

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

Pennsylvania Coalition of Public Charter Schools

State:

Pennsylvania

PR Award Number:

S282A200005

Duration (Years): 5

Year 1 Funding:

\$3,666,667.00

Total Expected Funding:

\$30,000,000.00

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Pennsylvania has one of America's most mature, diverse, and effective public charter school landscapes. Research and evaluation findings consistently demonstrate that Pennsylvania's charter sector not only serves disproportionate numbers of economically and educationally disadvantaged students but also provides them with reliably superior access to outstanding public school opportunities. Over the span of more than two decades, students from historically marginalized and disenfranchised subgroups have narrowed persistent performance gaps while attending Pennsylvania charter schools.

Pennsylvania Coalition of Public Charter Schools' theory of action is rooted in a logic model that demonstrates how leveraging and aligning key resources — including the human capital within the Pennsylvania Coalition of Public Charter Schools and partner organizations Charter Choices and the Community Training and Assistance Center, high-capacity charter school operators and authorizers, CSP funding, parental demand and community support, and the broader policy environment — will build on this lengthy track record by catalyzing the growth of high-quality, brick-and-mortar charter schools.

Pennsylvania's CSP project ("PACSP") will promote two overriding outcomes: (1) increasing the number of high-quality charter schools that educate substantial at-risk student populations, and (2) improving student outcomes in Pennsylvania charter schools, particularly for at-risk students. Each objective is supported by ambitious and attainable performance measures that are clearly related to the intended project outcomes and include both qualitative and quantitative indicators that are specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and timely.

Goal 1.1: Open, expand, or replicate at least 18 high-quality public charter schools by 2025.

Goal 1.2: Increase the percentage of economically disadvantaged students attending high-quality public charter schools by 3.0 percentage points over the next five years.

Goal 1.3: Increase the percentage of Black students attending high-quality public charter schools by 5.0 percentage points over the next five years.

Goal 1.4: Increase the percentage of Hispanic students attending high-quality public charter schools by 2.0 percentage points over the next five years.

Goal 2.1: Improve overall student outcomes in Pennsylvania brick-and-mortar charter schools by 2.8 percentage points by 2025.

Goal 2.2: Improve economically disadvantaged student outcomes in Pennsylvania charter schools by 1.9 percentage points by 2025.

Goal 2.3: Improve Black student outcomes in Pennsylvania charter schools by 2.6 percentage points by 2025.

Goal 2.4: Improve Hispanic student outcomes in Pennsylvania charter schools by 3.6 percentage points by 2025.

The PACSP project will address Competitive Preference Priorities 1–7.