

U.S. Department of Education

Washington, D.C. 20202-5335



APPLICATION FOR GRANTS UNDER THE

**CHARTER SCHOOLS PROGRAM STATE EDUCATIONAL AGENCY
CFDA # 84.282A
PR/Award # U282A100006**

OMB No. 1894-0006, Expiration Date:
Closing Date: MAY 07, 2010

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This application was generated using the PDF functionality. The PDF functionality automatically numbers the pages in this application. Some pages/sections of this application may contain 2 sets of page numbers, one set created by the applicant and the other set created by e-Application's PDF functionality. Page numbers created by the e-Application PDF functionality will be preceded by the letter e (for example, e1, e2, e3, etc.).

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424		Version 02	
* 1. Type of Submission		* 2. Type of Application: * If Revision, select appropriate letter(s):	
<input type="checkbox"/> Preapplication		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Application		<input type="checkbox"/> Continuation * Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Changed/Corrected Application		<input type="checkbox"/> Revision	
* 3. Date Received:		4. Applicant Identifier:	
5/6/2010			
5a. Federal Entity Identifier:		* 5b. Federal Award Identifier:	
		N/A	
State Use Only:			
6. Date Received by State:		7. State Application Identifier:	
8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:			
* a. Legal Name: Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education			
* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN):		* c. Organizational DUNS:	
446000987		093746923	
d. Address:			
* Street1:		P.O. Box 480	
Street2:		205 Jefferson Street	
* City:		Jefferson City	
County:		Cole	
State:		MO	
Province:			
* Country:		USA	
* Zip / Postal Code:		65102	
e. Organizational Unit:			
Department Name:		Division Name:	
Division of School Improvement		Federal Discretionary Grants	
f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:			
Prefix:		Mr. * First Name: Craig	
Middle Name:		D	

* Last Name: Rector

Suffix:

Title: Director

Organizational Affiliation:

* Telephone Number: (573)526-1594 Fax Number: (573)526-6698

* Email: CRAIG.RECTOR@DESE.MO.GOV

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424 Version 02

9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:

A: State Government

Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:

Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:

* Other (specify):

10. Name of Federal Agency:

U.S. Department of Education

11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:

84.282A

CFDA Title:

Charter Schools Program State Educational Agency

*** 12. Funding Opportunity Number:**

84.282A

Title:

Charter Schools Program State Educational Agency

13. Competition Identification Number:

Title:

14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):

Kansas City, St. Louis City & Jefferson City

*** 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:**

Missouri Public Charter Schools Planning and Implementation Program

Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.

Attachment:

Title :

File :

Attachment:

Title :

File :

Attachment:

Title :

File :

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

Version 02

16. Congressional Districts Of:

* a. Applicant: 4

* b. Program/Project: 1, 3 & 5

Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.

Attachment:

Title :

File :

17. Proposed Project:

* a. Start Date: 7/1/2010

* b. End Date: 6/30/2013

18. Estimated Funding (\$):

a. Federal	\$ 2178750
b. Applicant	\$ 0
c. State	\$ 0
d. Local	\$ 0
e. Other	\$ 0
f. Program Income	\$ 0
g. TOTAL	\$ 2178750

*** 19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?**

a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on .

b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.

c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.

*** 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes", provide explanation.)**

Yes No

21. *By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances** and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 218, Section 1001)**

IXI ** I AGREE

** The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.

Authorized Representative:

Prefix:	Mrs.	* First Name:	Chris
Middle Name:	L		
* Last Name:	Nicastro		
Suffix:	Ph.D		

Title: Commissioner of Education

* Telephone Number: (573)751-4446 Fax Number: (573)751-1179

* Email: CHRIS.NICASTRO@DESE.MO.GOV

* Signature of Authorized Representative: * Date Signed:

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

Version 02

*** Applicant Federal Debt Delinquency Explanation**

The following field should contain an explanation if the Applicant organization is delinquent on any Federal Debt. Maximum number of characters that can be entered is 4,000. Try and avoid extra spaces and carriage returns to maximize the availability of space.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
BUDGET INFORMATION
NON-CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

OMB Control Number: 1894-0008

Expiration Date: 02/28/2011

Name of Institution/Organization:
 Missouri Department of Elementar...

Applicants requesting funding for only one year should complete the column under "Project Year 1." Applicants requesting funding for multi-year grants should complete all applicable columns. Please read all instructions before completing form.

