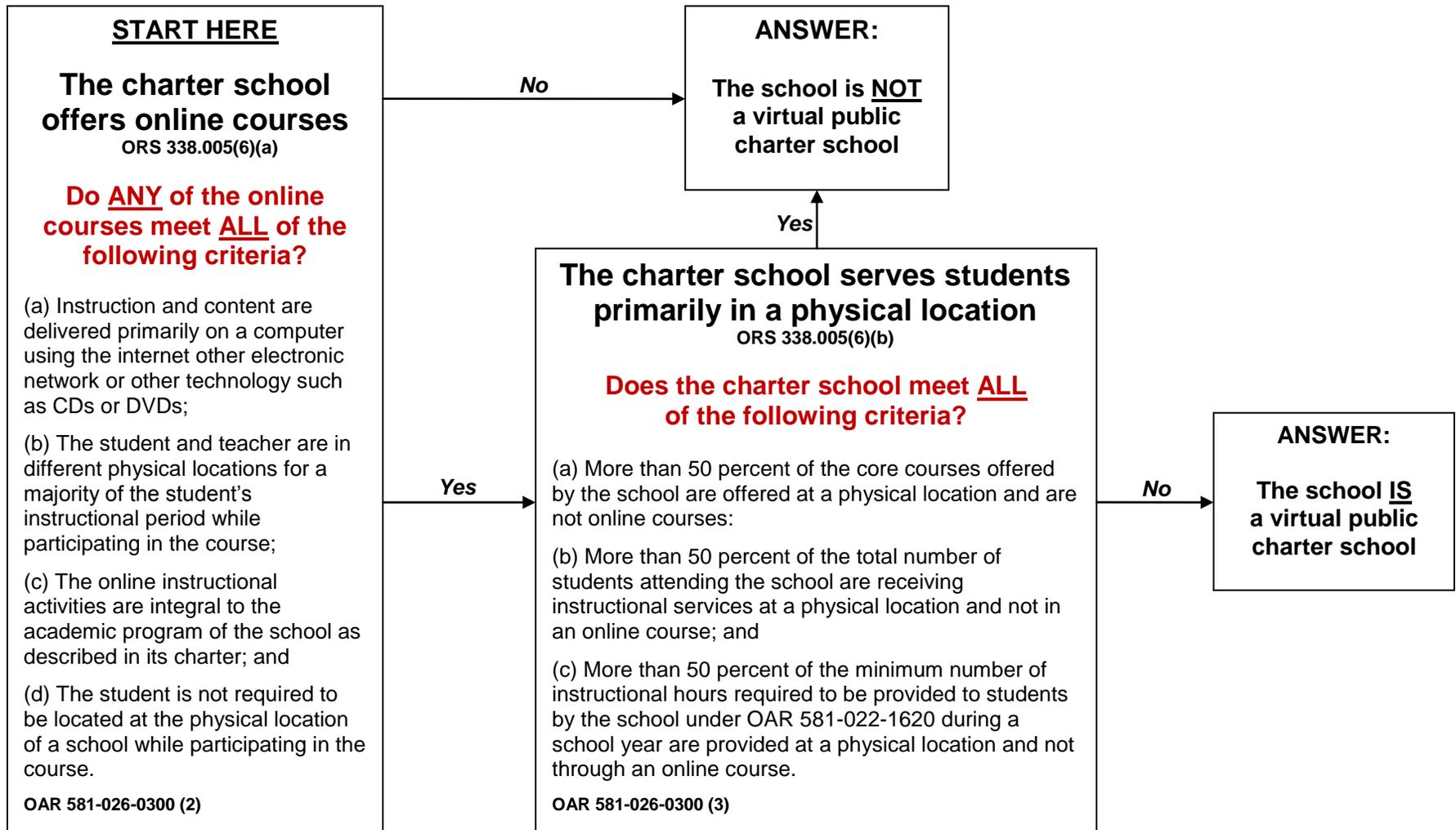


This document is designed to help public charter schools and school districts determine whether or not a charter school qualifies as a virtual public charter school as defined in Oregon law. Public charter schools that meet the definition of a virtual public charter school have additional requirements set forth in [ORS 338.120](#). If you have questions, please contact: [kate.pattison@state.or.us](mailto:kate.pattison@state.or.us)

## How do I know if a charter school qualifies as a Virtual Public Charter School?



# Legal Definitions – Virtual Public Charter School

## ORS 338.005(6)

- (a) “Virtual public charter school” means a public charter school that provides online courses.
- (b) “Virtual public charter school” does not include a public charter school that primarily serves students in a physical location.

## OAR 581-026-0300

(2) As used in ORS Chapter 338 and the rules of the State Board of Education, “virtual charter school” means a public charter school that provides online courses. An online course is a course in which:

- (a) Instruction and content are delivered primarily on a computer using the internet other electronic network or other technology such as CDs or DVDs;
- (b) The student and teacher are in different physical locations for a majority of the student’s instructional period while participating in the course;
- (c) The online instructional activities are integral to the academic program of the school as described in its charter; and
- (d) The student is not required to be located at the physical location of a school while participating in the course.

(3) Notwithstanding section (2) of this rule, “virtual public charter school” does not include a public charter school that primarily serves students in a physical location. A charter school is not a virtual public charter school if the schools meet all of the following requirements:

- (a) More than 50 percent of the core courses offered by the school are offered at a physical location and are not online courses;
- (b) More than 50 percent of the total number of students attending the school are receiving instructional services at a physical location and not in an online course; and
- (c) More than 50 percent of the minimum number of instructional hours required to be provided to students by the school under OAR 581-022-1620 during a school year are provided at a physical location and not through an online course.