**Grantee:**

Catalyst Academy Charter School

**PR Award Number:**

S282B190005

**Duration (Years):** 5

**Year 1 Funding:**

$405,530

**Total Expected Funding:**

$1,356,324

**Catalyst Academy Charter School:**

6401 Penn Avenue, 3rd Floor, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15206

**Catalyst Academy Charter School**

Catalyst Academy is a new college-preparatory K-8 public charter school in Pittsburgh, focused on serving families in Pittsburgh’s low-income East End communities. Catalyst Academy will open as a K-1 school in in the fall of 2020, and then grow by one grade each year to eventually serve grade levels kindergarten through 8th grade. Each grade will serve a maximum of 72 students. The total maximum enrollment in the 2024-25 school year will be 432, and by the 2027-28 school year (full K-8) the maximum enrollment will be 648.

Catalyst Academy is designed specifically to serve educationally disadvantaged students. The Catalyst Academy school model has six core elements designed to prepare all scholars, and especially educationally disadvantaged scholars, for college, career, and life: 1) high expectations; 2) strong relationships; 3) academic rigor; 4) quality instruction; 5) innovation and personalization; and 6) holistic scholar development. The elements will help Catalyst Academy meet their goals of 1) developing school leaders and teachers to create a rigorous, high-performing teaching and learning environment; 2) rigorously preparing students for college; and 3) developing students holistically.

Funding will support leadership staff, professional development, curriculum implementation plans, personalized learning and assessment plans, and family engagement and recruitment. The successful design, curriculum, and professional development plans of Catalyst Academy will be highly replicable across the nation for the development of other charter schools that seek to prioritize enrollment for high-need students.

This Catalyst Academy Charter School Implementation Grant will achieve the following outcomes: 1) 80% of teachers will increase the quality of their teaching pedagogy and content knowledge; 2) 90% of students will achieve at least three STEP levels of reading growth each year; 3) 75% of students will be proficient in English language arts and math as measured by curriculum assessments; 4) 80% of students will achieve on grade level within two years on the NWEA MAP Assessments; 5) 90% of student with IEPs will achieve 90% of their annual IEP goals; 6) 75% of limited English proficient students will be reclassified as Former Limited English Proficient; 7) 75% of students will demonstrate proficiency or mastery within the five social emotional learning domains, as defined by age-appropriate rubrics; and 8) 100% of students will receive holistic and rigorous learning opportunities across domains, including arts and physical education.