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Form **990**  
 Department of the Treasury  
 Internal Revenue Service

**Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax**  
**Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except private foundations)**  
 Do not enter Social Security numbers on this form as it may be made public. By law, the IRS generally cannot redact the information on the form.  
 Information about Form 990 and its instructions is at [www.irs.gov/form990](http://www.irs.gov/form990)

OMB No 1545-0047  
**2013**  
**Open to Public Inspection**

**A For the 2013 calendar year, or tax year beginning 07-01-2013, 2013, and ending 06-30-2014**

<b>B</b> Check if applicable: <input type="checkbox"/> Address change <input type="checkbox"/> Name change <input type="checkbox"/> Initial return <input type="checkbox"/> Terminated <input type="checkbox"/> Amended return <input type="checkbox"/> Application pending	<b>C</b> Name of organization STEP ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL Doing Business As Number and street (or P O box if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite 4100 EAST 66TH STREET City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code INVER GROVE HEIGHTS, MN 55076	<b>D</b> Employer identification number 30-0562083 <b>E</b> Telephone number (651) 200-5283 <b>G</b> Gross receipts \$ 2,379,707
<b>F</b> Name and address of principal officer MUSTAFA IBRAHIM 4100 EAST 66TH STREET INVER GROVE HEIGHTS, MN 55076		<b>H(a)</b> Is this a group return for subordinates? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <b>H(b)</b> Are all subordinates included? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If "No," attach a list (see instructions) <b>H(c)</b> Group exemption number
<b>I</b> Tax-exempt status <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 501(c)(3) <input type="checkbox"/> 501(c) ( ) (insert no ) <input type="checkbox"/> 4947(a)(1) or <input type="checkbox"/> 527		
<b>J</b> Website: HTTP://WWW.STEPACADEMYMN.COM/		
<b>K</b> Form of organization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> Trust <input type="checkbox"/> Association <input type="checkbox"/> Other		<b>L</b> Year of formation 2009 <b>M</b> State of legal domicile MN

**Part I Summary**

<b>Activities &amp; Governance</b>	<b>1</b> Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities STEP IS A 6-12 CHARTER SCHOOL LOCATED IN INVER GROVE HEIGHTS, MINNESOTA, THAT PROMOTES EARLY COLLEGE EDUCATION THROUGH ENSURING THAT ALL STUDENTS ACHIEVE ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE, OBTAIN COLLEGE CREDIT WHILE IN HIGH SCHOOL, ARE FULLY MOTIVATED AND PREPARED TO SUCCESSFULLY MATRICULATE IN COLLEGE, AND GRADUATE WITH THE CRITICAL KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS REQUIRED FOR EMPLOYMENT IN SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL, AND OTHER SKILLED CAREERS		
	<b>2</b> Check this box <input type="checkbox"/> if the organization discontinued its operations or disposed of more than 25% of its net assets		
	<b>3</b> Number of voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1a)	<b>3</b>	7
	<b>4</b> Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b)	<b>4</b>	5
	<b>5</b> Total number of individuals employed in calendar year 2013 (Part V, line 2a)	<b>5</b>	34
	<b>6</b> Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary)	<b>6</b>	
	<b>7a</b> Total unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, column (C), line 12	<b>7a</b>	0
	<b>b</b> Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, line 34	<b>7b</b>	
<b>Revenue</b>		<b>Prior Year</b>	<b>Current Year</b>
	<b>8</b> Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h)	2,453,521	2,357,124
	<b>9</b> Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g)	3,139	12,789
	<b>10</b> Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 7d)		0
	<b>11</b> Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e)	75,000	9,794
	<b>12</b> Total revenue—add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	2,531,660	2,379,707
<b>Expenses</b>			
	<b>13</b> Grants and similar amounts paid (Part IX, column (A), lines 1–3)		0
	<b>14</b> Benefits paid to or for members (Part IX, column (A), line 4)		0
	<b>15</b> Salaries, other compensation, employee benefits (Part IX, column (A), lines 5–10)	1,247,246	1,299,095
	<b>16a</b> Professional fundraising fees (Part IX, column (A), line 11e)		0
	<b>b</b> Total fundraising expenses (Part IX, column (D), line 25)		
	<b>17</b> Other expenses (Part IX, column (A), lines 11a–11d, 11f–24e)	1,098,632	993,349
	<b>18</b> Total expenses Add lines 13–17 (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	2,345,878	2,292,444
	<b>19</b> Revenue less expenses Subtract line 18 from line 12	185,782	87,263
<b>Net Assets or Fund Balances</b>		<b>Beginning of Current Year</b>	<b>End of Year</b>
	<b>20</b> Total assets (Part X, line 16)	618,174	735,685
	<b>21</b> Total liabilities (Part X, line 26)	89,414	119,662
	<b>22</b> Net assets or fund balances Subtract line 21 from line 20	528,760	616,023

**Part II Signature Block**

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

<b>Sign Here</b>	***** Signature of officer	2014-11-17 Date
	ABDULLAHI AHMEN BOARD CHAIR Type or print name and title	

<b>Paid Preparer Use Only</b>	Prnt/Type preparer's name CHARLES RINKEY	Preparer's signature	Date 2015-01-06	Check <input type="checkbox"/> if self-employed	PTIN P00034513
	Firm's name <b>CHUCK RINKEY LTD</b>			Firm's EIN <b>41-1799235</b>	
	Firm's address <b>5775 WAYZATA BLVD STE 990</b> MINNEAPOLIS, MN 554161295	Phone no (952) 546-1052			

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? (see instructions)  Yes  No

**Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments**

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part III

**1** Briefly describe the organization's mission  
STEP IS A 6-12 CHARTER SCHOOL LOCATED IN INVER GROVE HEIGHTS, MINNESOTA, THAT PROMOTES EARLY COLLEGE EDUCATION THROUGH ENSURING THAT ALL STUDENTS ACHIEVE ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE, OBTAIN COLLEGE CREDIT WHILE IN HIGH SCHOOL, ARE FULLY MOTIVATED AND PREPARED TO SUCCESSFULLY MATRICULATE IN COLLEGE, AND GRADUATE WITH THE CRITICAL KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS REQUIRED FOR EMPLOYMENT IN SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL, AND OTHER SKILLED CAREERS

**2** Did the organization undertake any significant program services during the year which were not listed on the prior Form 990 or 990-EZ?  Yes  No  
If "Yes," describe these new services on Schedule O

**3** Did the organization cease conducting, or make significant changes in how it conducts, any program services?  Yes  No  
If "Yes," describe these changes on Schedule O

**4** Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses. Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations are required to report the amount of grants and allocations to others, the total expenses, and revenue, if any, for each program service reported

**4a** (Code ) (Expenses \$ 1,971,005 including grants of \$ ) (Revenue \$ )  
PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