SECTION A - BUDGET SUMMARY
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FUNDS

Budget Categories	Project Year 1(a)	Project Year 2 (b)	Project Year 3 (c)	Project Year 4 (d)	Project Year 5 (e)	Total (f)
1. Personnel	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
2. Fringe Benefits	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
3. Travel	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 24,000
4. Equipment	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
5. Supplies	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
6. Contractual	\$ 95,750	\$ 137,000	\$ 76,500	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 309,250
7. Construction	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
8. Other	\$ 2,075,000	\$ 2,900,000	\$ 1,650,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 6,625,000
9. Total Direct Costs (lines 1-8)	\$ 2,178,750	\$ 3,045,000	\$ 1,734,500	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 6,958,250
10. Indirect Costs*	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
11. Training Stipends	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
12. Total Costs (lines 9-11)	\$ 2,178,750	\$ 3,045,000	\$ 1,734,500	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 6,958,250

***Indirect Cost Information (To Be Completed by Your Business Office):**

If you are requesting reimbursement for indirect costs on line 10, please answer the following questions:

(1) Do you have an Indirect Cost Rate Agreement approved by the Federal government? Yes No

(2) If yes, please provide the following information:

Period Covered by the Indirect Cost Rate Agreement: From: ___/___/___ To: ___/___/___ (mm/dd/yyyy)

Approving Federal agency: ED Other (please specify): _____ The Indirect Cost Rate is _____%

(3) For Restricted Rate Programs (check one) -- Are you using a restricted indirect cost rate that:

Is included in your approved Indirect Cost Rate Agreement? or, Complies with 34 CFR 76.564(c)(2)? The Restricted Indirect Cost Rate is _____%



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
BUDGET INFORMATION
NON-CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

OMB Control Number: 1894-0008

Expiration Date: 02/28/2011

Name of Institution/Organization:
 Missouri Department of Elementar...

Applicants requesting funding for only one year should complete the column under "Project Year 1." Applicants requesting funding for multi-year grants should complete all applicable columns. Please read all instructions before completing form.

SECTION B - BUDGET SUMMARY
NON-FEDERAL FUNDS

Budget Categories	Project Year 1(a)	Project Year 2 (b)	Project Year 3 (c)	Project Year 4 (d)	Project Year 5 (e)	Total (f)
1. Personnel	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
2. Fringe Benefits	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
3. Travel	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
4. Equipment	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
5. Supplies	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
6. Contractual	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
7. Construction	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
8. Other	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
9. Total Direct Costs (lines 1-8)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
10. Indirect Costs	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
11. Training Stipends	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
12. Total Costs (lines 9-11)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0

ASSURANCES - NON-CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

Standard Form 424B (Rev.7-97)

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0040), Washington DC 20503.

PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET. SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED BY THE SPONSORING AGENCY.

NOTE: Certain of these assurances may not be applicable to your project or program. If you have questions, please contact the awarding agency. Further, certain Federal awarding agencies may require applicants to certify to additional assurances. If such is the case, you will be notified.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant:

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance, and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project cost) to ensure proper planning, management, and completion of the project described in this application.
2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States, and if appropriate, the State, through any authorized representative, access to and the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the award; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
3. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
4. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
5. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. "4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards for merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).
6. Will comply with all Federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination. These include but are not limited to: (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. "1681-1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. '794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps; (d) the Age Discrimination Act
9. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. "276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. '276c and 18 U.S.C. "874) and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. " 327-333), regarding labor standards for federally assisted construction sub-agreements.
10. Will comply, if applicable, with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is \$10,000 or more.
11. Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. "1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of Federal actions to State (Clear Air) Implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clear Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. "7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, (P.L. 93-523); and (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, (P.L. 93-205).
12. Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. "1721 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.
13. Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance

of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. " 6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) " 523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. " 290 dd-3 and 290 ee 3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. ' 3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.

7. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal or federally assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.
8. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. "1501-1508 and 7324-7328) which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.

with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. '470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. "469a-1 et seq.).

14. Will comply with P.L. 93-348 regarding the protection of human subjects involved in research, development, and related activities supported by this award of assistance.
15. Will comply with the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-544, as amended, 7 U.S.C. "2131 et seq.) pertaining to the care, handling, and treatment of warm blooded animals held for research, teaching, or other activities supported by this award of assistance.
16. Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. "4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead- based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.
17. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."
18. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations and policies governing this program.

Signature of Authorized Certifying Representative:

Name of Authorized Certifying Representative: Chris L. Nicastro

Title: Commissioner of Education

Date Submitted: 05/06/2010

Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

Complete this form to disclose lobbying activities pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1352

1. Type of Federal Action: <input type="checkbox"/> Contract <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grant <input type="checkbox"/> Cooperative Agreement <input type="checkbox"/> Loan <input type="checkbox"/> Loan Guarantee <input type="checkbox"/> Loan Insurance	2. Status of Federal Action: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bid/Offer/Application <input type="checkbox"/> Initial Award <input type="checkbox"/> Post-Award	3. Report Type: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initial Filing <input type="checkbox"/> Material Change For Material Change only: Year: 0Quarter: 0 Date of Last Report:
4. Name and Address of Reporting Entity: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prime <input type="checkbox"/> Subawardee Tier, if known: 0 Name: Mo. Dept. of Elementary & Secondary Ed. Address: P.O. Box 480 City: Jefferson City State: MO Zip Code + 4: 65102-0480 Congressional District, if known: 04	5. If Reporting Entity in No. 4 is a Subawardee, Enter Name and Address of Prime: Name: Address: City: State: Zip Code + 4: - Congressional District, if known:	
6. Federal Department/Agency: U.S. Department of Education	7. Federal Program Name/Description: Public Charter Schools Program CFDA Number, if applicable: 84.282A	
8. Federal Action Number, if known:	9. Award Amount, if known: \$2178750	
10. a. Name of Lobbying Registrant (if individual, last name, first name, MI): N/A Address: City: State: Zip Code + 4: -	b. Individuals Performing Services (including address if different from No. 10a) (last name, first name, MI): N/A Address: City: State: Zip Code + 4: -	
11. Information requested through this form is authorized by title 31 U.S.C. section 1352. This disclosure of lobbying activities is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed by the tier above when this transaction was made or entered into. This disclosure is required pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1352. This information will be reported to the Congress semi-annually and will be available for public inspection. Any person who fails to file the required disclosure shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.	Name: Chris L. Nicastro Title: Commissioner of Education Applicant: Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Date: 05/06/2010	
Federal Use Only:	Authorized for Local Reproduction Standard Form LLL (Rev. 7-97)	

