

Mississippi First, Inc.

Doubling Mississippi's High-Quality Charter School Sector in Five Years

Mississippi First proposes a five-year, \$19,333,333 CSP grant that will meet four ambitious but attainable objectives and aligned activities and performance measures to support new and replicating high-quality charter schools in Mississippi. These objectives, activities, and performance measures are as follows:

Objective #1: Double the number of approved charter schools in the state from a baseline of 9 in 2022 to at least 19 by 2027—10 new schools in five years. Activities include providing technical assistance (TA) to developers seeking authorization and improving authorizer oversight and providing authorizer TA.

Objective #2: Provide at least 12 CSP subgrants by 2027. Activities include operating subgrant competitions, providing TA to subgrantees, monitoring subgrantees, and soliciting and considering parent and community member input.

Objective #3: Support using charter schools to increase educational opportunity and equity for students with no access to high-quality schools. Activities include prioritizing certain charter school models (e.g., rural schools) and providing specialized TA pre- and post – authorization to high schools.

Objective #4: Encourage charter-district collaboration to increase the use of best practices in alleviating the educator shortage. The main activity for this objective is to create a community of practice to discuss and implement best practices in educator recruitment and retention.

Through this grant application, Mississippi First expects to support 12 schools serving approximately 6,000 at full enrollment and at least 3,600 students by each school's third operating year. Mississippi First will meet the Absolute Priority as well as Competitive Preference Priorities 1-2 and 4-5, as described in the Notice Inviting Applications (NIA).

State:

Mississippi

PR Award Number:

S282A220001

Duration (Years):

5 Years

Year 1 Funding:

\$4,333,333.00

Total Expected Funding:

\$19,333,333.00

Number of Subgrants:

12

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