**4b** (Code ) (Expenses \$ including grants of \$ ) (Revenue \$ )

**4c** (Code ) (Expenses \$ including grants of \$ ) (Revenue \$ )

**4d** Other program services (Describe in Schedule O )  
(Expenses \$ including grants of \$ ) (Revenue \$ )

**4e** Total program service expenses 1,971,005

**Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules**

	Yes	No
<b>1</b> Is the organization described in section 501(c)(3) or 4947(a)(1) (other than a private foundation)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule A</i>	Yes	
<b>2</b> Is the organization required to complete <i>Schedule B, Schedule of Contributors</i> (see instructions)?		No
<b>3</b> Did the organization engage in direct or indirect political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I</i>		No
<b>4 Section 501(c)(3) organizations.</b> Did the organization engage in lobbying activities, or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II</i>		No
<b>5</b> Is the organization a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) organization that receives membership dues, assessments, or similar amounts as defined in Revenue Procedure 98-19? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III</i>		No
<b>6</b> Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds or any similar funds or accounts for which donors have the right to provide advice on the distribution or investment of amounts in such funds or accounts? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part I</i>		No
<b>7</b> Did the organization receive or hold a conservation easement, including easements to preserve open space, the environment, historic land areas, or historic structures? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part II</i>		No
<b>8</b> Did the organization maintain collections of works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part III</i>		No
<b>9</b> Did the organization report an amount in Part X, line 21 for escrow or custodial account liability, serve as a custodian for amounts not listed in Part X, or provide credit counseling, debt management, credit repair, or debt negotiation services? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IV</i>		No
<b>10</b> Did the organization, directly or through a related organization, hold assets in temporarily restricted endowments, permanent endowments, or quasi-endowments? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part V</i>		No
<b>11</b> If the organization's answer to any of the following questions is "Yes," then complete Schedule D, Parts VI, VII, VIII, IX, or X as applicable		
<b>a</b> Did the organization report an amount for land, buildings, and equipment in Part X, line 10? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VI</i>	Yes	
<b>b</b> Did the organization report an amount for investments—other securities in Part X, line 12 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VII</i>		No
<b>c</b> Did the organization report an amount for investments—program related in Part X, line 13 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VIII</i>		No
<b>d</b> Did the organization report an amount for other assets in Part X, line 15 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IX</i>		No
<b>e</b> Did the organization report an amount for other liabilities in Part X, line 25? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X</i>		No
<b>f</b> Did the organization's separate or consolidated financial statements for the tax year include a footnote that addresses the organization's liability for uncertain tax positions under FIN 48 (ASC 740)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X</i>		No
<b>12a</b> Did the organization obtain separate, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Parts XI and XII</i>		No
<b>b</b> Was the organization included in consolidated, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? <i>If "Yes," and if the organization answered "No" to line 12a, then completing Schedule D, Parts XI and XII is optional</i>		No
<b>13</b> Is the organization a school described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule E</i>	Yes	
<b>14a</b> Did the organization maintain an office, employees, or agents outside of the United States?		No
<b>b</b> Did the organization have aggregate revenues or expenses of more than \$10,000 from grantmaking, fundraising, business, investment, and program service activities outside the United States, or aggregate foreign investments valued at \$100,000 or more? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts I and IV</i>		No
<b>15</b> Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to or for any foreign organization? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts II and IV</i>		No
<b>16</b> Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of aggregate grants or other assistance to or for foreign individuals? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts III and IV</i>		No
<b>17</b> Did the organization report a total of more than \$15,000 of expenses for professional fundraising services on Part IX, column (A), lines 6 and 11e? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part I (see instructions)</i>		No
<b>18</b> Did the organization report more than \$15,000 total of fundraising event gross income and contributions on Part VIII, lines 1c and 8a? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part II</i>		No
<b>19</b> Did the organization report more than \$15,000 of gross income from gaming activities on Part VIII, line 9a? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part III</i>		No
<b>20a</b> Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule H</i>		No
<b>b</b> If "Yes" to line 20a, did the organization attach a copy of its audited financial statements to this return?		

**Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules** (continued)

<b>21</b>	Did the organization report more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to any domestic organization or government on Part IX, column (A), line 1? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and II . . . . .</i>	<b>21</b>	No
<b>22</b>	Did the organization report more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to individuals in the United States on Part IX, column (A), line 2? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and III . . . . .</i>	<b>22</b>	No
<b>23</b>	Did the organization answer "Yes" to Part VII, Section A, line 3, 4, or 5 about compensation of the organization's current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J . . . . .</i>	<b>23</b>	No
<b>24a</b>	Did the organization have a tax-exempt bond issue with an outstanding principal amount of more than \$100,000 as of the last day of the year, that was issued after December 31, 2002? <i>If "Yes," answer lines 24b through 24d and complete Schedule K. If "No," go to line 25a . . . . .</i>	<b>24a</b>	No
<b>b</b>	Did the organization invest any proceeds of tax-exempt bonds beyond a temporary period exception? . . . . .	<b>24b</b>	
<b>c</b>	Did the organization maintain an escrow account other than a refunding escrow at any time during the year to defease any tax-exempt bonds? . . . . .	<b>24c</b>	
<b>d</b>	Did the organization act as an "on behalf of" issuer for bonds outstanding at any time during the year? . . . . .	<b>24d</b>	
<b>25a</b>	<b>Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations.</b> Did the organization engage in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person during the year? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I . . . . .</i>	<b>25a</b>	No
<b>b</b>	Is the organization aware that it engaged in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person in a prior year, and that the transaction has not been reported on any of the organization's prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I . . . . .</i>	<b>25b</b>	No
<b>26</b>	Did the organization report any amount on Part X, line 5, 6, or 22 for receivables from or payables to any current or former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, highest compensated employees, or disqualified persons? <i>If so, complete Schedule L, Part II . . . . .</i>	<b>26</b>	No
<b>27</b>	Did the organization provide a grant or other assistance to an officer, director, trustee, key employee, substantial contributor or employee thereof, a grant selection committee member, or to a 35% controlled entity or family member of any of these persons? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part III . . . . .</i>	<b>27</b>	No
<b>28</b>	Was the organization a party to a business transaction with one of the following parties (see Schedule L, Part IV instructions for applicable filing thresholds, conditions, and exceptions)		
<b>a</b>	A current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV . . . . .</i>	<b>28a</b>	No
<b>b</b>	A family member of a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV . . . . .</i>	<b>28b</b>	No
<b>c</b>	An entity of which a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee (or a family member thereof) was an officer, director, trustee, or direct or indirect owner? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV . . . . .</i>	<b>28c</b>	No
<b>29</b>	Did the organization receive more than \$25,000 in non-cash contributions? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule M . . . . .</i>	<b>29</b>	No
<b>30</b>	Did the organization receive contributions of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets, or qualified conservation contributions? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule M . . . . .</i>	<b>30</b>	No
<b>31</b>	Did the organization liquidate, terminate, or dissolve and cease operations? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part I . . . . .</i>	<b>31</b>	No
<b>32</b>	Did the organization sell, exchange, dispose of, or transfer more than 25% of its net assets? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part II . . . . .</i>	<b>32</b>	No
<b>33</b>	Did the organization own 100% of an entity disregarded as separate from the organization under Regulations sections 301.7701-2 and 301.7701-3? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part I . . . . .</i>	<b>33</b>	No
<b>34</b>	Was the organization related to any tax-exempt or taxable entity? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part II, III, or IV, and Part V, line 1 . . . . .</i>	<b>34</b>	No
<b>35a</b>	Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?	<b>35a</b>	No
<b>b</b>	If "Yes" to line 35a, did the organization receive any payment from or engage in any transaction with a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2 . . . . .</i>	<b>35b</b>	
<b>36</b>	<b>Section 501(c)(3) organizations.</b> Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2 . . . . .</i>	<b>36</b>	No
<b>37</b>	Did the organization conduct more than 5% of its activities through an entity that is not a related organization and that is treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part VI . . . . .</i>	<b>37</b>	No
<b>38</b>	Did the organization complete Schedule O and provide explanations in Schedule O for Part VI, lines 11b and 19? <b>Note.</b> All Form 990 filers are required to complete Schedule O . . . . .	<b>38</b>	No

