



2022 CHARTER SCHOOL INNOVATION AWARDS OFFICIAL APPLICATION

The **Minnesota Association of Charter Schools Innovation Awards** were established to help the charter school community reconnect the innovative roots of chartering, rekindle the innovative spirit, and recognize the innovation of charter school educators. The Awards are based on the innovative purposes of charter schools as defined in MN Statutes 124E.01.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

1] Fill out the application in Microsoft Word and email it to mike@mncharterschools.org.

NOTE: Save your application as **yourschoolname.awardcategory.innovationawardapp.**

2] If there are any questions, please contact Mike Swan at 651.789.3090 Ext 3, or at mike@mncharterschools.org.

3] **SUBMIT** your application between **Monday - January 4 – Monday February 7, 2022**

School Information

School Name:

Contact Name:

Contact Phone:

Contact Email:

Award Categories and Criteria

1] Select the Category of your innovation (only one)

- Increasing learning opportunities for pupils
- Encouraging the use of different and innovative teaching methods
- Creating different and innovative forms of measuring outcomes
- Establishing new forms of accountability
- Creating new professional opportunities for teachers

2] **Innovation must have been implemented for at least two (2) school years**

Executive Summary Criteria

In 200 words or less, describe the critical element of your innovation. The Executive Summary is the first thing that the judges will read about your innovation. It will also be used to promote your innovation on the Association's website, newsletters, and through social media. We strongly suggest that you take care to ensure the Executive Summary is both descriptive and concise as possible.

Criteria #1 – 15 Points

Concept: The idea, opportunity, or methodology

Your application needs to provide:

- 1) a clear explanation of the concept/idea that is the basis of the innovation
- 2) a clear definition of the need or problem the innovation addresses
- 3) a clear explanation of how (process) the innovation went from being an idea to an implementation.

In 250 words or less, please describe the basis of the concept/idea, the existing need or problem the school is addressing, and the methodology utilized to bring the innovation from being a concept to implementation.

Criteria #2 – 10 Points

Value: The need and cost/benefit

Your application needs to provide:

- 1) a clear description of how the innovation addresses the need or problem defined
- 2) a clear explanation of how the innovation's cost is more effective than previous practice.

In 250 words or less, please describe how the innovation satisfies or addresses the existing need, and how the innovation's cost is more effective than previous practice.

Criteria #3 – 10 Points

Difference: The unique characteristics

Your application needs to provide:

- 1) a clear description of how the innovation is uniquely different from previous practice
- 2) a clear description of how the innovation has been an advantage for the school over the last 2 years.

In 250 words or less, please describe how the innovation is uniquely different from what the school was doing before and how it is an advantage to the school.

Criteria #4 – 10 Points

Delivery: The messaging and achievement

Your application needs to provide:

- 1) a clear description of how the story of the innovation has been communicated to the school community since its implementation
- 2) a clear description of how the innovation is assisting the school in fulfilling its mission and vision.

In 250 words or less, please describe how the story of the innovation has been communicated to the school community, and how the innovation is assisting in achieving the mission and vision of the school.

Criteria #5 – 10 Points

Impact: The sustainability and impact

Your application needs to provide:

- 1) a clear description of the impact the innovation has made on the school.
- 2) a clear description of how this innovation has contributed to a more equitable school community.
- 3) a clear description of how the school fosters and sustains a culture of innovation.

In 250 words or less, please describe the impact of the innovation in your school environment and how the school sustains and fosters a culture of innovation and equity.