

DC Office of the State Superintendent of Education

OSSE
810 First Street, NE
9th Floor
Washington, DC 20002

Project Director

Stefan Huh
OSSE
Phone: 202.724.7803
E-mail: stefan.huh@dc.gov

Public charter schools in the District of Columbia educate 38 percent of public schools children. The first public charter schools in the District of Columbia enrolled 160 students in 1996. Today, approximately 28,000 students are enrolled at 99 public charter school campuses. The growth of public charter schools in the District of Columbia has helped improve student achievement, provide quality public school options for parents, establish innovative educational practices, measure student and school performance, and allow parents the opportunity to be meaningfully involved in their child's education.

The purpose of this grant is multifaceted and relates to the sustained effort that the District of Columbia places on the development and support of high-quality public schools. The project objectives of this grant are to: (1) increase the number of high-quality public charter schools in the District of Columbia; (2) improve academic achievement of public charter school students; (3) promote the dissemination of effective practices from public charter schools that have demonstrated success in increasing student achievement among public charter schools and other public schools; and (4) support public charter schools to be operationally sound for long-term sustainability and effective stewards of public resources. The ultimate outcome of these project objectives is to increase student achievement through high-quality public charter schools.

OSSE is requesting a waiver to extend the grant period from three to five years to provide flexibility in accomplishing the project objectives. OSSE is requesting approximately \$3 million for each year of the five year grant period, for a total amount of almost \$17 million. These funds will enable OSSE to meet or exceed each of the four enumerated project objectives.