**Part V Statements Regarding Other IRS Filings and Tax Compliance**

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part V

		Yes	No
<b>1a</b>	Enter the number reported in Box 3 of Form 1096. Enter -0- if not applicable.		
<b>1b</b>	Enter the number of Forms W-2G included in line 1a. Enter -0- if not applicable.		
<b>1c</b>	Did the organization comply with backup withholding rules for reportable payments to vendors and reportable gaming (gambling) winnings to prize winners?		
<b>2a</b>	Enter the number of employees reported on Form W-3, Transmittal of Wage and Tax Statements, filed for the calendar year ending with or within the year covered by this return.		
<b>2b</b>	If at least one is reported on line 2a, did the organization file all required federal employment tax returns? <b>Note.</b> If the sum of lines 1a and 2a is greater than 250, you may be required to e-file (see instructions).	Yes	
<b>3a</b>	Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year?		No
<b>3b</b>	If "Yes," has it filed a Form 990-T for this year? If "No" to line 3b, provide an explanation in Schedule O.		
<b>4a</b>	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in, or a signature or other authority over, a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)?		No
<b>b</b>	If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: _____ See instructions for filing requirements for Form TD F 90-22.1, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts.		
<b>5a</b>	Was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction at any time during the tax year?		No
<b>5b</b>	Did any taxable party notify the organization that it was or is a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction?		No
<b>5c</b>	If "Yes," to line 5a or 5b, did the organization file Form 8886-T?		
<b>6a</b>	Does the organization have annual gross receipts that are normally greater than \$100,000, and did the organization solicit any contributions that were not tax deductible as charitable contributions?		No
<b>6b</b>	If "Yes," did the organization include with every solicitation an express statement that such contributions or gifts were not tax deductible?		
<b>7</b>	<b>Organizations that may receive deductible contributions under section 170(c).</b>		
<b>a</b>	Did the organization receive a payment in excess of \$75 made partly as a contribution and partly for goods and services provided to the payor?		
<b>7b</b>	If "Yes," did the organization notify the donor of the value of the goods or services provided?		
<b>7c</b>	Did the organization sell, exchange, or otherwise dispose of tangible personal property for which it was required to file Form 8282?		
<b>7d</b>	If "Yes," indicate the number of Forms 8282 filed during the year.		
<b>7e</b>	Did the organization receive any funds, directly or indirectly, to pay premiums on a personal benefit contract?		
<b>7f</b>	Did the organization, during the year, pay premiums, directly or indirectly, on a personal benefit contract?		
<b>7g</b>	If the organization received a contribution of qualified intellectual property, did the organization file Form 8899 as required?		
<b>7h</b>	If the organization received a contribution of cars, boats, airplanes, or other vehicles, did the organization file a Form 1098-C?		
<b>8</b>	<b>Sponsoring organizations maintaining donor advised funds and section 509(a)(3) supporting organizations.</b> Did the supporting organization, or a donor advised fund maintained by a sponsoring organization, have excess business holdings at any time during the year?		
<b>9</b>	<b>Sponsoring organizations maintaining donor advised funds.</b>		
<b>9a</b>	Did the organization make any taxable distributions under section 4966?		
<b>9b</b>	Did the organization make a distribution to a donor, donor advisor, or related person?		
<b>10</b>	<b>Section 501(c)(7) organizations.</b> Enter		
<b>10a</b>	Initiation fees and capital contributions included on Part VIII, line 12.		
<b>10b</b>	Gross receipts, included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, for public use of club facilities.		
<b>11</b>	<b>Section 501(c)(12) organizations.</b> Enter		
<b>11a</b>	Gross income from members or shareholders.		
<b>11b</b>	Gross income from other sources (Do not net amounts due or paid to other sources against amounts due or received from them).		
<b>12a</b>	<b>Section 4947(a)(1) non-exempt charitable trusts.</b> Is the organization filing Form 990 in lieu of Form 1041?		
<b>12b</b>	If "Yes," enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the year.		
<b>13</b>	<b>Section 501(c)(29) qualified nonprofit health insurance issuers.</b>		
<b>13a</b>	Is the organization licensed to issue qualified health plans in more than one state? <b>Note.</b> See the instructions for additional information the organization must report on Schedule O.		
<b>13b</b>	Enter the amount of reserves the organization is required to maintain by the states in which the organization is licensed to issue qualified health plans.		
<b>13c</b>	Enter the amount of reserves on hand.		
<b>14a</b>	Did the organization receive any payments for indoor tanning services during the tax year?		No
<b>14b</b>	If "Yes," has it filed a Form 720 to report these payments? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O.		

Part VI Governance, Management, and Disclosure For each "Yes" response to lines 2 through 7b below, and for a "No" response to lines 8a, 8b, or 10b below, describe the circumstances, processes, or changes in Schedule O. See instructions.

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VI . . . . . [X]

Section A. Governing Body and Management

Table with 3 columns: Question, Yes, No. Rows include: 1a (7), 1b (5), 2 (No), 3 (No), 4 (No), 5 (No), 6 (No), 7a (No), 7b (No), 8a (Yes), 8b (Yes), 9 (No).

Section B. Policies (This Section B requests information about policies not required by the Internal Revenue Code.)

Table with 3 columns: Question, Yes, No. Rows include: 10a (No), 10b, 11a (No), 12a (Yes), 12b (Yes), 12c (Yes), 13 (No), 14 (No), 15a (No), 15b (No), 16a (No), 16b.

Section C. Disclosure

Table with 3 columns: Question, Yes, No. Rows include: 17 (MN), 18 (Own website, Another's website, Upon request, Other), 19, 20 (TRACEY FIERECK 4100 EAST 66TH STREET, INVER GROVE HEIGHTS, MN 55076 4100 EAST 66TH STREET (612) 289-6120).



**Part VII** Section A. Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees (continued)

(A) Name and Title	(B) Average hours per week (list any hours for related organizations below dotted line)	(C) Position (do not check more than one box, unless person is both an officer and a director/trustee)						(D) Reportable compensation from the organization (W-2/1099-MISC)	(E) Reportable compensation from related organizations (W-2/1099-MISC)	(F) Estimated amount of other compensation from the organization and related organizations
		Individual trustee or director	Institutional Trustee	Officer	Key employee	Highest compensated employee	Former			
<b>1b</b>	<b>Sub-Total</b>									
<b>c</b>	<b>Total from continuation sheets to Part VII, Section A</b>									
<b>d</b>	<b>Total (add lines 1b and 1c)</b>						70,214		4,744	

**2** Total number of individuals (including but not limited to those listed above) who received more than \$100,000 of reportable compensation from the organization

	Yes	No
<b>3</b> Did the organization list any <b>former</b> officer, director or trustee, key employee, or highest compensated employee on line 1a? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual</i>		No
<b>4</b> For any individual listed on line 1a, is the sum of reportable compensation and other compensation from the organization and related organizations greater than \$150,000? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual</i>		No
<b>5</b> Did any person listed on line 1a receive or accrue compensation from any unrelated organization or individual for services rendered to the organization? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such person</i>		No

**Section B. Independent Contractors**

**1** Complete this table for your five highest compensated independent contractors that received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization Report compensation for the calendar year ending with or within the organization's tax year

(A) Name and business address	(B) Description of services	(C) Compensation

**2** Total number of independent contractors (including but not limited to those listed above) who received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization

**Part VIII Statement of Revenue**

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VIII . . . . .

