

# Accountability and Oversight of NYC Charter Schools

2016  
2017

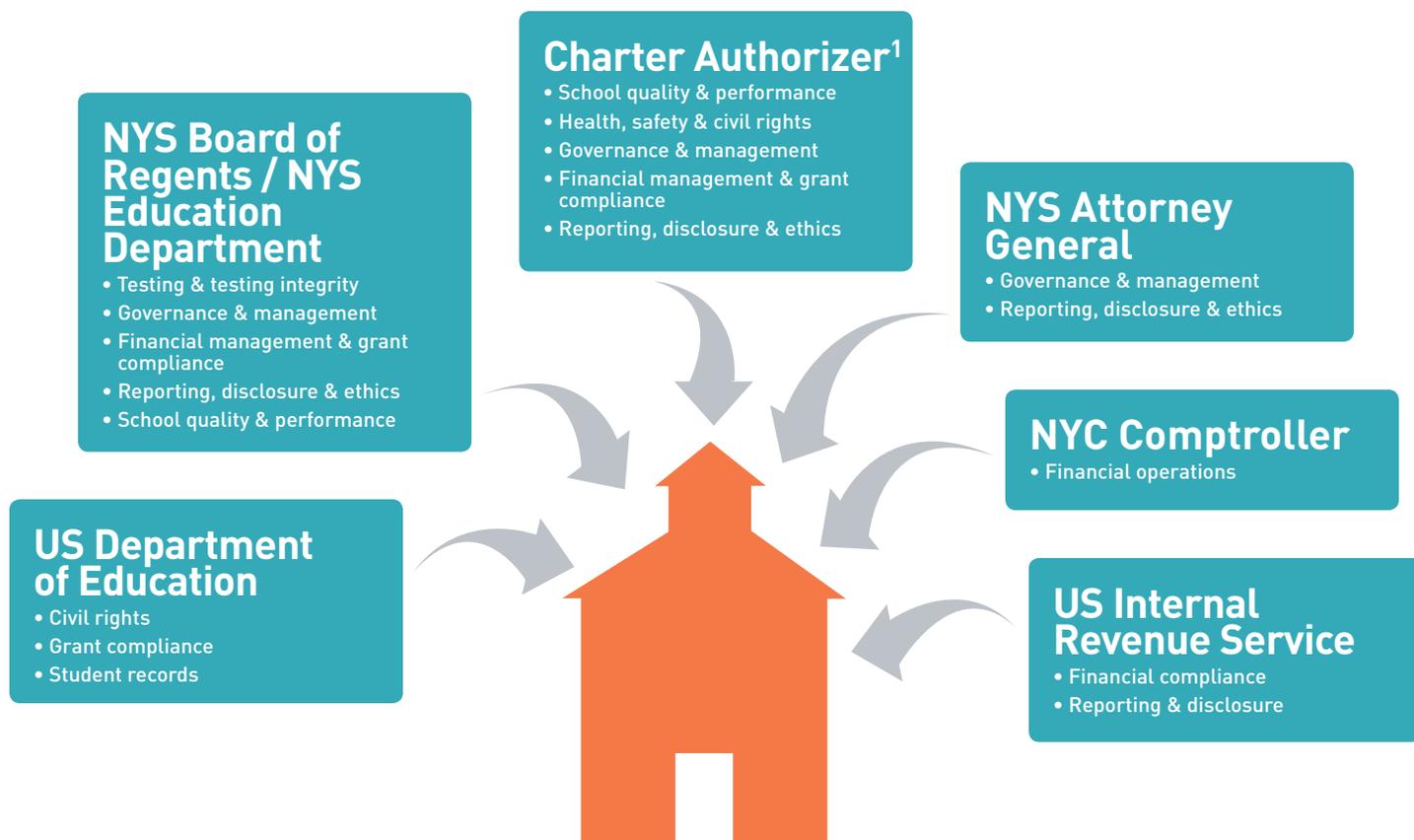
**Charter schools have greater autonomy than district schools, but are held strictly accountable for academic performance and for compliance with laws and regulations that protect students and taxpayers:**

**Authorizers approve new charter schools** after a rigorous review process. Most applicant groups that begin the application process do not succeed and many have to apply more than once before receiving approval.

**Families voluntarily choose to enroll**, and stay enrolled, in charter schools. No student is ever assigned to a charter school, and no charter school stays open if parents don't choose to send their children to it.

**Authorizers hold charter schools accountable for academic results**, and charter schools that fail to meet their academic goals may be closed.

**Numerous government agencies hold charter schools accountable** for complying with relevant laws and regulations. In addition to the agencies highlighted below, many other agencies regulate narrow aspects of charter school operations, from facilities (NYC Department of Buildings) to family medical leave (US Department of Labor).



<sup>1</sup> Each charter school has only one authorizer. The three authorizers in New York are the New York State Board of Regents, the State University of New York Board of Trustees, and the Chancellor of the NYC Department of Education. These three authorizers are supported by staff from, respectively, the NYS Education Department, the SUNY Charter Schools Institute, and the NYC Department of Education.