

DC Preparatory Academy

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Abstract

DC Prep is a CMO committed to bridging the education divide in the nation's capital by increasing the number of students from low-income communities with the academic preparation and personal character to succeed in competitive high schools and colleges. DC Prep was founded in 2003 and now operates three schools, enrolling more than 1,000 students in preschool– 8th grade. Ninety-eight percent of students are African-American; over 80% are low-income. DC Prep has demonstrated uncommon success and its students are far outpacing their peers in regular public schools. In 2011, for the second consecutive year, DC Prep had the highest performing middle school in Washington for low-income students.

Over the next five years DC Prep will grow to seven schools and at capacity serve more than 2,500 preschool – 8th grade students in Wards 5, 7, and 8, areas of Washington with the highest concentrations of low-income families and the fewest educational options. DC Prep seeks \$3.0M from the Charter Schools Program for Replication and Expansion to support this growth over the next five years. Specifically we seek funding:

- to ensure that each Founding School Leader and her/his team have the requisite skills, experience, and support to successfully launch and operate a high-performing school;
- to recruit, develop, and support a cadre of outstanding school leaders and teachers able to implement the DC Prep Educational Model with fidelity and success; and
- to implement effective outreach strategies to familiarize parents and students in neighborhoods identified for expansion, about DC Prep and its results for students.

DC Prep is committed to the successful launch of four new campuses and to achieving results at each new school that are comparable to the outcomes for students at DC Prep's existing campuses.