			(A) Total revenue	(B) Related or exempt function revenue	(C) Unrelated business revenue	(D) Revenue excluded from tax under sections 512-514	
<b>Contributions, Gifts, Grants and Other Similar Amounts</b>	<b>1a</b>	Federated campaigns . . . . . <b>1a</b>					
	<b>b</b>	Membership dues . . . . . <b>1b</b>					
	<b>c</b>	Fundraising events . . . . . <b>1c</b>					
	<b>d</b>	Related organizations . . . . . <b>1d</b>					
	<b>e</b>	Government grants (contributions) <b>1e</b>	2,357,124				
	<b>f</b>	All other contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts not included above <b>1f</b>					
	<b>g</b>	Noncash contributions included in lines 1a-1f \$					
	<b>h</b>	<b>Total.</b> Add lines 1a-1f . . . . .	2,357,124				
<b>Program Service Revenue</b>	<b>2a</b>	LOCAL <span style="float: right;">Business Code</span>	12,789	12,789			
	<b>b</b>						
	<b>c</b>						
	<b>d</b>						
	<b>e</b>						
	<b>f</b>	All other program service revenue					
	<b>g</b>	<b>Total.</b> Add lines 2a-2f . . . . .	12,789				
	<b>Other Revenue</b>	<b>3</b>	Investment income (including dividends, interest, and other similar amounts) . . . . .				
<b>4</b>		Income from investment of tax-exempt bond proceeds . . . . .					
<b>5</b>		Royalties . . . . .					
<b>6a</b>		Gross rents	(i) Real				
			(ii) Personal				
			Less rental expenses				
			Net rental income or (loss) . . . . .				
<b>7a</b>		Gross amount from sales of assets other than inventory	(i) Securities				
			(ii) Other				
			Less cost or other basis and sales expenses				
			Net gain or (loss) . . . . .				
<b>8a</b>		Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ _____ of contributions reported on line 1c) See Part IV, line 18 . . . . .	<b>a</b>				
			Less direct expenses . . . . . <b>b</b>				
			Net income or (loss) from fundraising events . . . . .				
<b>9a</b>		Gross income from gaming activities See Part IV, line 19 . . . . .	<b>a</b>				
			Less direct expenses . . . . . <b>b</b>				
			Net income or (loss) from gaming activities . . . . .				
<b>10a</b>		Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances . . . . .	<b>a</b>				
	Less cost of goods sold . . . . . <b>b</b>						
	Net income or (loss) from sales of inventory . . . . .						
Miscellaneous Revenue		Business Code					
<b>11a</b>	OTHER REVENUE		9,794	9,794			
<b>b</b>							
<b>c</b>							
<b>d</b>	All other revenue . . . . .						
<b>e</b>	<b>Total.</b> Add lines 11a-11d . . . . .		9,794				
<b>12</b>	<b>Total revenue.</b> See Instructions . . . . .		2,379,707	22,583			

**Part IX Statement of Functional Expenses**

Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations must complete all columns. All other organizations must complete column (A)

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part IX

<b>Do not include amounts reported on lines 6b, 7b, 8b, 9b, and 10b of Part VIII.</b>		<b>(A)</b> Total expenses	<b>(B)</b> Program service expenses	<b>(C)</b> Management and general expenses	<b>(D)</b> Fundraising expenses
<b>1</b>	Grants and other assistance to governments and organizations in the United States. See Part IV, line 21				
<b>2</b>	Grants and other assistance to individuals in the United States. See Part IV, line 22				
<b>3</b>	Grants and other assistance to governments, organizations, and individuals outside the United States. See Part IV, lines 15 and 16				
<b>4</b>	Benefits paid to or for members				
<b>5</b>	Compensation of current officers, directors, trustees, and key employees . . . . .				
<b>6</b>	Compensation not included above, to disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B) . . . . .				
<b>7</b>	Other salaries and wages	991,895	843,889	148,006	
<b>8</b>	Pension plan accruals and contributions (include section 401(k) and 403(b) employer contributions) . . . . .	69,459	59,304	10,155	
<b>9</b>	Other employee benefits . . . . .	162,034	74,057	87,977	
<b>10</b>	Payroll taxes . . . . .	75,707	64,385	11,322	
<b>11</b>	Fees for services (non-employees)				
<b>a</b>	Management . . . . .				
<b>b</b>	Legal . . . . .				
<b>c</b>	Accounting . . . . .				
<b>d</b>	Lobbying . . . . .				
<b>e</b>	Professional fundraising services. See Part IV, line 17				
<b>f</b>	Investment management fees . . . . .				
<b>g</b>	Other (If line 11g amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 11g expenses on Schedule O) . . . . .	72,344	39,400	32,944	
<b>12</b>	Advertising and promotion . . . . .				
<b>13</b>	Office expenses . . . . .	13,563	11,454	2,109	
<b>14</b>	Information technology . . . . .				
<b>15</b>	Royalties . . . . .				
<b>16</b>	Occupancy . . . . .	408,190	408,190		
<b>17</b>	Travel . . . . .	245,698	243,830	1,868	
<b>18</b>	Payments of travel or entertainment expenses for any federal, state, or local public officials . . . . .				
<b>19</b>	Conferences, conventions, and meetings . . . . .				
<b>20</b>	Interest . . . . .				
<b>21</b>	Payments to affiliates . . . . .	38,164	38,164		
<b>22</b>	Depreciation, depletion, and amortization . . . . .	6,480	6,480		
<b>23</b>	Insurance . . . . .	7,632	7,632		
<b>24</b>	Other expenses. Itemize expenses not covered above (List miscellaneous expenses in line 24e. If line 24e amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 24e expenses on Schedule O) . . . . .				
<b>a</b>	SUPPLIES	164,220	154,439	9,781	
<b>b</b>	DUES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS	21,602	4,355	17,247	
<b>c</b>	CAPITAL OUTLAY	15,456	15,426	30	
<b>d</b>					
<b>e</b>	All other expenses				
<b>25</b>	<b>Total functional expenses.</b> Add lines 1 through 24e	2,292,444	1,971,005	321,439	0
<b>26</b>	<b>Joint costs.</b> Complete this line only if the organization reported in column (B) joint costs from a combined educational campaign and fundraising solicitation. Check here <input type="checkbox"/> if following SOP 98-2 (ASC 958-720)				

**Part X Balance Sheet**

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part X

		(A)		(B)
		Beginning of year		End of year
<b>Assets</b>	<b>1</b> Cash—non-interest-bearing . . . . .	265,129	<b>1</b>	398,778
	<b>2</b> Savings and temporary cash investments . . . . .		<b>2</b>	
	<b>3</b> Pledges and grants receivable, net . . . . .	295,137	<b>3</b>	234,248
	<b>4</b> Accounts receivable, net . . . . .		<b>4</b>	
	<b>5</b> Loans and other receivables from current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees Complete Part II of Schedule L . . . . .		<b>5</b>	
	<b>6</b> Loans and other receivables from other disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)), persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B), and contributing employers and sponsoring organizations of section 501(c)(9) voluntary employees' beneficiary organizations (see instructions) Complete Part II of Schedule L . . . . .		<b>6</b>	
	<b>7</b> Notes and loans receivable, net . . . . .		<b>7</b>	
	<b>8</b> Inventories for sale or use . . . . .		<b>8</b>	
	<b>9</b> Prepaid expenses and deferred charges . . . . .	41,299	<b>9</b>	80,967
	<b>10a</b> Land, buildings, and equipment cost or other basis Complete Part VI of Schedule D . . . . .	38,174		
	<b>b</b> Less accumulated depreciation . . . . .	16,482	<b>10c</b>	21,692
	<b>11</b> Investments—publicly traded securities . . . . .		<b>11</b>	
	<b>12</b> Investments—other securities See Part IV, line 11 . . . . .		<b>12</b>	
	<b>13</b> Investments—program-related See Part IV, line 11 . . . . .		<b>13</b>	
	<b>14</b> Intangible assets . . . . .		<b>14</b>	
	<b>15</b> Other assets See Part IV, line 11 . . . . .		<b>15</b>	
<b>16 Total assets.</b> Add lines 1 through 15 (must equal line 34) . . . . .	618,174	<b>16</b>	735,685	
<b>Liabilities</b>	<b>17</b> Accounts payable and accrued expenses . . . . .	89,414	<b>17</b>	119,662
	<b>18</b> Grants payable . . . . .		<b>18</b>	
	<b>19</b> Deferred revenue . . . . .		<b>19</b>	
	<b>20</b> Tax-exempt bond liabilities . . . . .		<b>20</b>	
	<b>21</b> Escrow or custodial account liability Complete Part IV of Schedule D . . . . .		<b>21</b>	
	<b>22</b> Loans and other payables to current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, highest compensated employees, and disqualified persons Complete Part II of Schedule L . . . . .		<b>22</b>	
	<b>23</b> Secured mortgages and notes payable to unrelated third parties . . . . .		<b>23</b>	
	<b>24</b> Unsecured notes and loans payable to unrelated third parties . . . . .		<b>24</b>	
	<b>25</b> Other liabilities (including federal income tax, payables to related third parties, and other liabilities not included on lines 17-24) Complete Part X of Schedule D . . . . .		<b>25</b>	
	<b>26 Total liabilities.</b> Add lines 17 through 25 . . . . .	89,414	<b>26</b>	119,662
<b>Net Assets or Fund Balances</b>	<b>Organizations that follow SFAS 117 (ASC 958), check here <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 27 through 29, and lines 33 and 34.</b>			
	<b>27</b> Unrestricted net assets . . . . .	528,760	<b>27</b>	616,023
	<b>28</b> Temporarily restricted net assets . . . . .		<b>28</b>	
	<b>29</b> Permanently restricted net assets . . . . .		<b>29</b>	
	<b>Organizations that do not follow SFAS 117 (ASC 958), check here <input type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 30 through 34.</b>			
	<b>30</b> Capital stock or trust principal, or current funds . . . . .		<b>30</b>	
	<b>31</b> Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, building or equipment fund . . . . .		<b>31</b>	
	<b>32</b> Retained earnings, endowment, accumulated income, or other funds . . . . .		<b>32</b>	
<b>33</b> Total net assets or fund balances . . . . .	528,760	<b>33</b>	616,023	
<b>34</b> Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances . . . . .	618,174	<b>34</b>	735,685	

