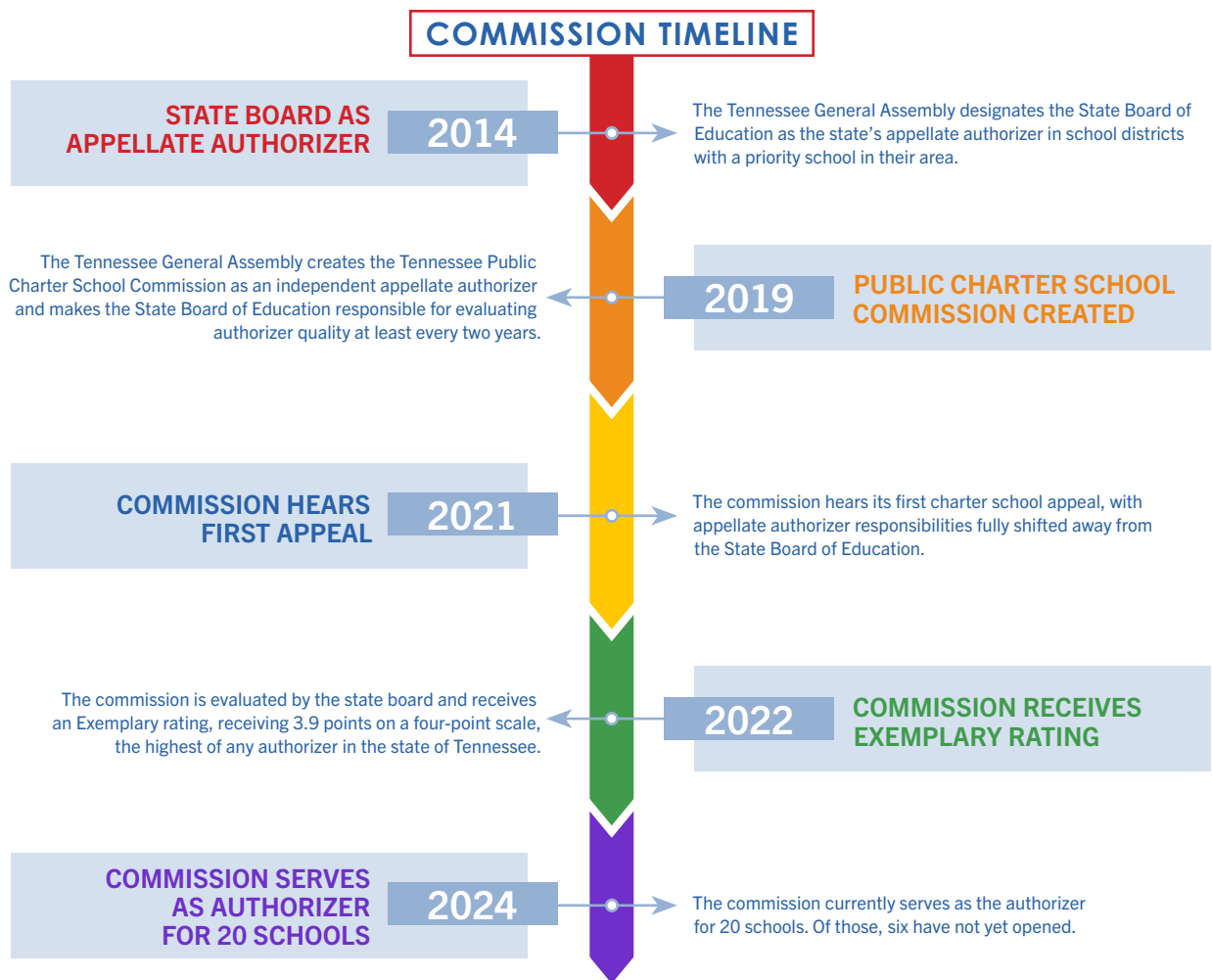


Tennessee Public Charter School Commission

In Tennessee, the Tennessee Public Charter School Commission is the state’s appellate authorizer. The commission hears new-start, revocation, amendment, and renewal appeals from across the state and serves as the authorizer and local education agency (LEA) for any school it authorizes upon appeal. In addition, schools exiting the Achievement School District that meet certain performance criteria can apply to the commission directly for authorization.

