

Notice of Intent to Apply for an - Arkansas Public Charter School License

Type of Charter:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open-Enrollment <input type="checkbox"/> District Conversion
Proposed Charter School Name:	Community Charter School of Arkansas
Proposed Location:	Statewide
School District Where Charter Will be Located:	Fayetteville School District
Grade Levels Served:	K - 8
Enrollment Cap:	400
Name of Contact for Application:	David Conover
Contact Cell and Office Numbers:	(501) 291-2776
Contact Email:	learn@communitycharter.school
Focus Area:	<input type="checkbox"/> Traditional <input type="checkbox"/> Alternative Learning Environment <input type="checkbox"/> Virtual <input type="checkbox"/> College Prep <input type="checkbox"/> Credit Recovery <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Hybrid

Provide a brief description of the purpose or emphasis of the school:

According to the "[2021-2022 DESE Annual Homeschool Report](#)" - there are an estimated 30,205 homeschool students in the state of Arkansas - a number that since the start of the COVID pandemic in 2019, has continued to go up year by year.

There are many, well documented reasons for the exodus of students away from public schools. But regardless of the justification (distrust of the governments; resistance to COVID mandates; state testing requirements; etc.) - the end result is that families are choosing options (homeschooling, unschooling, and learn-at-home programs) that often don't lead to grade-level educational outcomes.

A report published by the United States Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, "[Education in a Pandemic](#)" (2021, June 9), details consequences of the pandemic and the resulting divides in educational opportunities for students in rural communities. While the report focuses on the impact of COVID-19 on public school students, a fair assumption can be made that the disparities, educational gaps, etc. - are even greater in the underserved homeschool-centric communities.

We believe there is an opportunity to re-engage these families before academic disparities and educational gaps become insurmountable.

The **Community Charter School of Arkansas** is a proposed, learn-at-home, public charter for students in Kindergarten – 8th Grade. We offer homeschool-centered instruction designed to engage and inspire students during their learn-at-home experience.

As advocates of school choice, we support a parent's right to direct their family's learning in a way that best meets their children's needs. As a public charter, we provide students equitable resources through our Student Engagement Funds program. As a community school, we connect families to meaningful educational opportunities and enrichment activities.

Our program is designed to meet the educational needs of homeschool-centric families in Arkansas. Our targeted population are families who have purposefully disengaged from public schools and are homeschooling their children with little guidance and support.

Printed Name: David K. Conover

Title: Executive Director

Signature: *David K. Conover*

Date: March 8, 2023