

**Alabama State Department of Education
Office of Public Charter Schools
Working Document**

Summary of Specific State Laws ([Code of Alabama](#)) Referenced in Act 2015-3

Competitive Bid Law. Contracts exceeding \$15,000 for the purchase or lease of equipment, materials, supplies, or contractual services are required to be let by solicitation of sealed bids. The bid law does provide for some exceptions such as security and professional services. Conflict of interest provisions carrying criminal penalties are specified in the law.

[Code of Alabama - Section 16-13B-1, et.al.](#)

Computation of time. When an act specifies a time period, time must be computed by excluding the first day and including the last day. However, if the last day is Sunday, or a legal holiday as defined in Section 1-3-8, or a day on which the office in which the act must be done shall close as permitted by any law of this state, the last day also must be excluded, and the next succeeding secular or working day shall be counted as the last day within which the act may be done.

[Code of Alabama - Section 1-1-4.](#)

Mandatory school holidays. Public schools must be closed on Veteran's Day and National Memorial Day. [Code of Alabama - Section 1-3-8.](#)

Open Meetings Law. All meetings of a governmental body shall be open to the public and adequate notice of a meeting shall be posted as soon as practical after the meeting is called but no less than 24 hours before the meeting is scheduled to begin. [Code of Alabama - Section 36-25A-1, et.al.](#)

Public Records Law. A citizen has a right to inspect and take a copy of public documents except as prohibited by state or federal law. [Code of Alabama - Section 36-12-40.](#)

Public Works Law. Contracts exceeding \$50,000 for the construction, renovation, repair, or maintenance of public buildings or land, paid for in whole or in part with public funds, must be advertised for solicitation of sealed bids. [Code of Alabama - Section 39-2-1, et.al.](#)

State Building Code. A public school building must comply with the building code so that the safety, health, and general welfare of the students are protected. The approval of architectural plans by the Alabama Building Commission may be required for school buildings including athletic facilities. [Code of Alabama - Section 41-9-163.](#)

State Ethics Law. Criminal penalties for actions providing prohibited benefits for employees, officials, and certain family members are enforced. Prohibitions on gifts exceeding \$25 to employees and officials are included in the law. [Code of Alabama - Section 36-25-1, et.al.](#)

NOTE: This *working document* "highlights" some specific state laws referenced in the *Alabama School Choice and Student Opportunity Act (Act 2015-3)* but does not attempt to address all state and/or federal laws to public charter schools. Information included in this working document will be updated as the Alabama State Department of Education develops specific guidance regarding Alabama public charter schools. Please send questions to pcs@alsde.edu.