

### Revisions to §2301. State Funding and §2713. At-Risk Students

These revisions incorporate language newly amended by Act 467 of the 2015 Legislative Session to weight MFP funding for charter schools according to the student characteristic weights included in the MFP, and to require charter schools to maintain minimum percentages of students with exceptionalities enrolled at the charter schools. Prior to Act 467, certain charter schools (Type 1, 2, 3, and 4) were required to ensure a certain percentage of low-income students (those eligible for free- or reduced-price lunch) were enrolled at each school. Act 467 kept this requirement, but added a requirement that these types of charter schools must also maintain a certain percentage of students with disabilities enrolled at the charter school. These revisions detail these requirements and also provide additional, clarifying language to explain how charter school authorizers will be measuring this requirement for their charter schools, and what charter schools will be held accountable to. Additional information for schools on this requirement will be provided in future newsletters.

### Revisions to §2801. Transportation Requirements

These revisions incorporate new statutory amendments from Act 421 of the 2015 Legislative Session that are applicable to all school boards and all charter schools entering into transportation service agreements. This language provides specific required safety measures for the loading and unloading of students from school buses: 1) prohibits a bus driver from loading or unloading students at school or near their homes while the bus is in a traffic lane; and 2) prohibits a bus driver from loading or unloading students in a location on a divided highway that would make the child have to cross the divided highway to walk between the bus and his home or school.

The revisions also incorporate new language specific to Type 5 charter schools in Orleans Parish, specifically enumerating the transportation options available to these charter schools serving different age groups of students: 1) schools must provide whatever transportation is necessary to implement a child's IEP; 2) schools must provide yellow bus or van transportation for students in grade 6 and below; and 3) schools must provide transportation to students in grades 7 and above, but may do so by providing yellow bus or van transportation or provide payments for public transportation (*i.e.*, RTA tokens/passes). All Type 5 charter schools in Orleans Parish report that they currently already follow these practices, so this policy serves to codify and formalize existing transportation practices for these charter schools. These revisions also align with recent transportation policy passed by the Orleans Parish School Board, ensuring that there is a common standard citywide for charter schools providing bus transportation.