

**Applicant** **IDEA Public Schools**  
**PR Award #** U165A170044

**School District** **IDEA Public Schools**  
**City, State** Austin, Texas  
**Urbanicity** Urban

**Project Title/Name** IDEA Comprehensive Health Professions

**Contact Title** **Larkin Tackett**  
 VP of Community, Austin

Phone 512-657-9382  
 Fax None Listed  
 Email: larkin.tackett@ideapublicschools.org

**Grant Award Amount** **Total: \$ 14,999,444.00** over 5 years

- Year 1 \$ 1,432,895.00
- Year 2 \$ 3,084,064.00
- Year 3 \$ 3,445,174.00
- Year 4 \$ 3,523,264.00
- Year 5 \$ 3,514,047.00

School and Grades Served	Theme	Isolated and Targeted Minority/ies	Number of Students
IDEA Comprehensive Health Professions (PreK-12)	STEM for pre-K – 5th grade; Health professions for 6th – 12th grade	Minority groups	2,100

**Project Description:**

Several public school districts in major Texas cities operate health professions magnet high schools: Dallas, Houston, and San Antonio, among them. Houston also has a health professions magnet middle school. However, no charter management organization (CMO) in Texas currently operates an open-enrollment magnet school, no other health professions magnet school in Texas serves students from Pre-Kindergarten through grade 12, and no health professions magnet schools currently operate in the city of Austin. IDEA Public Schools, a high-performing, award-winning CMO will be the first to do all three.

IDEA Comprehensive Health Professions will be the first-ever health professions secondary school in the city of Austin and the first comprehensive public charter magnet school in the country focused on building a diverse STEM pipeline from pre-K-12 by gradually building knowledge and skills related to health professions, culminating in high school.

The Academy level (grades Pre-K through 5) will feature a STEM-focused program along with its rigorous foundational academic program. The College Preparatory level (grades 6 through 12) will feature a comprehensive health profession focus along with its rigorous AP for All academic program, which sees all IDEA students take 11 Advanced Placement course during their high school years. Although IDEA has been successfully sending 100% of its low-income students of color to college for the last 10 years, the time has come to create a school that reduces ethnic, racial, and economic isolation, and opens up new opportunities for all students in Austin, Texas.

Project Features: Three Austin foundations – the KLE Foundation, the Michael and Susan Dell Foundation, and the Roddy Holden Foundation – have pledged to contribute to IDEA’s magnet school proposal for a total of \$2.7MM in additional funding needed to improve the school site or a professional health sciences focus, signaling community buy-in and enthusiasm for this project; partnerships with the new University of Texas at Austin Dell Medical School, UT Austin School of Nursing, Seton Healthcare, the Michael and Susan Dell Foundation, and the National Math and Science Initiative; and committed Advisory Board members from several of these partnering organizations.

Students to be Served: IDEA Comprehensive Health Professions will open with approximately 500 students in grades Pre-K, K, 1, and 6 and will add an elementary and secondary grade each year until the school enrolls approximately 1,600 students in grades Pre-K through 12.

**Project Goals:**

1. Reduce minority group isolation.
2. Increase academic achievement in Reading/Language Arts.
3. Increase academic achievement in Mathematics.
4. Increase academic achievement in Science.
5. Increase the capacity and retention of core curriculum and comprehensive health professions teachers.