

**Success Academy Charter Schools** -- Charter Schools Program Grant  
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**Mission Possible: Securing Success for NYC Children**

Since opening its first charter school in Harlem in 2006, Success Academy (SA) has maintained an excellent track record for operational efficiency and high academic achievement among students of color, English Language Learners (ELLs), and special needs children alike. SA has reversed the achievement gap for thousands of children: 73% of its scholars qualify for free or reduced price lunch, and 92% are children of color. SA students have achieved tremendous academic success, ranking in the top of all schools in the city and state. On the 2018 state exams, 98% of SA scholars passed math, compared to 43% of NYC students, and 91% passed English Language Arts, compared with 47% of NYC kids. SA's ELL and special needs students outperformed their peers citywide by dramatic margins. SA students also benefit from a robust, engaging curriculum: science five days a week, chess, art, music, dance, and sports. They know the thrill of competing – and winning – chess and debate championships. They have met famous writers and journalists, chess grandmasters, and Olympic champions. Regardless of personal circumstances, they experience a world rich in art, music, theater, and dance. The vast majority of NYC public schools are failing to prepare students for college, especially low-income students and students of color, and there is therefore a great demand for SA schools. Determined to meet this need, SA operates 46 charter schools in NYC, serving 16,000 primarily low-income, minority students. SA requests CSP support to open and expand 1 high school, 1 middle, and 4 elementary schools and expand grades levels at 6 elementary and 4 middle schools over the next five years. With the help of this grant, SA will be able to serve a total of 3,222 scholars in those new and expanded grades.