COMMISSION TIMELINE



Commission Leadership

The Tennessee Public Charter School Commission is composed of **nine members** — three from each of Tennessee’s three Grand Divisions. All members are appointed by the governor and confirmed by the General Assembly. The commission is led by an executive director and has a small staff with both appellate review and LEA management duties.

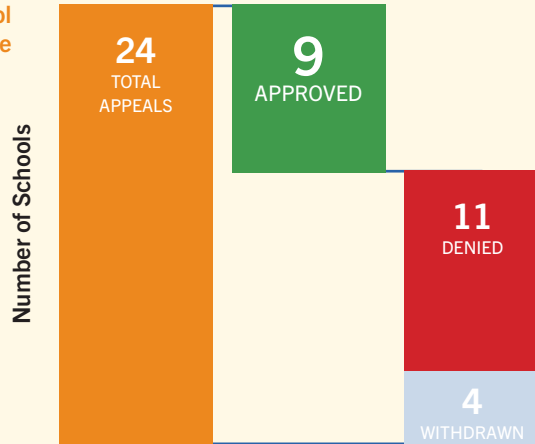


Appeals History

The commission is an independent body that reviews local board decisions on charter applications upon appeal. For each appeal, the commission assembles a team of internal staff evaluators and external evaluators with relevant and diverse expertise to conduct a de novo review on the record. The review includes using a scoring guide provided by the Tennessee Department of Education and quality public charter school authorizing standards provided by the State Board of Education. Following the review, the commission holds a public hearing and interview, and then renders a decision. The commission's decisions are final and not subject to further appeal.

Tennessee Public Charter School Commission appeals decisions by outcome

Since 2021, the commission approved the opening of approximately one-third of new-start charter school applicants on appeal.



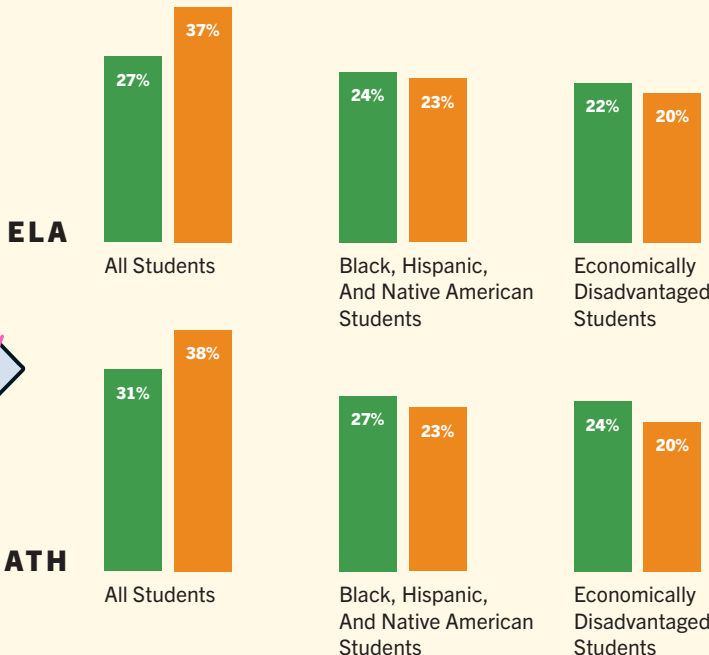
Source: Tennessee Public Charter School Commission, 2024

Authorizer Quality

Per Tennessee law, the State Board of Education conducts an evaluation of each public charter school authorizer at least every two years. Each evaluation includes a thorough review of the authorizer's practices across 24 standards. In 2022, the commission was awarded an Exemplary rating, receiving 3.9 points on a four-point scale, the highest of any authorizer in the state of Tennessee.

Performance Of Commission Schools

Charter commission schools show minimal achievement gaps compared to the state.



TCAP grades 3-8 proficiency rates for math and ELA by student group for Tennessee Public Charter Commission schools compared to the state average.

- Charter Commission
- State Average

Source: Tennessee Department of Education, 2024

