

**Topical Heading**

School Improvement

**Program Title**

# Charter Schools Program

**Also Known as**

Charter Schools; Public Charter Schools Program; CSP

**CFDA # (or ED #)**

84.282

**Administering Office**

Office of Innovation and Improvement (OII)

**Who May Apply (by category)**

State Education Agencies (SEAs)

**Who May Apply (specifically)**

State education agencies (SEAs) in states with a state statute specifically authorizing the establishment of charter schools may apply and charter school developers may apply.

Note: Non-SEA eligible applicants (i.e., developers) in states in which the SEA elects not to participate in or does not have an application approved under the Charter Schools Program (CSP) may apply for funding directly from the U.S. Department of Education. The Department plans to hold separate competitions for non-SEA eligible applicants under # 84.282B and # 84.282C.

**Current Competitions**

FY 2008 application deadline for # 84.282A: Feb. 1, 2008; FY 2008 estimated application deadline for # 84.282B and # 84.282C: July 16, 2008.

**Type of Assistance (by category)**

Discretionary/Competitive Grants

**Appropriations**

Fiscal Year 2006 \$200,000,000

Fiscal Year 2007 \$200,000,000

Fiscal Year 2008 \$190,000,000

Note: The FY 2008 appropriation permits the secretary to use, from the amount appropriated for the CSP grants, up to \$24,783,000 for State Charter Schools Facilities Incentive Grants program (see # 84.282D, also under topical heading "School Improvement") and Credit Enhancement for Charter School Facilities Program (see # 84.354A, also under topical heading "School Improvement"). From the \$211,031,000 charter school programs appropriations for FY 2008, the Department will use approximately \$190,000,000 for the CSP (including national activities), \$12,731,000 for Charter School Facilities Incentive Grants program, and \$8,300,000 for the Credit Enhancement for Charter Schools Facilities program.

**Fiscal Year 2008 Awards Information**

*Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this Guide.*

Number of New Awards Anticipated: 10–12 for SEAs; 20–25 for non-SEAs

Average New Award: \$5,000,000 for SEAs; \$150,000 for non-SEAs

Range of New Awards: \$500,000–\$20,000,000 for SEAs; \$10,000–\$150,000 for non-SEAs

Number of Continuation Awards: 41

Average Continuation Award: \$5,410,000 for SEAs; \$137,342 for non-SEAs

**Legislative Citation**

*Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended, Title V, Part B, Subpart 1*

**Program Regulations***EDGAR***Program Description**

This program provides financial assistance for the planning, program design, and initial implementation of charter schools, and the dissemination of information on charter schools. Grants are available, on a competitive basis, to SEAs in states that have charter school laws; SEAs, in turn, make subgrants to developers of charter schools who have applied for a charter. If an eligible SEA elects not to participate or if its application for funding is not approved, the Department can make grants directly to charter school developers.

**Types of Projects**

An eligible applicant that receives a grant or subgrant may use the funds only for post-award planning and design of the education program of a charter school. It may carry out such activities as the refinement of desired education results, refinement of methods for measuring progress toward achieving those results, and the initial implementation of the charter school. Implementation may include informing the community about the charter school and acquiring necessary equipment, materials, and supplies. Other eligible operational costs that cannot be met by state and local sources also may be covered. A state may reserve up to 10 percent of its allocation to support eligible charter schools for dissemination activities.

**Education Level (by category)**

K-12

**Subject Index**

Charter Schools, Community Involvement, Parent Participation, School Choice

**Contact Information**

Name	Dean Kern
E-mail Address	Dean.Kern@ed.gov
Mailing Address	U.S. Department of Education, OII Lyndon Baines Johnson Department of Education Building 400 Maryland Ave. S.W, Rm. 4W227 Washington, DC 20202-6140
Telephone	202-260-1882
Fax	202-205-5630

**Links to Related Web Sites**

<http://www.ed.gov/programs/charter/index.html>