

Expanding Opportunity Through Quality Charter Schools Program (CSP)  
Grants to State Entities  
(CFDA Number: 84.282A)  
Project Abstract  
U.S. Department of Education, Office of Innovation & Improvement  
Charter Schools Program

**State:**  
Maryland

**PR Award Number:**  
U282A170022

**Duration (Years):**  
5 Years

**Year 1 Funding:**  
\$1,828,738.00

**Total Expected Funding:**  
\$17,222,222.00

**Total Estimate of charter school support over lifetime:**  
21 new, replication, and expansion charter schools

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## Maryland State Department of Education

*The Maryland Charter School Program: Create – Strengthen – Share*

The Maryland Charter School Program (CSP) will support, grow and sustain the Maryland public charter school sector so that it will continue to provide high quality education options for Maryland families; deliver strong outcomes for disadvantaged students; and contribute to the success of Maryland's Public School Systems. Maryland will:

### **Create.**

- Award 21 grants leading to new, replicated and expanded charter schools increasing the number of schools and the number of students served by over one-third.

### **Strengthen.**

- Align authorizing with national best practices.
- Provide technical assistance to subgrant applicants, authorizers, and existing charter schools.
- Promote collaborative technical assistance and professional development among charter schools; and between charter and traditional schools.
- Create the Charter School Advisory Group to oversee the work and advance policy changes.

### **Share.**

- Publish performance reports for charter schools and authorizers.
- Disseminate best practices across charter and traditional sectors.
- Host a statewide practitioner conference serving the charter schools and including colleagues from traditional schools.

Maryland's 49 public charter schools, operate in urban, suburban and rural areas of the State. Of these, 39 of 49 (80 percent) were created with CSP funding. Growth has slowed. Twenty thousand students are enrolled in charter schools and 20,000 unduplicated students are on charter school waiting lists. The Maryland Charter School Program will meet the need for charter school growth and improve the policy environment in Maryland.