

# Rhode Island Department of Education

## *Rhode Island Charter Schools Program (RICSP)*

According to a 2023 study by the Center for Research on Education Outcomes, Rhode Island charter schools provide the largest learning gains in the country when compared to their traditional public school counterparts. Due to the positive impact of charter schools, demand from families significantly outpaces the available supply. For the 2024-25 school year, families submitted 32,403 charter applications for 2,942 available seats. RICSP will help address this demand by providing \$14,300,000 of federal funds to ensure students, regardless of zip code or socioeconomic status, have access to a high-quality education. The RICSP will accomplish the following objectives:

**Objective #1:** Increase the number of high-quality educational opportunities for Rhode Island's most educationally disadvantaged students.

**Objective #2:** Improve the quality and efficiency of the Rhode Island Department of Education as Rhode Island's sole charter school authorizer, thereby enabling the state's charters to better focus on student achievement and reducing barriers for Rhode Island charters to increase the number of high-quality educational opportunities.

**Objective #3:** Foster partnerships among charter schools and traditional school districts to raise achievement for all students, particularly for educationally disadvantaged students.

**Objective #4:** Partner with Build Excel Sustain (formerly Building Excellent Schools) to enhance school leadership in Rhode Island's new, expanding, and existing charter schools, thereby improving educational outcomes for all students. Additionally, Rhode Island aims to serve as a national leader by prioritizing the Secretary's Invitational Priority of promoting collaboration between charter schools and traditional public schools or districts that benefit students and families across schools.

**State:**

Rhode Island

**PR Award Number:**

S282A240008

**Duration (Years):**

5 Years

**Year 1 Funding:**

\$1,760,000

**Total Expected Funding:**

\$14,300,000

**Number of Subgrants:**

9

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