

“The qualifications to be met by individuals to be employed by the charter school.” – Ed. Code § 47605(c)(5)(E)

Equal Employment Opportunity and Nondiscrimination

Lodestar acknowledges and agrees that all persons are entitled to equal employment opportunity. Lodestar shall not discriminate against applicants or employees on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, gender, gender expression, gender identity, sexual orientation, pregnancy, national origin, ancestry, citizenship, age, marital status, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, genetic information, military and veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by California or federal law. Equal employment opportunity shall be extended to all aspects of the employer-employee relationship, including recruitment, selection, hiring, upgrading, training, promotion, transfer, discipline, layoff, recall, and dismissal from employment. Lodestar further acknowledges that it shall not retaliate against any employee for engaging in protected activity, exercising a protected right, or initiating or pursuing any claim, proceeding, charge or complaint based upon an allegation of discrimination.

Teacher Credentialing Requirements

Lodestar shall adhere to all State and federal requirements that are applicable to teachers and paraprofessional employees. Lodestar shall ensure that all teachers meet applicable state requirements for certificated employment, including the provisions of Education Code section 47605(l). Lodestar shall maintain current copies of all teacher credentials and make them readily available for inspection.

Reporting Educator Misconduct to the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing

Lodestar shall comply with Education Code section 44030.5 with respect to reporting the change in employment status to the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing where the change of employment status is a result of an allegation of misconduct, or while an allegation of misconduct is pending, and with Education Code section 44939.5 regarding the reporting of egregious misconduct.

Employment of Felons

Lodestar shall comply with the provisions of Education Code section 44830.1 and 45122.1 with respect to the submission of fingerprints to the Department of Justice and the employment of persons convicted of violent or serious felonies.

A COMMITMENT TO QUALITY STAFF & THEIR ONGOING DEVELOPMENT

We know our mission of preparing students for college and a career of their choice, while also ensuring students are changemakers, is only possible with a staff that is dedicated to the outcomes of all children, who are qualified for their position, and are constantly learning and refining their practice. To that end, Lodestar holds high standards for the employees it hires, while being dedicated to a selection process that is transparent and inclusive of other team members. Fair and transparent

compensation and benefits and ongoing professional development for all employees is a commitment of Lighthouse Community Public Schools and Lodestar.

OVERALL QUALIFICATIONS

LCPS and Lodestar shall be nonsectarian in its employment practices and all other operations. The Charter School shall not discriminate against any individual (employee or pupil) based upon the actual or perceived characteristics of race, color, religion, creed, sex and pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions, nationality, national origin, ancestry, ethnic group identification, genetic information, age, physical or mental disability, medical condition, family care status, military and veteran status, marital status, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, denial of family and medical care leave, or on the basis of a person's association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics, or any other basis protected by federal, state, local law, ordinance, or regulation or prohibited by Education Code Section 220. All employees are subject to applicable state and federal employment laws. The Charter School is a school of choice and no employee will be required to work at Lodestar. All employees of LCPS and Lodestar will work under an at-will employment agreement.

The following job qualifications apply to school personnel. These qualifications may be modified at the LCPS's discretion without any need to materially revise the charter as long as any changes are consistent with the law.

The most important criterion used in evaluating potential staff members is whether or not they fully embrace the Lodestar's vision to disrupt educational inequities by providing our students and families exceptional educational opportunities every day. Grounded in our core values of community, integrity, agency, love, and social justice rooted in [EL Education Model](#), potential employees must believe in and be willing to work for college success for all students, especially those who will be first generation college students.

In addition, all employees must meet the legal requirements for employment, including relevant credentialing requirements, background checks, TB clearance, immunizations, and any additional position-specific requirements. This includes a fingerprint background check for all employee candidates who have been offered a position, as Lodestar fully complies with all applicable laws regarding criminal background checks, including Education Code Sections 45125.1 and 44237.

Lodestar maintains on file current copies of:

- Teacher credentials, as required by assignment
- Documentation of TB risk assessment or examination
- Documentation of immunization clearance
- Verification of state and federal criminal background check clearance

- Criminal background summaries, which will be maintained by the Charter School in a confidential secured file, separated from personnel files, as required by law
- Documentation of legal employment status, most commonly in the form of an I-9 Employment Eligibility Verification form and acceptable forms of identification
- All other relevant employment documentation

Finally, in compliance with Education Code § 44050 all employees must adhere to LCPS’s adopted employee code of conduct on employee interactions with pupils, which is provided on an annual basis at the beginning of the school year to all employees via the Employee Handbook and to all Students and Families via the Student and Family Handbook. This information is also posted on the LCPS website.

