



Waiver from USBE Board Rule Request

The vision of the Utah State Charter School Board (SCSB) is that “every student has access to an excellent education that meets their unique learning needs.”

Introduction

The purpose of the Waiver Request is to provide a process for a charter school governing board to request a waiver, as permitted, from USBE rule. The Waiver Request is based on R277-121 and the premise that a waiver also entails a contractual amendment to the charter.

Submission

Applications must be uploaded into the Applications Folder of the documents section in the Utah Charter Access Point (UCAP) system no later than **5:00pm MST on the third Friday of the month prior** to the SCSB meeting.

Staff Eligibility Review

After receipt, SCSB staff reviews requests to include associated academic, financial, and operational performance and compliance. Once the applicant is deemed Administratively Complete, the applicant (if appropriate) will be invited to the next SCSB meeting.

State Charter School Board Consideration

At the scheduled SCSB meeting, members will consider the request. Schools have the opportunity to answer questions. Normally scheduled meetings are **typically the second Thursday**. If approved, staff will provide the school with a letter from the board chair recommending approval from the SCSB. **The school must submit the written request to the Superintendent, following the steps outlined in the rule.**

Applicant Assurances

Print this sheet, complete and sign the spaces at the bottom, scan, and attach to the electronic application.

The Board Chair must sign the following agreement prior to submitting the application package.

Should the agreement be signed by someone other than the current Board Chair, the application package will be deemed Administratively Incomplete.

School Name: **Cambridge Preparatory Academy.**

The Applicant certifies all information contained in this application is complete and accurate, realizing that any misrepresentation could result in disqualification from the Waiver Request process or revocation after award.

The Applicant understands that applications must be uploaded into the UCAP system no later than the third Friday of the month preceding the month of the requested SCSB meeting and that incomplete applications will not be considered.

The Applicant acknowledges that all information presented in the application package, if approved, may become part of the charter to be used for accountability purposes throughout the term of the charter.

The Applicant acknowledges that the charter school governing board is subject to all Utah statutes regarding charter schools as well as all relevant federal, state and local laws, and requirements, and should comply with such.

The Applicant acknowledges that the most current academic and compliance data will be provided to the SCSB for its consideration of the application.

The applicant acknowledges that prior to inclusion on the agenda, the SCSB recommends charter school governing boards read the associated rule and information documents, as well as schedule an appointment with SCSB staff to discuss the request and provide clarification to any questions.

Name of Board Chair: **Stan Lockhart**

Signature of Board Chair: _____



Date: **January 14, 2026**

School Entity Information

Name of School: **Cambridge Preparatory Academy.**

Name of School Administrator: **Stan Lockhart** (serving as initial administrator, with support of ESP)

Contact Information for School: stanlockhartutah@gmail.com (801) 368-2166

Below, list the names and positions of all current Board Members (officers, members, directors, partners), and their positions. Also list any other current charters in which they act as a corporate principal or charter representative. Add rows as necessary.

Name	Position	All Charter Affiliations
Stan Lockhart	Chairman	None
Laura Warburton	Vice Chair	None
Richard Holt	Treasurer	None
Jared Rhodes	Secretary	None
Rob Bishop	Director	None
Sally Burningham	Director	None
Denise Bonnett	Director	None

Contractual Charter Agreement Goals

List the school's contractual goals.

Required Attachments:

- If the school is *not* meeting all its charter contractual agreement goals, then include the governing board's corrective action plan. (Corrective action plan limited to two pages.)

Waiver Requests Require both State Charter School Board (SCSB) and Utah State Board of Education (USBE) Approval

The following request may take 2-3 months to complete.

Waivers from a Board rule are not granted if the requirement is required by or adopts criteria from a federal statute, federal regulation, or state law, would negatively affect the health, safety, or welfare of public education students, could reasonably result in discrimination or harassment of public school students or employees, would benefit one element of the public education system to the detriment of another; or when the concerns giving rise to a request could be addressed through means other than waiver of Board rules.

