

Charter school reform **MUST** address the abysmal performance of PA's cyber charter schools.

Not one of Pennsylvania's cyber charters has achieved a passing SPP score of 70 in any of the five years that the SPP has been in effect.

School Name	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
21st Century CS	66.5	66.0	69.2	62.2	61.1
Achievement House CS	39.7	37.5	44.8	54.5	52.7
ACT Academy Cyber CS	30.6	28.9	36.1	40.7	36.5
Agora Cyber CS	48.3	42.4	46.4	37.6	47.9
ASPIRA Bilingual CS	29.0	39.0	38.4	41.9	37.4
Central PA Digital Learning Fdn CS	31.7	48.8	39.3	46.7	46.4
Commonwealth Connections Academy CS	54.6	52.2	48.8	47.5	45.5
Education Plus Academy Cyber CS	59.0	50.0		67.9	
Esperanza Cyber CS	32.7	47.7	31.7	50.7	35.5
PA Cyber CS	59.4	55.5	65.3	51.0	49.9
PA Distance Learning CS	54.7	50.9	49.2	53.9	39.4
PA Leadership CS	64.7	59.3	54.7	57.5	57.0
PA Virtual CS	67.9	63.4	64.6	49.7	54.2
Solomon CS	36.9				
Susq-Cyber CS	46.4	42.4	45.5	49.3	46

Source: Pennsylvania Department of Education. A score of 70 is considered passing.

Local school districts, which pay 100% of cyber charter tuition bills, have no control over cyber charter costs or enrollment. Cyber charter schools are authorized by the state and any student in PA may enroll in a cyber charter school.

Cyber charter school tuition rates are not based on the actual cost of educating a child in a cyber charter school. Instead, tuition rates are based on each school district's per-student expenditure on regular education and special education students.

More than 35,000 PA students attend PA's cyber schools, many of which are among the lowest performing schools in the state. In fact, not one cyber charter school has achieved a passing score of 70 on the SPP. In addition, a 2015 report conducted by the Center for Research on Education Outcomes (CREDO), *Online Charter Study*, found alarming results about student performance in cyber charter schools.

The CREDO study found that cyber charter students lose the equivalent of 72 days per year in reading and 180 days in math in comparison to their peers who attend district schools.

While cyber education is appropriate for some students, PA's state-authorized cyber schools have not demonstrated that they can provide students with a quality education. Instead, since 2012, the state has mandated that PA's taxpayers send more than \$1 billion in local education dollars to cyber schools, where many students experience an overwhelmingly negative, and potentially irreversible, impact on their level of educational attainment.