For detailed employment eligibility requirements as they pertain to health and safety of students and staff, please see **Element F** of this petition.

SELECTION PROCESS

Selection and appointment of employees will be the exclusive prerogative of the Charter School. As such, with the exception of the Principal, those who work at the Charter School shall be selected, employed, and released by their supervising Principal, in accordance with terms and conditions of employment contained in LCPS’s personnel policies (see appendix 5.1 for the **Employee Handbook**). Selection and evaluation of the Principal(s) is conducted by the Chief Academic Officer. The Principal hires the Assistant Principals. The Principal or Assistant Principals, in consultation with the Principal, hire all teaching staff. Decisions relative to the selection of all remaining employees rest with the Directors of other functional areas (Operations, Finance, etc).

To ensure the selection of a qualified and mission-aligned staff, we implement the following selection process after reviewing the job description and devising an inclusive and transparent hiring process:

- Request resumes, cover letters and written responses to prompts
- Conduct a brief phone interview for initial screening
- Conduct a follow-up interview, including a sample teaching lesson or other demonstration of job-related abilities
- Verification of credentials, past employment, and professional and personal reference checks
- Make selection and provide verbal offer
- Finalize employment agreement and extend offers of employment, dependent on passing of state and federal background checks

EMPLOYEE QUALIFICATIONS

At Lodestar, we have three categories of educators – administrators, instructional staff (teachers, non-certificated instructional staff, and extended day staff), and all other staff. We expect all of our employees, regardless of their position, to have:

- An expressed and evidenced commitment to the mission of the school and the core values of the organization

- Experience with diverse, urban populations, including an expressed commitment to anti-racist practices
- Met the expectations of state and federal requirements as they relate to their teaching position
- Demonstrated they are multi-faceted, life-long learners
- Experience and success working collaboratively with others
- Strong interpersonal communication skills with both adults and children
- Demonstrated perseverance, achievement, responsibility
- Alignment to the overall philosophies and ways of working at LCPS

Administrators

Administrator Competencies

As a strategic and visionary leader for equity, LCPS Administrators:

- **Inspire a shared vision** of college and career readiness by making high-impact decisions, setting clear academic priorities, and developing strategic plans.
- **Ensure an exceptional education for all** by articulating, fostering, and monitoring an academic program and by facilitating data-driven and equity-focused teams..
- **Encourage the heart** by promoting and courageously leading a joyful organizational & school culture that attends to the needs of the whole child and adult.
- **Empower and engage the community** by mobilizing families, students, staff, and other community stakeholders as partners to achieve our vision.
- **Enable others to act** by ensuring processes and systems of development and distributed leadership are in place that result in the recruitment and retention of a diverse and high-performing staff.
- **Innovate and problem solve** by exhibiting persistence, creativity, flexibility, motivation to make change, and the ability to imagine new approaches and opportunities for impact.
- **Model the way** as a leader for equity through skilled and culturally competent collaboration, communication, and relationship-building.
- **Embody LCPS' core values** of community, integrity, love, social justice, and agency
- **Bring passion to the founding of a new school** as a dependable, organized, solutions-oriented, and optimistic founding leader committed to both starting up and staying.

Principal Qualifications

The Lodestar Principal(s) will have the following qualifications:

- At least 5-7 years of successful classroom teaching and school leadership experience, required
- Experience teaching/leading in urban education serving students of color from low-income backgrounds
- MA in education or related field, required; administrative credential, preferred
- Supervisory & management experience, including coaching and evaluation of teachers,
- Knowledge of learner-centered curriculum, instruction, and assessment,

- Experience working in Oakland schools preferred and charter school experience, a plus,
- EL Education experience, a plus.
- Spanish fluency preferred,

Assistant Principal Qualifications

Lodestar Assistant Principal(s) will have the following qualifications:

- At least 3+ years of successful classroom teaching and teacher/instructional leadership experience, required
- Experience teaching/leading in urban education serving students of color from low-income backgrounds
- Valid CA teaching credential required; administrative credential preferred
- MA in education, educational leadership or related field, preferred
- Knowledge of learner-centered curriculum, instruction, and assessment,
- Experience working in Oakland schools preferred and charter school experience, a plus
- EL Education experience, a plus.
- Spanish fluency preferred.