**Part XI Reconciliation of Net Assets**

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XI

<b>1</b>	Total revenue (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	<b>1</b>	2,379,707
<b>2</b>	Total expenses (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	<b>2</b>	2,292,444
<b>3</b>	Revenue less expenses Subtract line 2 from line 1	<b>3</b>	87,263
<b>4</b>	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (must equal Part X, line 33, column (A))	<b>4</b>	528,760
<b>5</b>	Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments	<b>5</b>	
<b>6</b>	Donated services and use of facilities	<b>6</b>	
<b>7</b>	Investment expenses	<b>7</b>	
<b>8</b>	Prior period adjustments	<b>8</b>	
<b>9</b>	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O)	<b>9</b>	
<b>10</b>	Net assets or fund balances at end of year Combine lines 3 through 9 (must equal Part X, line 33, column (B))	<b>10</b>	616,023

**Part XII Financial Statements and Reporting**

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XII

		Yes	No
<b>1</b>	Accounting method used to prepare the Form 990 <input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accrual <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ If the organization changed its method of accounting from a prior year or checked "Other," explain in Schedule O		
<b>2a</b>	Were the organization's financial statements compiled or reviewed by an independent accountant? If "Yes," check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were compiled or reviewed on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both <input type="checkbox"/> Separate basis <input type="checkbox"/> Consolidated basis <input type="checkbox"/> Both consolidated and separate basis		No
<b>2b</b>	Were the organization's financial statements audited by an independent accountant? If "Yes," check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were audited on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Separate basis <input type="checkbox"/> Consolidated basis <input type="checkbox"/> Both consolidated and separate basis	Yes	
<b>2c</b>	If "Yes," to line 2a or 2b, does the organization have a committee that assumes responsibility for oversight of the audit, review, or compilation of its financial statements and selection of an independent accountant? If the organization changed either its oversight process or selection process during the tax year, explain in Schedule O		
<b>3a</b>	As a result of a federal award, was the organization required to undergo an audit or audits as set forth in the Single Audit Act and OMB Circular A-133?		No
<b>3b</b>	If "Yes," did the organization undergo the required audit or audits? If the organization did not undergo the required audit or audits, explain why in Schedule O and describe any steps taken to undergo such audits		

**SCHEDULE A**  
(Form 990 or 990EZ)

**Public Charity Status and Public Support**

Complete if the organization is a section 501(c)(3) organization or a section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust.

- ▶ Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ. ▶ See separate instructions.
- ▶ Information about Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at [www.irs.gov/form990](http://www.irs.gov/form990).

**2013**

**Open to Public Inspection**

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization  
STEP ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL

Employer identification number  
30-0562083

**Part I Reason for Public Charity Status** (All organizations must complete this part.) See instructions.

The organization is not a private foundation because it is (For lines 1 through 11, check only one box )

- 1  A church, convention of churches, or association of churches described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(i)**.
- 2  A school described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)**. (Attach Schedule E )
- 3  A hospital or a cooperative hospital service organization described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii)**.
- 4  A medical research organization operated in conjunction with a hospital described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii)**. Enter the hospital's name, city, and state \_\_\_\_\_
- 5  An organization operated for the benefit of a college or university owned or operated by a governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iv)**. (Complete Part II )
- 6  A federal, state, or local government or governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(v)**.
- 7  An organization that normally receives a substantial part of its support from a governmental unit or from the general public described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)**. (Complete Part II )
- 8  A community trust described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)** (Complete Part II )
- 9  An organization that normally receives (1) more than 33 1/3% of its support from contributions, membership fees, and gross receipts from activities related to its exempt functions—subject to certain exceptions, and (2) no more than 33 1/3% of its support from gross investment income and unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 tax) from businesses acquired by the organization after June 30, 1975 See **section 509(a)(2)**. (Complete Part III )
- 10  An organization organized and operated exclusively to test for public safety See **section 509(a)(4)**.
- 11  An organization organized and operated exclusively for the benefit of, to perform the functions of, or to carry out the purposes of one or more publicly supported organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or section 509(a)(2) See **section 509(a)(3)**. Check the box that describes the type of supporting organization and complete lines 11e through 11h  
  - a  Type I b  Type II c  Type III - Functionally integrated d  Type III - Non-functionally integrated
- e  By checking this box, I certify that the organization is not controlled directly or indirectly by one or more disqualified persons other than foundation managers and other than one or more publicly supported organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or section 509(a)(2)
- f  If the organization received a written determination from the IRS that it is a Type I, Type II, or Type III supporting organization, check this box
- g Since August 17, 2006, has the organization accepted any gift or contribution from any of the following persons?

- (i) A person who directly or indirectly controls, either alone or together with persons described in (ii) and (iii) below, the governing body of the supported organization?
- (ii) A family member of a person described in (i) above?
- (iii) A 35% controlled entity of a person described in (i) or (ii) above?

	Yes	No
<b>11g(i)</b>		
<b>11g(ii)</b>		
<b>11g(iii)</b>		

h Provide the following information about the supported organization(s)

(i) Name of supported organization	(ii) EIN	(iii) Type of organization (described on lines 1- 9 above or IRC section (see instructions))	(iv) Is the organization in col (i) listed in your governing document?		(v) Did you notify the organization in col (i) of your support?		(vi) Is the organization in col (i) organized in the U S ?		(vii) Amount of monetary support
			Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
<b>Total</b>									

**Part II Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Sections 170(b)(1)(A)(iv) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)**

(Complete only if you checked the box on line 5, 7, or 8 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part III. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part III.)

