

## Sample Topics of Interest

As the NACSA Knowledge Core database grows, members can find courses, guidance, and core resources on essential topics, including the following—and many more:

- Alternative Schools
- Applicant Interviews
- Application Questions and Evaluation Criteria
- Blended-Learning Schools
- Charter Laws
- Closure
- Due Diligence
- Evaluating School Replicators
- Multiple Authorizers
- Performance Contracting
- Renewal Decision Making
- Requests for Proposals
- Special Populations
- Virtual (Online) Schools

*Check the NACSA Knowledge Core often for new resources, dynamic forum discussions, and expert advice!*

*Note: A limited amount of content on the NACSA Knowledge Core will be publicly available. Only NACSA members will have access to the full suite of online courses, templates, and other resources available on the system.*

An engaging and interactive web-based knowledge and learning portal, the NACSA Knowledge Core is a new NACSA member benefit designed to serve the professional needs of both novice and experienced authorizers in carrying out the complex work of charter school authorizing. From nuts and bolts to advanced topics in authorizing, the NACSA Knowledge Core will offer members a rich array of practical tools and resources to facilitate quality authorizing—including training, guidance, and ready-to-customize templates—available all in one place at the click of a button.

## Online Training Available 24/7

Short, multi-media online courses provide a refresher on essential authorizing standards as well as exploration of more complex topics. These engaging modules include discussion and reinforcement of best practices and succinct topical interviews with leaders in the field. Members have access to a virtual hub where they can track their learning progress through brief pre- and post-course assessments and personal progress dashboards. New courses will be added every four to six weeks.

## Core Resources and Guidance Facilitate the Day-to-Day Work of Authorizing

Each online course module includes core resources—such as well-developed templates for requests for charter proposals and charter contracts, performance frameworks, closure protocols, and more—so members have practical, ready-to-use tools at their fingertips. All documents and templates are also available as standalone downloads in addition to being part of a course module.

## Connect with Your Peers

The NACSA Knowledge Core facilitates online peer interaction and knowledge-sharing through members-only forums and a searchable peer network. Members can start a discussion or join one already underway. An online peer network offers members the opportunity to seek out others with common interests. All forums and the peer network are limited to NACSA members to ensure privacy and substantive dialogue.

## Ask the Experts

Have a tough authorizing question and need some guidance? Experienced authorizers and experts in the charter sector will respond to member questions in blog posts on authorizing and related topics.

## Launch Dates

In order to gather important user feedback, a “beta” version of the NACSA Knowledge Core, with limited content, will be available to a small user test group through November, 2012, as well as to members and other attendees during NACSA’s 2012 Annual Leadership Conference, October 22-25. The system will be available to all NACSA members beginning December 1, 2012, with a more robust set of courses and core resources available beginning in late Spring 2013.

We welcome your feedback on this exciting new resource. Please contact Stacey Frank, [staceyf@qualitycharters.org](mailto:staceyf@qualitycharters.org), with your suggestions and comments for making the NACSA Knowledge Core most useful to you and your authorizing office.

NACSA KNOWLEDGE

CORE

Empowering Excellence | Advancing Practice