

Applicant: IDEA Public Schools, 505 Angelita Suite 9, Weslaco, Texas 78599

Project Director: Sam Goessling, Chief Advancement Officer;
Samuel.Goessling@ideapublicschools.org; (956) 377-8000

Competitive Preference Priorities Addressed: 1b—IDEA Supports High-need Students in Schools That Need Improvement; and 2—IDEA Promotes Diversity;

Goals and outcomes: 1) Achieve college-ready student results; 2) Build a strong and sustainable organization; 3) Achieve the mission at scale.

Short-term outcomes include:

Student growth:

- An increase in percent of students who met or exceeded “student progress” measure as defined by the state;
- 90% of PK/K students end the year on or above grade level in reading;
- 90% of PK/K students end the year on or above grade level in language;
- 90% of PK/K students end the year on or above grade level in math.

Student achievement:

- 90% of students earn passing score on State standardized exams;
- 30% of students earn commended score on State standardized exams;
- Average ACT score of 21.25;
- 35% of graduates named AP Scholars (earn scores of 3+ on at least 3 AP exams).

College matriculation and college success:

- 100% of graduates accepted to a college or university;
- 99% of graduates matriculate to college/university;
- 35% of students graduate college in 4 years and 45% graduate in 6 years.

Long-term goals include: IDEA alumni return from top-tier universities and become leaders in their communities; With 116 schools, IDEA produces 1,400 college-bound graduates annually across Texas and Louisiana, creating an alumni pool of more than 8,200; Create transformational change for economically and educationally disadvantaged students and communities; IDEA alumni will earn approximated \$1M more over their lifetimes than their non-college going peers.

Invitational Priority Addressed: Contributions for research, policy, and practice-- The aim of the five-year evaluation study, undertaken in collaboration with Copia Consulting, LLC, is twofold: 1) to understand whether the supports in place for new schools are effective, and 2) to evaluate whether school model adaptations are done with fidelity. The evaluation will 1) describe the replication of the IDEA school model in new regions, specifically El Paso, Texas and Southeast (starting with Baton Rouge), Louisiana; 2) identify and compare strategic elements of the network’s expansion and sustainability with that of other regions; and 3) compare and contrast teacher and student retention and college readiness outcomes between regions.

Meeting the purpose of the CSP: This project will support 2 expansion schools in San Antonio and 16 replication schools in El Paso, TX and Baton Rouge/Southeast Louisiana, adding a total of 5,545 new high-quality charter school seats.