Expanding Opportunity Through Quality Charter Schools Program (CSP)

Grants to State Entities (CFDA Number: 84.282A)

Project Abstract

U.S. Department of Education, Office of Innovation & Improvement Charter Schools Program

State:

New Mexico

PR Award Number:

U282A170031

Duration (Years):

5 Years

Year 1 Funding:

\$3,031,665.00

Total Expected Funding:

\$22,507,805.00

Total Estimate of charter school support over lifetime:

15 new charter schools7 replication charter schools8 expansion charter schools

New Mexico Public Education Department:

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New Mexico Public Education Department

New Mexico requests five-year funding to achieve the purposes of the Charter Schools Program by increasing student achievement and the number of high-quality charter schools in the state, and improving the authorizing practices of charter school authorizers throughout the state.

Project Objectives: The New Mexico Charter Schools Program (NMCSP) has three primary objectives:

Objective 1: Improve the academic performance of the charter sector by creating 22 new high-quality charter schools and growing 8 high quality schools over the next 5 years.

Objective 2: Improve charter authorizing practices.

Objective 3: Improve the fiscal/audit and organizational performance of the charter school sector.

Contributions: Through this grant, NMCSP will increase the number of high-quality charter schools in New Mexico and strengthen the state's charter school sector through several parallel initiatives:

- supporting high-quality charter school development and growth through a competitive subgrant program for a) new charter school start up, b) high quality charter school replication, and c) high quality charter school expansion;
- building high-quality authorizing practices among the state's chartering agencies;
- strengthening charter school accountability by supporting the closure of academically poor performing charter schools; and
- disseminating best practices from successful charter schools to school districts, charter schools and developers, and other public schools throughout New Mexico.

NMCSP's competitive subgrant program will award subgrants only to eligible applicants that demonstrate the capacity to create, replicate or grow high-quality charter schools. The program will grant priority and preference for charter schools that are being used to turn around failing schools or diverse charter models and charters that serve rural communities.