

**Grant Award Number:**  
S282D240004

**State or Territory:**  
California

**Duration:**  
4 Years

**Year 1 Funding:**  
\$525,000

**Total Expected Funding:**  
\$1,500,000

**Year 1 Cost Sharing/  
Matching:**  
\$168,041

**Address:**  
300 South Spring Street,  
Suite 8500 South Tower  
Los Angeles, California  
90013-1230

**Project Director:**  
Katrina Johantgen

**Project Director Email:**  
KJohantgen@treasurer.ca.gov

## **California School Finance Authority**

### ***State Charter School Facilities Incentive Grants Program***

Through its demonstrated success in administering a broad portfolio of charter school facilities financing programs, including its current State Charter School Facilities Incentive Grants Program ("Program") since 2004, the California School Finance Authority ("CSFA") has the experience, infrastructure, and regulatory and statutory authority to implement a new Program award. Since the creation of CSFA through enabling legislation in 1985, (the CSFA Act and subsequent amendments) CSFA has employed its portfolio of grant, loan, and bond financing programs, to promote access to charter school facilities financing, growth of charter schools overall in California, and targeting of high performing charter schools having the most need in communities such as Qualified Opportunity Zones.

The Program set forth by CSFA is designed to increase access to affordable and adequate school facilities to continue the significant investment California has made to successful charter schools. The Program's design, timeline, goals, and intentions have been set forth with measurable objectives, including state-funded grant and loan programs to match federal grants (e.g., a projected \$535 million in state SB 740 funds over the next three years compared to the \$30 million in requested federal grant funds). The quality of the Program is evidenced by CSFA's significant track record: since 2004, CSFA has completed fifteen funding rounds resulting in total awards of \$144 million to 447 charter schools, serving more than 160,000 students. Our success in administering the Program demonstrates the quality of Program design to significantly address the facility needs of California's charter schools.

CSFA is in a unique position to accelerate and enhance the Incentive Grants Program's performance with a new award because of its existing regulatory framework (including a streamlined means for swift amendments to program procedures), strong partnerships with charter school stakeholders and a proven process to attract and evaluate high quality charter school applicants. Even as CSFA will be promoting the overall growth of high performing charter schools throughout California, CSFA also will be able to promote better access to affordable school facilities in geographic areas that have been designated as Qualified Opportunity Zones.

The unsurpassed charter school expertise allows CSFA to carry out project activities amidst the continued enrollment growth experienced by California charter schools. The support of the State Treasurer's Office's resources for accounting, legal and administrative services, CSFA's own

financial stability, and California's strong conflict of interest laws allow CSFA to craft sound and fiscally responsible programs based on the specific needs of CSFA's constituents. Additionally, the CSFA Board has shown consistent support of CSFA's efforts relating to improving access to low-cost financing options for charter school facilities.

Since its first federal incentive grant award in 2004, the CSFA Board, staff, counsel and consulting partners have worked diligently to ensure grants and other funds reach high quality California charter schools. CSFA's team has unmatched experience and expertise in creating and implementing new programs and disbursing funds through multiple federal and state funding programs. CSFA will continue its success and collaborate with charter school stakeholders and their advocates to ensure the successful implementation of the Program.

**Competitive Preference Priority (CPP) Addressed:**

**Objective #1:** Promote access to charter school facilities financing.

**Objective #2:** Promote the overall growth of high performing charter schools throughout California.

**Objective #3:** Promote better access to affordable school facilities in geographic areas designated as Qualified Opportunity Zones.