

## Abstract

*Keys to Quality* closely aligns to the purpose of the State Incentive Grants Program by enhancing an existing per-pupil facilities aid program for charter schools. Charter schools do not have the same access to funding options for facilities as traditional public school districts; *Keys to Quality* stands to improve equitable access to facilities and benefit Indiana's high need schools and students. The main objective of *Keys to Quality* is to improve charter school facilities, which will encourage improved learning environments and student outcomes. As such, we will measure the extent that high-quality facilities improve educational outcomes, such as improved learning environments, student engagement, attendance and discipline rates, improved teacher retention, among other academic outcomes.

The following three objectives will meet this overarching goal: (1) Increase the number of high quality charter school facilities statewide; (2) Support charter school grantees to be academically successful, and (3) Prepare and support charter schools to serve diverse populations and close the achievement gap between subgroups.

In order to achieve these objectives, this proposal includes a variety of technical assistance tools and supports for all stakeholders in Indiana's charter sector to increase local capacity to secure facilities funding. Supports will need to be vertically aligned to make sure that all stakeholders build their capacity to support charter schools in securing adequate facilities.

An evaluative approach will be infused into the grant implementation process. Evaluation activities will collect data from the school to the state level. This approach will be vital to measuring the impact of high-quality facilities on student achievement and ensure data-driven grant administration and continuous improvement to ensure the proposed objectives are met.