |

### Section 4. Funding Determination Calculations

Calculated Percentages

| **Criteria** | **Funding Determination Calculations** |
| --- | --- |
| Percentage Spent on Instructional Certificated Salaries and Benefits to Total Public Revenues | 42.65% |
| Percentage Spent on Instruction and Related Services and Allowable Facility Costs | 72.95% |
| FY 2022-23 Pupil-Teacher Ratio | 15.46 to 1 |

### Section 5. Supplemental Information

#### A. Virtual Charter Schools

Virtual Charter Schools

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Is this charter school a virtual or on-line charter school as defined in 5 *CCR* Section 11963.5? | No |
| If yes, can the charter school demonstrate compliance with 5 *CCR* sections 11963.5(b)(2) to (8)? | [No Response] |

#### B. Entity and Contract Information

Entity and Contract Information

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Did any entity receive or will receive $50,000 or more or 10% or more of total expenditures from the school in FY 2023–24 or FY 2024–25? | Yes |
| Number of reportable entities | 3 |

##### List of Reported Entities

Reported Entity 1

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Name of Entity | Fresno EOC Sanctuary |
| Amount | $110,833 |
| Purpose/Explanation | Allowable percentage of annual lease cost. |
| Are contracts based on specific services rendered? | Yes |
| If no, are payments based on amount per ADA or some other percentage? | [No Response] |

Reported Entity 2

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Name of Entity | Fresno EOC |
| Amount | $147,366 |
| Purpose/Explanation | Indirect cost rate administration |
| Are contracts based on specific services rendered? | Yes |
| If no, are payments based on amount per ADA or some other percentage? | [No Response] |

Reported Entity 3

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Name of Entity | Fresno Unified School District |
| Amount | $201,319 |
| Purpose/Explanation | Special Education Services and Oversight Services |
| Are contracts based on specific services rendered? | No |
| If no, are payments based on amount per ADA or some other percentage? | Yes |

#### C. Current Governing Board Information

Entity and Contract Information

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Number of board members | Over 15[[4]](#footnote-4) |

### Section 6. Mitigating Circumstances

**Explain why the charter school did not meet the criteria for the funding level requested. Include specific measures or actions taken by the charter school to comply. List and explain the mitigating circumstances to be considered by the CDE and Advisory Commission on Charter Schools (ACCS).**

The School of Unlimited Learning has gone through many changes since the pandemic. These include but are not limited to a change in administration and faculty. The transition proved to be difficult as we navigate towards returning to a “normal” educational setting. We have discovered there is no return to normal. A new normal must be built from the ground up.

We have set new goals involving enrollment, ADA, and staffing and are on our way to meting said goals. We updated the curriculum to meet A-G requirements set by the California Department of Education. We have implemented focus areas of instruction such as ELD strategies and Professional Learning Communities. Funding issues developed due to federal ESSER funds being available but with strict guidelines and expenditure due dates. SOUL focused on spending the ESSER funds before they expired. This led to a greater reserve than normal. This reserve is earmarked to programs these next two years. Staff compensation must be addressed along with the proper training needed to best service our students. Also, included in this year's budget plans are hiring consultants to ensure our charter renewal process is complete and meets guidelines set by our authorizer. In addition, we are moving towards expanding our facility to increase the number of services we can provide to our students.

### Section 7. Additional Information

**Provide any other pertinent information that may assist the CDE and ACCS in conducting a detailed review or develop a reasonable basis for a recommendation.**

SOUL has followed guidelines for funding to its best ability. Federal funds were expiring so they were used before the expiration date passed. State funding was earmarked for the current 24-25 school year and beyond. We are expanding our career-based classes and need funds to develop partnerships with local agencies. Having to rely on 85% funding would certainly hamper our plans for staffing, training, and providing extra resources to our students.

### Section 8. Certification

**1) The information provided is true and correct to the best of my ability and knowledge.**

**2) This charter school's nonclassoom-based instruction is conducted for and substantially dedicated to the instructional benefit of the school's students.**

**3) This charter school's governing board has adopted and implemented conflict of interest policies.**

**4) All of the charter school's transactions, contracts, and agreements are in the best interest of the school and reflect a reasonable market rate for all goods, services, and considerations rendered for or supplied to the school.**

**Enter your name below which will serve as a signature and certify agreement with all of the above terms.**

Susan Lopez

**Indicate whether the certification is from the charter school's director, principal, or governing chairperson:**

Principal

1. The CDE notes that the period of 2022–23 through 2023–24 was approved for 100 percent funding; the period of 2024‒25 through 2025‒26 was approved for 85 percent funding. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Includes Public Charter Schools Grant Program funds, if applicable [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Includes In-Lieu of Property Taxes, if applicable [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. See Attachment 3 [↑](#footnote-ref-4)