Waiver from Board Rule

Rule Number and Title: r277-552 Charter School Timelines and Approval Processes

Describe why the waiver is necessary to meet the mission and/or purposes(s) of the school and help the governing board meet the terms and conditions of its contractual agreement.

Waiver Request:

Cambridge Preparatory Academy has been approved to begin operations for the 2027-2028 school year (FY28), with an opening in August 2027. We are requesting a waiver to open Cambridge Preparatory Academy for the 2026-2027 school year (FY27), with an opening in August 2026.

Cambridge Preparatory Academy (CPA) has a truly unique opportunity to open in the 2026-2027 school year (FY27), beginning August of 2026. This is a very short timeline to open, but CPA is confident and prepared to address the challenges with an expedited opening in August 2026.

- The Board of Directors for CPA has been actively engaged in the chartering process for five years now, previously approved to open a charter school by Utah State University in 2020. There were challenges associated with finding an appropriate facility, which ultimately led to the termination of that charter agreement. This experience has proven the robust and committed nature of the CPA Board of Directors.
- There is a very suitable charter school facility located at 1724 South State Street in Provo, within Provo School District. This facility is less than ten years old, and perfectly suited to the needs of CPA to operate. The facility was previously occupied by another charter school, which relocated operations at the beginning of the FY26 school year, meaning the building is currently unoccupied.
- The CPA board, working with their service provider, have entered into a preliminary negotiation on the facility, which includes a lease rate that fits well within the approved operating budget of CPA. The building remains certified to “E” occupancy standards, thus ready to occupy immediately. It has a capacity greater than the 450 students that CPA has been approved for, thus CPA will have no facility related problems for academic purposes or capacity.
- The CPA Board of Directors began marketing with the submission of the charter proposal at the end of July 2025. With a very active social media strategy and six open houses at the proposed facility, approaching 500 families have signed an interest list. Using US Census Bureau data it is estimated that every family represents between 1.5 and 2.0 children. For student level interest CPA has estimated approximately 1.7 children per family, which means approaching 850 children are represented on the interest list. It is recognized that not all of these families will register, though the long experience of the service provider demonstrates that approximately 30% of these families will register, thus an estimated 255 students are already projected towards enrollment. As we announce the formal approval and opening of CPA, and as this messaging is pushed forward to a broader marketing campaign, the CPA Board of Directors is highly confident we will reach the ‘breakeven’ budget enrollment, which is found on page 43 of the application, which is 360 students. However, we will strive and market for our full capacity of 450 students.
- CPA is actively gathering teacher resumes, noting that we are currently in the normal hiring season for teacher employment for the FY27 school year. We have already gathered over two dozen resumes for teaching positions, and several quality resumes for school leaders. The CPA Board of Directors is

working closely with the service provider, which includes the opportunity to bring experienced academic staff from charter schools currently operated by this service provider. This will enable CPA to have a mix of new and experienced teachers, which is reflected in the charter application Staffing Plan Section 6, beginning on page 34.

- The CPA Board of Directors included several key community partners, found in Appendix I, beginning on page 105. This includes letters of support from the Utah County Chamber of Commerce and the Boys & Girls Club of Utah County. In addition to these letters of endorsement, which demonstrate community partners, there are other community relations that can be drawn upon. Both the Chairman Stan Lockhart and Director Denise Bonnett have decades of living within our community, leading to extensive relationships. As part of the application process, as required by law, Chairman Lockhart notified the Superintendent of Provo School District, Dr Wendy Dau of the application. That notification was provided within the application. What was not added to the application was the very kind response by Dr Dau, with an offer to collaborate with Chairman Lockhart and CPA. These extensive community relationships will help CPA to open successfully on a shortened timeframe.
- We recognize that start-up funding may be a challenge, though the CPA Board of Directors, working closely with the staff of the SCSB are confident that upon an approved waiver, both the revolving loan funds and the start-up grant funds will be available. We understand this expedited process has taken place in recent years with other applicants. As needed the CPA Board of Directors, working the the service provider will be able to draw upon short term funds to fully engage the pre-operational and start-up process to successfully open in a timely manner, in all facets. This includes all classroom and curriculum material needs, operational items, staff, leadership and ultimately students.

