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:

Oklahoma

PR Award Number:

U282A170021

Duration (Years):

5 Years

Year 1 Funding:

\$1,002,350.00

Total Expected Funding:

\$16,499,722.00

Total Estimate of charter school support over lifetime:

25 new, replication, or expansion charter schools

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Significant improvements to the Oklahoma Charter School Act in 2015 now allow for the expansion of charter schools statewide, and additional entities can serve as charter authorizers (OK State School Board, career techs, public universities, Native American tribes). Because of these changes, Oklahoma now has charters in both rural and urban communities, and the state is poised to continue improving the public education landscape through the expansion of quality charter schools. Oklahoma charters provide students with some of the most transformative and innovative educational options in the state and charter student outcomes are among the highest in our public education system. Yet for our growing student population, especially educationally disadvantaged students, we must create additional high-quality charter schools. Thus, the Oklahoma Public School Resource Center (OPSRC) is applying for the Charter School Program grant to achieve the following objectives:

Objective 1: Increase the number of high-quality charter schools in the state with an emphasis on those serving educationally disadvantaged students.

Objective 2: Improve student outcomes in Oklahoma charter schools, especially for educationally disadvantaged students.

Objective 3: Disseminate best practices to stakeholders statewide.

Over the next five years, Oklahoma CSP subgrants would provide critical funds to establish 25 high-quality charter schools across the state, providing our students with improved educational opportunities and further expanding the increasingly important role charters play in Oklahoma's public education system. We are asking for a total of \$16,499,722 to help us achieve these goals.