

**AppleTree Institute for Education Innovation  
Replicating High-Quality Charter Preschools**

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AppleTree Institute for Education Innovation, a novice applicant, will continue its successful 13-year record of expanding opportunities for racially and socioeconomically diverse preschool students, particularly traditionally underserved children by: (A) Building a strong foundation of kindergarten readiness for all children through (B) Creating 9 effective new charter preschools in the District of Columbia. AppleTree preschools earn Tier 1 (highest) or Tier 2 ratings serving a diverse enrollment of 1,300 students at 11 sites; 90% are economically disadvantaged. AppleTree's theory of action is to: (1) Create new high-quality AppleTree early-education charter schools, (2) Staff them with a high-quality workforce, and (3) Deliver powerful teaching and learning through *Every Child Ready*, an evidence-based integrated instructional model. The American Institutes for Research (AIR) will conduct an evaluation to answer the following questions:

- (1) To what extent do established AppleTree charter preschools continue to deliver a high-quality education program during the replication phase?
- (2) To what extent do replication AppleTree charter preschools deliver a high-quality education program, relative to established AppleTree preschools?
- (3) To what extent do AppleTree charter preschools in the replication group promote students' learning and development, relative to established AppleTree preschools at the end of the Pre-K3 and Pre-K4 year?
- (4) To what extent do AppleTree charter preschools (both established and replication) attenuate achievement gaps for key student subgroups at the end of the Pre-K3 and Pre-K4 year?
- (5) What are the challenges, successes, and lessons learned about replicating high quality AppleTree Charter preschools?