**Section A. Public Support**

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2009	(b) 2010	(c) 2011	(d) 2012	(e) 2013	(f) Total
<b>1</b> Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received (Do not include any "unusual grants.")						
<b>2</b> Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf						
<b>3</b> The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge						
<b>4 Total.</b> Add lines 1 through 3						
<b>5</b> The portion of total contributions by each person (other than a governmental unit or publicly supported organization) included on line 1 that exceeds 2% of the amount shown on line 11, column (f)						
<b>6 Public support.</b> Subtract line 5 from line 4						

**Section B. Total Support**

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2009	(b) 2010	(c) 2011	(d) 2012	(e) 2013	(f) Total
<b>7</b> Amounts from line 4						
<b>8</b> Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources						
<b>9</b> Net income from unrelated business activities, whether or not the business is regularly carried on						
<b>10</b> Other income Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part IV )						
<b>11 Total support</b> (Add lines 7 through 10)						
<b>12</b> Gross receipts from related activities, etc (see instructions)					<b>12</b>	
<b>13 First five years.</b> If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and <b>stop here</b> . . . . . <input type="checkbox"/>						

**Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage**

<b>14</b> Public support percentage for 2013 (line 6, column (f) divided by line 11, column (f))	<b>14</b>	
<b>15</b> Public support percentage for 2012 Schedule A, Part II, line 14	<b>15</b>	
<b>16a 33 1/3% support test—2013.</b> If the organization did not check the box on line 13, and line 14 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and <b>stop here.</b> The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization <input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>b 33 1/3% support test—2012.</b> If the organization did not check a box on line 13 or 16a, and line 15 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and <b>stop here.</b> The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization <input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>17a 10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2013.</b> If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, or 16b, and line 14 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and <b>stop here.</b> Explain in Part IV how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization <input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>b 10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2012.</b> If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, or 17a, and line 15 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and <b>stop here.</b> Explain in Part IV how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization <input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>18 Private foundation.</b> If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, 17a, or 17b, check this box and see instructions <input type="checkbox"/>		

**Part III Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Section 509(a)(2)**

(Complete only if you checked the box on line 9 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part II. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part II.)

**Section A. Public Support**

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2009	(b) 2010	(c) 2011	(d) 2012	(e) 2013	(f) Total
<b>1</b> Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received (Do not include any "unusual grants.")						
<b>2</b> Gross receipts from admissions, merchandise sold or services performed, or facilities furnished in any activity that is related to the organization's tax-exempt purpose						
<b>3</b> Gross receipts from activities that are not an unrelated trade or business under section 513						
<b>4</b> Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf						
<b>5</b> The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge						
<b>6 Total.</b> Add lines 1 through 5						
<b>7a</b> Amounts included on lines 1, 2, and 3 received from disqualified persons						
<b>b</b> Amounts included on lines 2 and 3 received from other than disqualified persons that exceed the greater of \$5,000 or 1% of the amount on line 13 for the year						
<b>c</b> Add lines 7a and 7b						
<b>8 Public support</b> (Subtract line 7c from line 6)						

**Section B. Total Support**

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2009	(b) 2010	(c) 2011	(d) 2012	(e) 2013	(f) Total
<b>9</b> Amounts from line 6						
<b>10a</b> Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources						
<b>b</b> Unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 taxes) from businesses acquired after June 30, 1975						
<b>c</b> Add lines 10a and 10b						
<b>11</b> Net income from unrelated business activities not included in line 10b, whether or not the business is regularly carried on						
<b>12</b> Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part IV.)						
<b>13 Total support.</b> (Add lines 9, 10c, 11, and 12.)						
<b>14 First five years.</b> If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and <b>stop here</b> <input type="checkbox"/>						

**Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage**

<b>15</b> Public support percentage for 2013 (line 8, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f))	<b>15</b>	
<b>16</b> Public support percentage from 2012 Schedule A, Part III, line 15	<b>16</b>	

**Section D. Computation of Investment Income Percentage**

<b>17</b> Investment income percentage for <b>2013</b> (line 10c, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f))	<b>17</b>	
<b>18</b> Investment income percentage from <b>2012</b> Schedule A, Part III, line 17	<b>18</b>	

- 19a 33 1/3% support tests—2013.** If the organization did not check the box on line 14, and line 15 is more than 33 1/3%, and line 17 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and **stop here**. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization
- b 33 1/3% support tests—2012.** If the organization did not check a box on line 14 or line 19a, and line 16 is more than 33 1/3% and line 18 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and **stop here**. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization
- 20 Private foundation.** If the organization did not check a box on line 14, 19a, or 19b, check this box and see instructions

**Part IV** **Supplemental Information.** Provide the explanations required by Part II, line 10; Part II, line 17a or 17b; and Part III, line 12. Also complete this part for any additional information. (See instructions).

**Facts And Circumstances Test**

Return Reference

Explanation

SCHEDULE D (Form 990)

Supplemental Financial Statements

OMB No 1545-0047

2013

Open to Public Inspection

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

Complete if the organization answered "Yes," to Form 990, Part IV, line 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11a, 11b, 11c, 11d, 11e, 11f, 12a, or 12b. Attach to Form 990. See separate instructions. Information about Schedule D (Form 990) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

Name of the organization STEP ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL

Employer identification number 30-0562083

Part I Organizations Maintaining Donor Advised Funds or Other Similar Funds or Accounts. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 6.

Table with 2 columns: (a) Donor advised funds, (b) Funds and other accounts. Rows include: 1 Total number at end of year, 2 Aggregate contributions to (during year), 3 Aggregate grants from (during year), 4 Aggregate value at end of year, 5 Did the organization inform all donors...?, 6 Did the organization inform all grantees...?

Part II Conservation Easements. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 7.

Table with 2 columns: Description, Held at the End of the Year. Rows include: 1 Purpose(s) of conservation easements..., 2 Complete lines 2a through 2d..., 3 Number of conservation easements..., 4 Number of states..., 5 Does the organization have a written policy..., 6 Staff and volunteer hours..., 7 Amount of expenses..., 8 Does each conservation easement..., 9 In Part XIII, describe how the organization reports...

Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 8.

Table with 2 columns: Description, Amount. Rows include: 1a If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116..., 1b If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116..., 2 If the organization received or held works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets...

**Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets** *(continued)*

**3** Using the organization's acquisition, accession, and other records, check any of the following that are a significant use of its collection items (check all that apply)

- a**  Public exhibition
- b**  Scholarly research
- c**  Preservation for future generations
- d**  Loan or exchange programs
- e**  Other

**4** Provide a description of the organization's collections and explain how they further the organization's exempt purpose in Part XIII

**5** During the year, did the organization solicit or receive donations of art, historical treasures or other similar assets to be sold to raise funds rather than to be maintained as part of the organization's collection?  Yes  No

**Part IV Escrow and Custodial Arrangements.** Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 9, or reported an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21.

**1a** Is the organization an agent, trustee, custodian or other intermediary for contributions or other assets not included on Form 990, Part X?  Yes  No

**b** If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIII and complete the following table

	Amount
<b>1c</b>	
<b>1d</b>	
<b>1e</b>	
<b>1f</b>	

**2a** Did the organization include an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21?  Yes  No

**b** If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIII. Check here if the explanation has been provided in Part XIII

**Part V Endowment Funds.** Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 10.

	(a) Current year	(b) Prior year	(c) Two years back	(d) Three years back	(e) Four years back
<b>1a</b> Beginning of year balance . . . . .					
<b>b</b> Contributions . . . . .					
<b>c</b> Net investment earnings, gains, and losses					
<b>d</b> Grants or scholarships . . . . .					
<b>e</b> Other expenditures for facilities and programs . . . . .					
<b>f</b> Administrative expenses . . . . .					
<b>g</b> End of year balance . . . . .					

**2** Provide the estimated percentage of the current year end balance (line 1g, column (a)) held as

- a** Board designated or quasi-endowment ▶
  - b** Permanent endowment ▶
  - c** Temporarily restricted endowment ▶
- The percentages in lines 2a, 2b, and 2c should equal 100%

**3a** Are there endowment funds not in the possession of the organization that are held and administered for the organization by

	Yes	No
<b>(i)</b> unrelated organizations . . . . .	<b>3a(i)</b>	
<b>(ii)</b> related organizations . . . . .	<b>3a(ii)</b>	
<b>b</b> If "Yes" to 3a(ii), are the related organizations listed as required on Schedule R? . . . . .	<b>3b</b>	

**4** Describe in Part XIII the intended uses of the organization's endowment funds

**Part VI Land, Buildings, and Equipment.** Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' to Form 990, Part IV, line 11a. See Form 990, Part X, line 10.

