Abstract

Aspire Public Schools
Charter Schools Program- Replication and Expansion of High-Quality Charter Schools

Aspire Public Schools (Aspire), a nonprofit Charter Management Organization, is requesting $8,183,800 through a CSP Replication and Expansion Grant to increase the number of students it serves in the state of Tennessee. As California’s highest-performing large public school system serving a student population that is at least two-thirds low income, Aspire has demonstrated its record of success to increase academic achievement for all students, and intends to meet the purpose of the CSP grant by meeting the following goals, objectives, and outcomes.

Goal 1: Replication. Aspire will open seven high-quality charter schools in Tennessee and expand three existing schools in Memphis in the five years of the CSP grant to serve more educationally disadvantaged students.

Objective 1: Aspire will ensure that it has the legal and statutory ability to replicate.
  • Outcome 1: Aspire will ensure that 3,900+ low-income students have access to a high-quality educational experience in Tennessee.
  • Outcome 2: Ten Aspire schools in Tennessee will be financially secure and sustainable, as documented by annual budgets, chartering district reports, and CPA audits.
  • Outcome 3: Seven new PK-8 Aspire schools will be opened and three existing schools will be expanded in Tennessee.

Goal 2: Fidelity to Model. The Aspire schools opened and expanded in Tennessee will be designed to replicate the proven success of Aspire existing schools.

Objective 1: All students will have access to a high quality education, characterized by (1) high standards and clear learning goals, (2) a balanced curriculum, (3) a variety of research-based teaching strategies, (4) educator support, (5) rigorous assessment, (6) individualized student support, and (7) extra learning time. Success in this objective will be indicated by:
  • Outcome 1: 10% more students scoring proficient or advanced each year after the baseline year, based on state assessments.
  • Outcome 2: 80% of students meeting annual growth goals on district assessments.
  • Outcome 3: 95% of students attending school daily.
  • Outcome 4: 80% of teachers scoring ‘high’ or ‘highest’ proficiency.

Objective 2: All students will attend a school with a robust culture and climate of success, created by strong design features, intervention for students struggling with behavior, and strong relationships with family and community. Sense of community will be measured by:
  • Outcome 1: 80% parent satisfaction with their student’s education.
  • Outcome 2: 80% student satisfaction with their school’s culture and climate.
  • Outcome 3: Less than 3% rate of expulsion.

Applicant Information
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