



MEMORANDUM

TO: Expedited application reviewers
FROM: Thomas B. Fordham Foundation (Sponsorship)
DATE: February 2015
RE: Expedited Application Review Process
Action item: Please review.

Introduction

To assist with the expansion and/or replication of high performing public charter schools, the Thomas B. Fordham Foundation (Fordham) will implement the following expedited application process for qualified candidates.

Factors Considered

To qualify for the expedited application process, the following criteria must be met:

1. At least one of the applicant's schools has been sponsored by Fordham for at least 3 years;
2. All schools sponsored by Fordham are meeting the terms of Exhibit IV (Academic and Organizational Accountability Plan);
3. The model for the proposed school is substantially similar (as determined by Fordham staff) in academics, finance, and governance to the applicant's existing schools.

Process

The above information is reviewed by Fordham staff. Staff then makes a recommendation on to a committee of the Fordham Foundation's board. The committee discusses the merits of the recommendation, and makes recommendations to the Fordham Foundation's board of directors. If the Fordham Foundation's board of directors approves the committee's recommendation, a contract for sponsorship is drafted and executed.

Timing

Qualified applicants may submit the following application materials in accordance with the timeline as set forth below.

Deadline	Task
No later than August 1, 2015	Complete and submit Fordham's Expedited Application. Applications are available from, and should be submitted to, Theda Sampson at tsampson@edexcellence.net
August – September 2015	Staff reviews the application and criteria listed above.
October 2015	Staff makes recommendations regarding approvals to Fordham's board committee, Fordham board votes on recommendations.
By October 31, 2015	Applicants are notified of decisions on new contracts
By January 31, 2016	Sponsorship contracts drafted
February 1 – February 28, 2016	Parties review draft contracts
By March 15, 2016	Contracts submitted to Ohio Department of Education

Questions

Please contact Theda Sampson, at tsampson@edexcellence.net or 937-227-3368, with questions or requests for additional information.