

**Grantee Name:**

Helix Community Schools

**Grant Award Number:**

S282B230013

**ALN:**

84.282B – Opening a New Charter School

**State:**

Louisiana

**Project Duration:**

3 Years

**Year 1 Funding:**

\$400,000

**Total Expected Funding:**

\$1,199,692

**Grantee Address:**339 Florida Street  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana  
70807**Project Director Name:**

Ne'Shira Millender

**Project Director Email:**[neshira.millender@helixcommunitieschools.org](mailto:neshira.millender@helixcommunitieschools.org)

## Helix Community Schools

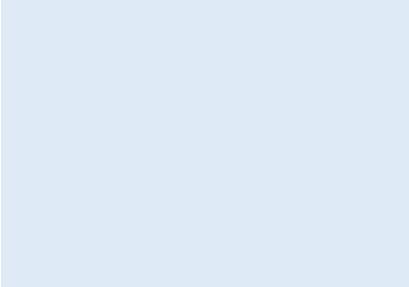
### *Opening of Helix Legal Academy*

Helix Community Schools (Helix) is a homegrown network of innovative, career-focused public schools located in Baton Rouge and seeks funding to support the recent opening of Helix Legal Academy (HLA or the Legal Academy), to serve grades 6-8, providing students with early exposure to the legal industry. HLA launched in the Fall of 2021 with a sixth-grade class with the plan to add one grade per year, reaching a full 6-8 middle school by the 2023-2024 school year.

HLA is a unique educational institution that combines a legal focus with STEAM education for students in grades 6 through 8. Entering its third year of operation, HLA is still within the crucial early stages of operation. This grant project aims to provide the necessary resources for its continued expansion and to further support the Academy's growth and sustainability. Specifically, the grant funding will be utilized to launch the 8th grade, completing the middle school offering and solidifying the Legal Academy as a comprehensive 6th-8th grade institution. Securing this grant funding is crucial to ensure the Legal Academy's continued success and its ability to provide exceptional educational opportunities for students within the critical first five years of operation. The proposed expansion and enhancement plans will further solidify the Academy's foundation, enabling it to continue empowering students and creating a nurturing environment that fosters civic engagement and critical thinking. By supporting the Legal Academy's growth, this grant will have a profound and lasting impact on the educational journey of its students and the communities they serve.

The **project objectives** are as follows:

- **Objective #1:** Increase teacher retention and the percentage of teachers showing growth and receiving highly effective ratings on observations.
- **Objective #2:** Helix students will meet growth and proficiency goals on End of Year assessments.
- **Objective #3:** Helix will meet annual enrollment targets.

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- **Objective #4:** Train Board members on governance and provide technical assistance in developing operational protocols and keyboard policies.

**Competition Priorities Addressed: *Competitive Preference Priority*** – Promoting High-Quality Educator- and Community-Centered Charter Schools to Support Underserved Students.