Attachment A – Contractual Charter Agreement Goals

Cambridge Preparatory Academy (CPA) was approved by the State Charter School Board on January 8, 2026 and has not entered into a formal operating agreement per §51G-5-303. The timeframe for this agreement is to take place in February of 2026. This means that CPA and the SCSB have not formally agreed upon a set of goals to demonstrate the achievement of the charter school. We have listed below various state goals within the CPA Charter application, as approved by the SCSB by a 7 to 0 vote.

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Cambridge Preparatory Academy will improve academic achievement as measured by formative and summative assessment tools, for example: quizzes, unit assessments and benchmark and state standardized assessments (RISE, ASPIRE, ACT, SAT, etc.). These assessments will provide a measure of accountability and student performance. Usage of assessment tools will facilitate CPA's achievement of reaching 100% growth.

We believe that all children can learn, and that striving to achieve 100% growth across core subjects for all student demographic groups is possible. We will strive in Year 1 for a growth percentage rate above the local district and surrounding charters. In Year 2, we will strive for a 75% growth percentage rate and 100% growth by Year 3. We will work to develop and enhance our teaching and learning methods to meet their learning needs.

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CPA will be committed to the same educational goals/outcomes outlined by Tony Wagner and Ted Dintersmith, in *Most Likely to Succeed: Preparing Our Kids for the Innovation Era*: "The overarching purpose of education is to: (1) Teach students cognitive and social skills; (2) Prepare students to be responsible, contributing citizens; (3) Build character; (4) Help students in a process of self-discovery; (5) Inspire students through the study of humanity's great works; and (6) Prepare students for productive careers." CPA's vision, mission, and values will create a learning environment that is conducive to student success. The RAISE values adopted by the CPA Board will be key in reaching these goals.

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Mission-Specific Goals

The following goals reflect the unique elements of the school mission to provide students with the best educational experience. These goals demonstrate the board's commitment to positive student outcomes while understanding what is realistically achievable.

Academic Excellence Goal

In Year 1, we will strive for a growth percentage rate above the local district and surrounding charters. In Year 2, we will strive for a 75% growth rate and 100% by Year 3.

Leadership and Character Development Goal

Provide 100% of students Leadership and Character Education through the RAISE curriculum.

Family and Community Engagement Goal

By Year 3, at least 80% of families will participate in one or more school-sponsored events or parent workshops annually, strengthening the partnership between families and the school.

Student Retention Goal

Maintain at least a 90% student retention rate year-to-year by providing a safe, supportive environment with academic interventions and enrichment opportunities for all students. Together, these goals demonstrate a clear framework for advancing the mission and unique purposes of the school while ensuring measurable outcomes for students, families, and the community. These goals are rigorous yet realistic and demonstrate the board's commitment to positive student outcomes.

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The intent of the CPA Board of Directors is to establish SMART Goals, prior to the operation of the charter school. Once we have identified the actual student population that has enrolled and understand the overall entry point performance of our students, the board will work with school administration, and Education Service Provider to set these goals. These SMART goals will reflect progress towards 100% growth, parental engagement and character development.

Attachment A - Email response from Dr Wendy Dau, Provo Superintendent

Charter School Application in the Provo School District

Wendy Dau <wendyd@provo.edu>
To: Stan Lockhart <stanlockhartutah@gmail.com>

Tue, Nov 11, 2025 at 4:28 AM

Dear Mr. Lockhart,

Thank you so much for your email and for sending me the application for Cambridge Preparatory Academy. My husband has long been involved in the charter school world, serving as principal of various charter schools in Davis and Weber Counties. My own son had the very best experience at Nuames, on the Weber Davis campus when we lived up north.

I look forward to working with you, as we seek to increase opportunities for all students in Provo!

Best,

Wendy J. Dau
Superintendent
Provo City School District
(801) 374-4805 (office)
(801) 698-9604 (mobile)



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CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION

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