

FY 2018 Directory of Funded Programs:
Expanding Opportunity Through Quality Charter Schools Program (CSP)
National Dissemination Grants (CFDA Number: 84.282T)
Project Abstract

State:
Michigan

PR Award Number:
U282T180014

Duration (Years):
3 Years

Year 1 Funding:
\$797,239.00

Total Expected Funding:
\$2,208,335.00

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The National Charter Schools Institute (NCSI)

The National Charter School Institute proposes the "A-Game"- a project designed to strengthen authorizing, encourage innovation, and promote rigorous and personalized performance measures for evaluating charter schools, with a special focus on alternative schools. This project addresses *Absolute Priority 1 – Strengthening Charter School Authorizing and Oversight* and *Competitive Preference Priority 1 – Building Capacity in the Authorizing Process for Education Agencies with the Most Need*.

Project Goals:

1. Support authorizers of alternative schools with identifying, developing, and disseminating mission-critical performance measures that are credible, relevant, and rigorous for schools that serve students who are at extreme risk of school failure.
2. Encourage and assist authorizers in transforming their work from compliance-based, one-size fits-all approaches to more rigorous and personalized approaches that harness the power of technology and focus on ensuring all students are ultimately prepared for success in college, work, and life.
3. Disseminate and encourage strategies and practices that support the art and science of authorizing alternative charter schools, facilitate the replication and expansion of high-quality alternative charter schools, improve the performance measures found in alternative charter contracts, and share models of excellence with new and small authorizers, along with those that have a significant number of low performing schools.
4. Provide authorizers with better compliance and alternative school performance data that they can use to monitor and evaluate the academic, financial, operational performance of alternative schools and strengthen their decision making related to alternative charter renewals, expansions, and closures.

Expected Outcomes & Contributions:

Guided by a National Advisory Committee of respected thought leaders and doers, supported by a National Authorizer Leadership Team composed of experienced charter school authorizers, and staffed by a results-oriented Project Team, this project will have national significance through its extensive and multi-faceted dissemination plan, groundbreaking work on mission-related performance measures for alternative schools, and its robust system of supports for helping authorizers transform from compliance-based to performance-based agencies that serve as agents of change and innovation, forces for high-quality, and catalysts for scaling excellence.