

FY 2020 Expanding Opportunity Through Quality Charter Schools Program (CSP)
Grants to State Entities (CFDA Number: 84.282A)
Project Abstract

New Jersey Public Charter Schools Association A NJ Nonprofit

State:

New Jersey

PR Award Number:

S282A200020

Duration (Years): 5

Year 1 Funding:

\$13,878,540.00

Total Expected Funding:

\$63,232,945.00

**New Jersey Public Charter
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The New Jersey Public Charter Schools Association (NJPCSA) is a membership organization and the statewide advocacy voice for New Jersey's 88 public charter schools and the 54,587 students that they educate. New Jersey's 88 public charter schools operate in 40 cities and in 18 of the State's 21 counties. A vast majority of public charter school students attend schools in urban communities including Newark, Trenton, Paterson, Camden, Jersey City, and Plainfield. The Association's policy priorities include equitable per pupil funding, facilities funding, and more freedom to innovate so that public charter schools can best meet the needs of their students.

New Jersey's public charter schools provide opportunities to low-income students of color. With urban charter school students routinely outperforming their peers at traditional public schools, and with rigorous research from the country's leading educational economists confirming the benefits of enrollment, demand for high-quality seats continues to go unmet. Under the guidance of NJPCSA, Project Cultivate 38 will catalyze the growth of high-quality charter school options across New Jersey by encouraging high-quality operators to move forward with preapproved growth plans and by incentivizing more applicants to apply for new charters.

NJPCSA will administer a high-quality sub-grant program that supports 38 new, expanding, and/or replication schools over a five-year period. With nearly 55,000 students currently attending 88 charter school LEAs, these 38 grant-funded campuses could easily add more

than 14,000 high-quality seats. The project will accomplish two overriding objectives: (1) an increase in the number of high-quality charter schools statewide, with a particular focus on Abbott districts, and (2) an increase in the overall quality of the State's charter school sector.

Project Cultivate 38 is supported by federal and state officials, municipal executives, charter operators, local and national partner organizations, and leaders from across the State's philanthropic, civic, and business communities. In partnership with the Community Training and Assistance Center and the National Center for Special Education in Charter Schools, NJPCSA will oversee the technical assistance, dissemination, and evaluation activities that will strengthen New Jersey's already-robust cross-sector collaboration. By addressing all seven Competitive Preference Priorities, Project Cultivate 38 has the potential to dramatically increase the charter footprint in New Jersey and to change the life trajectories of thousands of Garden State students.