

Achievement First

Grantee:

Achievement First

PR Award Number:

S282M200021

Duration (Years): 5**Year 1 Funding:**

\$1,492,391

Total Expected Funding:

\$9,411,347

Achievement First:

370 James Street, Suite 404

New Haven, CT 06513

Absolute Priority Addressed: 2—Achievement First serves a **Low-Income Demographic** (Across our network, 79% of students qualify for free or reduced-price lunch.)

Competitive Preference Priorities Addressed:1— Achievement First will replicate and expand at least three (3) schools in **Qualified Opportunity Zones**; and 3— Achievement First will replicate three (3) schools serving grades 9-12 to serve additional **High School Students**.

Project Goals/Objectives: **1)** Provide an additional 3,375 students with access to high-quality educational opportunities that will assist them in realizing their academic potential and developing the skills needed to achieve their postsecondary goals, including entering and graduating from top colleges and obtaining successful careers; **2)** Demonstrate that educational achievement gaps that fall along racial, socioeconomic lines can be closed at district scale by serving over 17,370 students in 45 schools by the 2024-25 school year.

Project Outcomes: **1)** Achievement First students — including those who qualify for free or reduced-price lunch, special education services or are English Language Learners (ELL) — will outperform their peers in host districts as measured by their ability to meet or exceed challenging academic standards on State assessments; **2)** 100% of our high school graduates will earn college acceptances; **3)** Our high school graduates will graduate from college at a rate that is six (6) times higher than their peers; **4)** Our schools demonstrate quality as measured by 96% student attendance, 90% student retention, 80% teacher retention and a waitlist of students; **5)** our school operations are sustainable and adhere to the highest budgetary and fiscal management standards.

Project Contributions: Over the past 20 years, Achievement First has demonstrated success by expanding from one (1) public charter school to a charter management organization operating 37 high-performing public charter schools serving 14,000 students across Connecticut, New York and Rhode Island. Additionally, we have raised achievement levels of all students, including educationally disadvantaged students, to meet or exceed state performance standards at per-pupil costs equal to or less than the host district. This project would support the replication of eight (8) schools and the expansion of four (4) schools to increase high-quality educational options for 4,161 students in New York and Rhode Island. Beyond our students, our impact extends to other charter management organizations and districts, with whom we partner to: (a) help strengthen student achievement outcomes and scale effectively; and (b) adopt Achievement First's nationally-recognized curriculum and build their instructional capacity to deliver it effectively and successfully. In addition, our open source website provides external educators and organizations with free access to our academic and operational resources so that they may leverage materials that best suit their instructional programs. Furthermore, AF partners with reform-oriented organizations to inform district- and state-wide education reform efforts.