



2406 Rosewood Avenue Austin, TX 78702 (512) 477-4226 (512) 477-4223 Fax www.TexansCan.org
Giving Young Texans A Second Chance

**IMPORTANT
ACCREDITATION
INFORMATION**

To Whom it May Concern:

Subject: Assignment of Accreditation Status to Austin Can Academy Charter School

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that the 2009-2010 accreditation status of the Austin Can Academy Charter School is **Accredited-Warned**. Under state law, the accreditation statuses that may be assigned to districts include Accredited, Accredited-Warned, Accredited-Probation, and Not Accredited-Revoked. A status of **Accredited-Warned** means that a charter district exhibits deficiencies in performance that, if not addressed, will lead to probation or revocation of the district's accreditation status.

The Austin Can Academy Charter School has been assigned an **Accredited-Warned** status due to the ratings assigned to the district in the state's academic accountability rating system. Specifically, the Austin Can Academy Charter School was assigned academic accountability ratings of Academically Unacceptable in 2008 and 2009. The 2008 rating was assigned for academic performance and the 2009 rating was assigned for dropout rate. In both cases, the school missed the standard by less than 2%. Since 2008, the school has made great improvements in academic performance and the dropout rate. The school is projected to be Academically Acceptable in 2010.

The charter district is taking the following steps to address the areas of identified deficiency. Austin Can Academy has created and is implementing a comprehensive improvement plan to address all areas of student performance and attendance. The school is adhering to low student to teacher and student to advisor ratios to better serve students. New staff positions on the campus have been created and filled with highly qualified individuals to improve performance and dropout rate. The tutorial program at Austin Can Academy continues to be a large factor in the increased performance of the entire school and will continue into the next school year. Under law, if the current accreditation concerns for the district are not addressed, the charter district may be assigned an accreditation status of **Accredited-Probation** or **Not Accredited-Revoked**. A Not Accredited-Revoked status means that that TEA no longer recognizes the charter district as a Texas public school. Districts with an accreditation status below Accredited also may be subject to additional accreditation sanctions as referenced in statute and rule.

For more information regarding the assignment of accreditation statuses to districts, you may access the TEA website at <http://ritter.tea.state.tx.us/accredstatus/>. This website will provide you with background information as well as links to the Texas Education Code and current commissioner's rules related to accreditation.

If you have additional questions regarding the assignment of an **Accredited-Warned** status to the Austin Can Academy Charter School, or if you would like additional information about the charter's ongoing improvement efforts, please contact Principal Dr. Joe E. Gonzales at (512)477-4226.

Thank You.

Our Mission Statement is to provide a second chance for at-risk youth and their families to achieve economic independence and hope for a better life through relationship-based education and training.