Dean of Student Qualifications

Lodestar Dean(s) of Students with the following qualifications:

- B.A. or B.S., relevant master's degree a plus
- At least 3+ years of working with students
- Experience teaching/leading in urban education serving students of color from low-income backgrounds
- Experience effectively leading teams/adults
- Experience with one or more of the following: restorative justice, responsive classroom, Expeditionary Learning
- Bilingual Spanish speaking preferred

Instructional Staff

Teachers

Teacher Core Competencies

- Be a visionary, innovative, culturally responsive, and equity-focused urban educator
- Facilitate deeply engaging student-centered learning
- Demonstrate a keen ability to create, collect and analyze authentic data to drive student learning and outcomes for all students
- Be a strong community builder and team collaborator
- Model and foster a growth mindset with agency, persistence, and flexibility

- Be a collaborative and responsible professional educator

Teacher Responsibilities include:

- Builds and maintains classroom culture that is supportive and learning-centered, undergirded by strong management, efficient procedures and systems, but most evident in the full inclusion of African-American boys, students with trauma, and students with IEPs in the social and learning community.
- Demonstrate culturally responsive pedagogy and practice including unrelenting high expectations and an assets-based approach for every student.
- Plan, internalize, and implement effective, grade-level standards-based curriculum, units, and lessons that are learner-driven and are modified or differentiated while maintaining rigor to provide access and results for students with IEPs, African-American and ELL students.
- Ensure that students are at the center of their own learning and deeply engaged in ways that foster agency and self-direction.
- Utilize, collect, and analyze rigorous, student-engaged assessments, both formative and summative, to identify and address students' areas of growth and mastery of learning objectives.
- Create positive relationships by building nurturing and affirming teacher-student, student-student, and teacher-family partnerships with a focus on building a community of risk-taking, collaborative learners.
- Grow and contribute as an educator, colleague, learner, and community member including engaging in professional development and your own growth as a teacher in service of student learning and outcomes.
- Demonstrate advocacy, flexibility, autonomy, and collegiality.
- Administer all policies and procedures in a professional and timely manner as mandated by LCPS, and state and federal agencies (i.e., attendance records, dress code, reporting of sexual/physical abuse).
- Additional Duties, as assigned by Supervisor

Teacher Qualifications

Teachers must hold the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing certificate, permit, or other document required for the teacher's certificated assignment pursuant to Education Code Section 47605(l). The Charter School may use local assignment options authorized in statute and regulations for the purpose of legally assigning certificated teachers, in the same manner as a governing board of a school district. Teachers employed by charter schools during the 2019–20 school year shall have until July 1, 2025, to obtain the certificate required for the teacher's certificated assignment. Teachers of English Learners in core courses will be required to hold a CLAD or BCLAD certification, or an equivalent recognized by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing. Teachers will only

teach within the restrictions of their credentials. These credentialing documents shall be maintained on file at LCPS and shall be subject to periodic inspection by the charter authorizer.

The minimum qualifications for teachers are:

- Hold at least a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution of higher education.
- Hold the Commission on Teacher Credentialing certificate, permit or other document required for the teacher's certificated assignment. (Education Code Section 47605(l)).

Non-Certificated Instructional Staff

Lodestar may also employ non-certificated instructional support staff in any case where a prospective staff member has an appropriate mix of subject matter expertise, professional experience, and the demonstrated capacity to work successfully in an instructional support capacity. Instructional support staff do not assign grades or approve students' work assignments.

After School Program Staff

After School Program Staff will be selected by the Extended Day Program Coordinator on an application and interview basis in consultation with the Principal, other staff members, teachers, and parents as appropriate. Selection will be based on experience, professional attitude, skills and ability to perform the job duties for the position.

Minimum Qualifications for After School Program Staff are as follows:

- AA degree or equivalent
- Two years' experience in a similar position preferred
- Spanish bilingual, preferred

All Other Staff

All non-instructional staff possess experience and expertise appropriate for their position within the school as outlined in the school's staffing plan and personnel policies.

Professional Development

Lodestar seeks to provide excellent instruction for our student population. As such, we have an extensive Professional Development Plan described in Element A which may include but is not limited to the following highlights:

- 5 days of paid summer professional development for all employees new to LCPS schools.
- 5 full days of all LCPS professional development each year,
- 5 full days for planning and other professional development experiences
- Students have an early-release day every Wednesday so teachers can have ongoing professional development