



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
OFFICE OF LEGISLATION AND CONGRESSIONAL AFFAIRS

Reference Grant Award Number: #U282A160005  
LOUISIANA

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION has been selected to receive funding under the PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS PROGRAM (84.282A). This grant will be in the amount of \$1,889,650.00 for the first budget period (03/15/2016 through 03/14/2017). It is anticipated that the grant will be for a total of 3 year(s). Please see the attached abstract for a brief description of the activities that will be funded under this grant.

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**Purpose of the Program PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS**

The purpose of the Charter Schools Program (CSP) is to increase national understanding of the charter school model and to expand the number of high-quality charter schools available to students across the Nation by providing financial assistance for the planning, program design, and initial implementation of charter schools; evaluating the effects of charter schools, including the effects on students, student academic achievement, staff, and parents; and disseminating information about charter schools and successful practices in charter schools. All SEA eligible applicants applied for grant funds under CFDA No. 84.282A.

## LOUISIANA

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### **Abstract: Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) – Application for Charter School Program for State Educational Agencies Grant Funds**

Louisiana charter schools have played a critical role in improving educational outcomes for over 70,000 students throughout the state. Nowhere has the impact of charter school be more prevalent then the city of New Orleans. 10 years after the devastation of Hurricane Katrina, charter schools have significantly helped improve the educational outcomes for students in New Orleans, with the state-run Recovery School District now serving as both a model for school transformation and the nation's first 100% all-charter district.

Louisiana seeks to leverage this Charter School Program (CSP) grant to build upon the tremendous success of charter schools in Louisiana and increase the national understanding of the charter school model by continuing to foster the growth of high-quality charter schools across our state. Through this grant the LDOE will: 1) increase the number of high-quality charter authorizer agencies in Louisiana; 2) directly increase the number of high-quality charter schools; and, 3) improve student performance for educationally disadvantaged students served by Louisiana charter schools. The LDOE will accomplish these objectives by supporting the launch of 30 new high-quality charter schools over the 3-year grant period, conducting workshops on authorizer best-practices to Non-SEA authorizers, and encouraging the dissemination of best practices from high-quality schools to both: a) increase student achievement for educationally disadvantaged students; and, b) assist prospective charter developers who may go on to launch new high-quality charter schools of their own. The LDOE has established ambitious performance measures and a comprehensive management plan that will enable the LDOE to efficiently administer the grant and evaluate its success towards accomplishing the grant's objectives.