

Active Ingredients: Authorizer Conditions for Success Self Assessment

Before engaging in Active Ingredients work with your schools, it is important for you as an authorizer to assess what conditions and capacities your office has that may present opportunities and challenges. Completing this self-assessment will allow you reflect on where you bring strengths to the work and how you can leverage them, and also allow you to reflect on what challenges you may encounter and how to strategically plan to address them.

Open Responses

Directions: Review the five categories listed below and the associated indicators for success. In the box below each category, reflect on what strengths and challenges you believe your office may face with regards to these indicators.

1) Experience and History

Indicators for success:

- Authorizing body has:
 - Effective and well-developed systems to support the “cornerstone” authorizing activities of granting and renewing charters.
Demonstrated ability to implement those systems over multiple new charter application and charter renewal cycles.
 - Demonstrated ability to navigate complexities of authorizing such as alternative measures of success, authorizing non-traditional charters, or managing non-renewals.
 - Demonstrated understanding of the challenges that reliance upon high-stakes test data can present in making some cases for renewal.
 - Focus on demonstrable outcomes to gauge school success.
 - Understanding that Active Ingredients are intended address inequities in student outcomes.
- Potential partner school (if identified) has:
 - School mission and/or program component and key design elements that align with Active Ingredients.
 - Focus on demonstrable outcomes to gauge school success and address inequities in student outcomes.

2) Staff and Capacity

Indicators for success:

- Authorizing body demonstrates:
 - Staff longevity and/or has staff with significant authorizing experience.
 - Staff capacity to effectively engage and complete Phase 2.0 work (January 2021 – June 2021).
 - Staff and systems sufficient for school coaching through Phase 2.0.
 - Staff and systems sufficient to complete, assess, and report out on data collection.

3) Partner School Availability and Alignment

Indicators for success:

- Authorizing body:
 - Has Identified potential partner school(s) with Active Ingredients (or nontraditional key design elements) to engage with.
 - Already engaged in discussions with partner school(s) about alternative or augmented measures, or is actively pursuing defining and collecting data on alternative/augmented measures with the school(s).
- Potential partner school(s) (if identified):
 - States commitment to serving all kids, particularly those perceived as “hardest to serve”.
 - Has initial Active Ingredients in mind, or programs in place that easily lend themselves to the Active Ingredients framework.

4) Partner School Capacity

Indicators for success:

- *Note: If no partner school identified yet, please leave this question blank.*
- Potential partner school(s) (if identified):
 - Demonstrates capacity to run an operationally and fiscally sound organization.
 - Demonstrates school governance, leadership, and staff stability.
 - Demonstrates ability to set and enact a program based on a clear theory of action/model.
 - Has sufficient staffing to support the academic and data collection activities required for Active Ingredients Phase 2.0, ideally with program implementation and data review structures already in place.

5) Governance and Regulatory Conditions

Indicators for success:

- Authorizer's governance body/decision making board demonstrates commitment to serving all kids, especially those perceived as "hardest to serve."
- Authorizer's governance body/decision making board states its support/openness to considering how alternative measures might play into accountability.
- Authorizer's governance body/decision making board demonstrates stability in membership.
- Regulations that establish the authorizer allow the consideration of alternative measures in accountability decisions.