Description of property	(a) Cost or other basis (investment)	(b) Cost or other basis (other)	(c) Accumulated depreciation	(d) Book value
<b>1a</b> Land . . . . .				
<b>b</b> Buildings . . . . .				
<b>c</b> Leasehold improvements . . . . .				
<b>d</b> Equipment . . . . .				
<b>e</b> Other . . . . .		38,174	16,482	21,692
<b>Total.</b> Add lines 1a through 1e (Column (d) must equal Form 990, Part X, column (B), line 10(c).) . . . . .				21,692

**Part VII Investments—Other Securities.** Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' to Form 990, Part IV, line 11b. See Form 990, Part X, line 12.

(a) Description of security or category (including name of security)	(b) Book value	(c) Method of valuation Cost or end-of-year market value
(1) Financial derivatives		
(2) Closely-held equity interests		
Other		
<b>Total.</b> (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col (B) line 12)		

**Part VIII Investments—Program Related.** Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' to Form 990, Part IV, line 11c. See Form 990, Part X, line 13.

(a) Description of investment	(b) Book value	(c) Method of valuation Cost or end-of-year market value
<b>Total.</b> (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col (B) line 13)		

**Part IX Other Assets.** Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' to Form 990, Part IV, line 11d. See Form 990, Part X, line 15

(a) Description	(b) Book value
<b>Total.</b> (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col.(B) line 15.)	

**Part X Other Liabilities.** Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' to Form 990, Part IV, line 11e or 11f. See Form 990, Part X, line 25.

1 (a) Description of liability	(b) Book value
Federal income taxes	
<b>Total.</b> (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col (B) line 25)	

2. Liability for uncertain tax positions In Part XIII, provide the text of the footnote to the organization's financial statements that reports the organization's liability for uncertain tax positions under FIN 48 (ASC 740) Check here if the text of the footnote has been provided in Part XIII

**Part XI Reconciliation of Revenue per Audited Financial Statements With Revenue per Return** Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' to Form 990, Part IV, line 12a.

<b>1</b>	Total revenue, gains, and other support per audited financial statements . . . . .		<b>1</b>	
<b>2</b>	Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12			
<b>a</b>	Net unrealized gains on investments . . . . .	<b>2a</b>		
<b>b</b>	Donated services and use of facilities . . . . .	<b>2b</b>		
<b>c</b>	Recoveries of prior year grants . . . . .	<b>2c</b>		
<b>d</b>	Other (Describe in Part XIII ) . . . . .	<b>2d</b>		
<b>e</b>	Add lines <b>2a</b> through <b>2d</b> . . . . .		<b>2e</b>	
<b>3</b>	Subtract line <b>2e</b> from line <b>1</b> . . . . .		<b>3</b>	
<b>4</b>	Amounts included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, but not on line <b>1</b>			
<b>a</b>	Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b . . . . .	<b>4a</b>		
<b>b</b>	Other (Describe in Part XIII ) . . . . .	<b>4b</b>		
<b>c</b>	Add lines <b>4a</b> and <b>4b</b> . . . . .		<b>4c</b>	
<b>5</b>	Total revenue Add lines <b>3</b> and <b>4c</b> . (This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 12 ) . . . . .		<b>5</b>	

**Part XII Reconciliation of Expenses per Audited Financial Statements With Expenses per Return.** Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' to Form 990, Part IV, line 12a.

<b>1</b>	Total expenses and losses per audited financial statements . . . . .		<b>1</b>	
<b>2</b>	Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part IX, line 25			
<b>a</b>	Donated services and use of facilities . . . . .	<b>2a</b>		
<b>b</b>	Prior year adjustments . . . . .	<b>2b</b>		
<b>c</b>	Other losses . . . . .	<b>2c</b>		
<b>d</b>	Other (Describe in Part XIII ) . . . . .	<b>2d</b>		
<b>e</b>	Add lines <b>2a</b> through <b>2d</b> . . . . .		<b>2e</b>	
<b>3</b>	Subtract line <b>2e</b> from line <b>1</b> . . . . .		<b>3</b>	
<b>4</b>	Amounts included on Form 990, Part IX, line 25, but not on line <b>1</b> :			
<b>a</b>	Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b . . . . .	<b>4a</b>		
<b>b</b>	Other (Describe in Part XIII ) . . . . .	<b>4b</b>		
<b>c</b>	Add lines <b>4a</b> and <b>4b</b> . . . . .		<b>4c</b>	
<b>5</b>	Total expenses Add lines <b>3</b> and <b>4c</b> . (This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 18 ) . . . . .		<b>5</b>	

**Part XIII Supplemental Information**

Provide the descriptions required for Part II, lines 3, 5, and 9, Part III, lines 1a and 4, Part IV, lines 1b and 2b, Part V, line 4, Part X, line 2, Part XI, lines 2d and 4b, and Part XII, lines 2d and 4b Also complete this part to provide any additional information

Return Reference	Explanation



**SCHEDULE E**  
**(Form 990 or 990-EZ)**

# Schools

OMB No 1545-0047

# 2013

**Open to Public Inspection**

▶ **Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 13, or Form 990-EZ, Part VI, line 48.**  
▶ **Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.**

▶ **Information about Schedule E (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at [www.irs.gov/form990](http://www.irs.gov/form990).**

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization  
STEP ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL

**Employer identification number**

30-0562083

**Part I**

- 1** Does the organization have a racially nondiscriminatory policy toward students by statement in its charter, bylaws, other governing instrument, or in a resolution of its governing body?
- 2** Does the organization include a statement of its racially nondiscriminatory policy toward students in all its brochures, catalogues, and other written communications with the public dealing with student admissions, programs, and scholarships?
- 3** Has the organization publicized its racially nondiscriminatory policy through newspaper or broadcast media during the period of solicitation for students, or during the registration period if it has no solicitation program, in a way that makes the policy known to all parts of the general community it serves? If "Yes," please describe. If "No," please explain. If you need more space use Part II.

	YES	NO
<b>1</b>	Yes	
<b>2</b>	Yes	
<b>3</b>	Yes	

- 4** Does the organization maintain the following?
  - a** Records indicating the racial composition of the student body, faculty, and administrative staff?
  - b** Records documenting that scholarships and other financial assistance are awarded on a racially nondiscriminatory basis?
  - c** Copies of all catalogues, brochures, announcements, and other written communications to the public dealing with student admissions, programs, and scholarships?
  - d** Copies of all material used by the organization or on its behalf to solicit contributions?  
If you answered "No" to any of the above, please explain. If you need more space, use Part II.

<b>4a</b>	Yes	
<b>4b</b>	Yes	
<b>4c</b>	Yes	
<b>4d</b>	Yes	

- 5** Does the organization discriminate by race in any way with respect to
  - a** Students' rights or privileges?
  - b** Admissions policies?
  - c** Employment of faculty or administrative staff?
  - d** Scholarships or other financial assistance?
  - e** Educational policies?
  - f** Use of facilities?
  - g** Athletic programs?
  - h** Other extracurricular activities?  
If you answered "Yes" to any of the above, please explain. If you need more space, use Part II.

<b>5a</b>		No
<b>5b</b>		No
<b>5c</b>		No
<b>5d</b>		No
<b>5e</b>		No
<b>5f</b>		No
<b>5g</b>		No
<b>5h</b>		No

- 6a** Does the organization receive any financial aid or assistance from a governmental agency?
- b** Has the organization's right to such aid ever been revoked or suspended?

<b>6a</b>	Yes	
<b>6b</b>		No

- 7** Does the organization certify that it has complied with the applicable requirements of sections 4 01 through 4 05 of Rev Proc 75-50, 1975-2 C B 587, covering racial nondiscrimination? If "No," explain on Part II.

<b>7</b>	Yes	
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**Part III Supplemental Information.** Provide the explanations required by Part I, lines 3, 4d, 5h, 6b, and 7, as applicable. Also complete this part to provide any other additional information (see instructions).

Return Reference	Explanation
SCHEDULE E, LINE 3	DISTRIBUTED WITH ENROLLMENT APPLICATIONS
SCHEDULE E, LINE 6	RECEIVE FEDERAL AND STATE EDUCATION AID

**SCHEDULE O**  
**(Form 990 or 990-EZ)**

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

**Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ**

**Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on Form 990 or to provide any additional information.**

**▶ Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.**

**▶ Information about Schedule O (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at [www.irs.gov/form990](http://www.irs.gov/form990).**

OMB No 1545-0047

**2013**

**Open to Public Inspection**

Name of the organization  
STEP ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL

**Employer identification number**

30-0562083

**990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information**

Return Reference	Explanation
FORM 990 - ORGANIZATION'S MISSION	
FORM 990, PAGE 6, PART VI, LINE 11B	NO REVIEW WAS OR WILL BE CONDUCTED
FORM 990, PAGE 6, PART VI, LINE 12C	ANNUAL DISCLOSURE COMPLETED
FORM 990, PAGE 6, PART VI, LINE 19	NO DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC

Form **4562**  
 Department of the Treasury  
 Internal Revenue Service (99)

**Depreciation and Amortization**  
 (Including Information on Listed Property)

OMB No 1545-0172  
**2013**  
 Attachment  
 Sequence No **179**

▶ See separate instructions. ▶ Attach to your tax return.

Name(s) shown on return  
 STEP ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL

Business or activity to which this form relates  
 INDIRECT DEPRECIATION

**Identifying number**  
 30-0562083

**Part I Election To Expense Certain Property Under Section 179**  
*Note: If you have any listed property, complete Part V before you complete Part I.*

1	Maximum amount (see instructions)	1	500,000
2	Total cost of section 179 property placed in service (see instructions)	2	
3	Threshold cost of section 179 property before reduction in limitation (see instructions)	3	2,000,000
4	Reduction in limitation Subtract line 3 from line 2. If zero or less, enter -0-	4	
5	Dollar limitation for tax year Subtract line 4 from line 1. If zero or less, enter -0-. If married filing separately, see instructions	5	

6	(a) Description of property	(b) Cost (business use only)	(c) Elected cost
7	Listed property Enter the amount from line 29	7	
8	Total elected cost of section 179 property Add amounts in column (c), lines 6 and 7	8	
9	Tentative deduction Enter the smaller of line 5 or line 8	9	
10	Carryover of disallowed deduction from line 13 of your 2012 Form 4562	10	
11	Business income limitation Enter the smaller of business income (not less than zero) or line 5 (see instructions)	11	
12	Section 179 expense deduction Add lines 9 and 10, but do not enter more than line 11	12	
13	Carryover of disallowed deduction to 2014 Add lines 9 and 10, less line 12	13	

**Note: Do not use Part II or Part III below for listed property. Instead, use Part V.**

**Part II Special Depreciation Allowance and Other Depreciation (Do not include listed property.)** (See instructions.)

14	Special depreciation allowance for qualified property (other than listed property) placed in service during the tax year (see instructions)	14	
15	Property subject to section 168(f)(1) election	15	
16	Other depreciation (including ACRS)	16	5,323

**Part III MACRS Depreciation (Do not include listed property.)** (See instructions.)

**Section A**

17	MACRS deductions for assets placed in service in tax years beginning before 2013	17	
18	If you are electing to group any assets placed in service during the tax year into one or more general asset accounts, check here <input type="checkbox"/>		

**Section B—Assets Placed in Service During 2013 Tax Year Using the General Depreciation System**

(a) Classification of property	(b) Month and year placed in service	(c) Basis for depreciation (business/investment use only—see instructions)	(d) Recovery period	(e) Convention	(f) Method	(g) Depreciation deduction
19a 3-year property						
b 5-year property		11,563	5 0	HY	S/L	1,157
c 7-year property						
d 10-year property						
e 15-year property						
f 20-year property						
g 25-year property			25 yrs		S/L	
h Residential rental property			27 5 yrs	MM	S/L	
			27 5 yrs	MM	S/L	
i Nonresidential real property			39 yrs	MM	S/L	
				MM	S/L	

**Section C—Assets Placed in Service During 2013 Tax Year Using the Alternative Depreciation System**

20a Class life					S/L	
b 12-year			12 yrs		S/L	
c 40-year			40 yrs	MM	S/L	

**Part IV Summary** (see instructions.)

21	Listed property Enter amount from line 28	21	
22	<b>Total.</b> Add amounts from line 12, lines 14 through 17, lines 19 and 20 in column (g), and line 21. Enter here and on the appropriate lines of your return. Partnerships and S corporations—see instructions	22	6,480
23	For assets shown above and placed in service during the current year, enter the portion of the basis attributable to section 263A costs	23	

**Part V Listed Property** (Include automobiles, certain other vehicles, certain computers, and property used for entertainment, recreation, or amusement.)

**Note:** For any vehicle for which you are using the standard mileage rate or deducting lease expense, complete **only 24a, 24b, columns (a) through (c) of Section A, all of Section B, and Section C if applicable.**

**Section A—Depreciation and Other Information (Caution: See the instructions for limits for passenger automobiles.)**

24a Do you have evidence to support the business/investment use claimed? Yes No
24b If "Yes," is the evidence written? Yes No
(a) Type of property (list vehicles first)
(b) Date placed in service
(c) Business/investment use percentage
(d) Cost or other basis
(e) Basis for depreciation (business/investment use only)
(f) Recovery period
(g) Method/Convention
(h) Depreciation/deduction
(i) Elected section 179 cost
25 Special depreciation allowance for qualified listed property placed in service during the tax year and used more than 50% in a qualified business use (see instructions)
26 Property used more than 50% in a qualified business use
27 Property used 50% or less in a qualified business use
28 Add amounts in column (h), lines 25 through 27 Enter here and on line 21, page 1
29 Add amounts in column (i), line 26 Enter here and on line 7, page 1

**Section B—Information on Use of Vehicles**

Complete this section for vehicles used by a sole proprietor, partner, or other "more than 5% owner," or related person. If you provided vehicles to your employees, first answer the questions in Section C to see if you meet an exception to completing this section for those vehicles.

30 Total business/investment miles driven during the year (do not include commuting miles)
31 Total commuting miles driven during the year
32 Total other personal(noncommuting) miles driven
33 Total miles driven during the year Add lines 30 through 32
34 Was the vehicle available for personal use during off-duty hours?
35 Was the vehicle used primarily by a more than 5% owner or related person?
36 Is another vehicle available for personal use?
(a) Vehicle 1 (b) Vehicle 2 (c) Vehicle 3 (d) Vehicle 4 (e) Vehicle 5 (f) Vehicle 6
Yes No Yes No Yes No Yes No Yes No Yes No

**Section C—Questions for Employers Who Provide Vehicles for Use by Their Employees**

Answer these questions to determine if you meet an exception to completing Section B for vehicles used by employees who are not more than 5% owners or related persons (see instructions)

37 Do you maintain a written policy statement that prohibits all personal use of vehicles, including commuting, by your employees?
38 Do you maintain a written policy statement that prohibits personal use of vehicles, except commuting, by your employees? See the instructions for vehicles used by corporate officers, directors, or 1% or more owners
39 Do you treat all use of vehicles by employees as personal use?
40 Do you provide more than five vehicles to your employees, obtain information from your employees about the use of vehicles, and retain the information received?
41 Do you meet the requirements concerning qualified automobile demonstration use? (See instructions)
Note: If your answer to 37, 38, 39, 40, or 41 is "Yes," do not complete Section B for the covered vehicles

**Part VI Amortization**

(a) Description of costs (b) Date amortization begins (c) Amortizable amount (d) Code section (e) Amortization period or percentage (f) Amortization for this year
42 Amortization of costs that begins during your 2013 tax year (see instructions)
43 Amortization of costs that began before your 2013 tax year
44 Total. Add amounts in column (f) See the instructions for where to report