CERTIFICATION REGARDING LOBBYING

Certification for Contracts, Grants, Loans, and Cooperative Agreements.

The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

(1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal Loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan or cooperative agreement.

(2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form - LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," in accordance with its instructions.

(3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly. This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

Statement for Loan Guarantees and Loan Insurance.

The undersigned states, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

If any funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee or any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this commitment providing for the United States to insure or guarantee a loan, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," in accordance with its instructions. Submission of this statement is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required statement shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

APPLICANT'S ORGANIZATION

Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary
Education

PRINTED NAME AND TITLE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

Prefix: Mrs. First Name: Chris Middle Name: L
Last Name: Nicastro Suffix: Ph.D.
Title: Commissioner of Education

Signature: _____ Date: 05/06/2010

ED 80-0013

03/04

Section 427 of GEPA

NOTICE TO ALL APPLICANTS

The purpose of this enclosure is to inform you about a new provision in the Department of Education's General Education Provisions Act (GEPA) that applies to applicants for new grant awards under Department programs. This provision is Section 427 of GEPA, enacted as part of the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994 (Public Law (P. L.) 103-382).

To Whom Does This Provision Apply?

Section 427 of GEPA affects applicants for new grant awards under this program. **ALL APPLICANTS FOR NEW AWARDS MUST INCLUDE INFORMATION IN THEIR APPLICATIONS TO ADDRESS THIS NEW PROVISION IN ORDER TO RECEIVE FUNDING UNDER THIS PROGRAM.**

(If this program is a State-formula grant program, a State needs to provide this description only for projects or activities that it carries out with funds reserved for State-level uses. In addition, local school districts or other eligible applicants that apply to the State for funding need to provide this description in their applications to the State for funding. The State would be responsible for ensuring that the school district or other local entity has submitted a sufficient section 427 statement as described below.)

What Does This Provision Require?

Section 427 requires each applicant for funds (other than an individual person) to include in its application a description of the steps the applicant proposes to take to ensure equitable access to, and participation in, its Federally-assisted program for students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries with special needs. This provision allows applicants discretion in developing the required description. The statute highlights six types of barriers that can impede equitable access or participation: gender, race, national origin, color, disability, or age. Based on local circumstances, you should determine whether these or other barriers may prevent your students, teachers, etc. from such access or participation in, the Federally-funded project or activity. The description in your application of steps to be taken to overcome these barriers need not be lengthy; you may provide a clear and succinct

description of how you plan to address those barriers that are applicable to your circumstances. In addition, the information may be provided in a single narrative, or, if appropriate, may be discussed in connection with related topics in the application.

Section 427 is not intended to duplicate the requirements of civil rights statutes, but rather to ensure that, in designing their projects, applicants for Federal funds address equity concerns that may affect the ability of certain potential beneficiaries to fully participate in the project and to achieve to high standards. Consistent with program requirements and its approved application, an applicant may use the Federal funds awarded to it to eliminate barriers it identifies.

What are Examples of How an Applicant Might Satisfy the Requirement of This Provision?

The following examples may help illustrate how an applicant may comply with Section 427.

- (1) An applicant that proposes to carry out an adult literacy project serving, among others, adults with limited English proficiency, might describe in its application how it intends to distribute a brochure about the proposed project to such potential participants in their native language.
- (2) An applicant that proposes to develop instructional materials for classroom use might describe how it will make the materials available on audio tape or in braille for students who are blind.
- (3) An applicant that proposes to carry out a model science program for secondary students and is concerned that girls may be less likely than boys to enroll in the course, might indicate how it intends to conduct "outreach" efforts to girls, to encourage their enrollment.

We recognize that many applicants may already be implementing effective steps to ensure equity of access and participation in their grant programs, and we appreciate your cooperation in responding to the requirements of this provision.

Estimated Burden Statement for GEPA Requirements

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is **1894-0005**. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 1.5 hours per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. **If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to:** U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20202-4537.

Applicants should use this section to address the GEPA provision.

Attachment:

Title : GEPA Statement

File : C:\fakepath\10 Charter GEPA.doc

GEPA

To ensure equitable access to the program for all student subgroups, the Department will send electronic notifications about the program to all sponsoring institutions, mail notices to principals; and send notice for dissemination to the Missouri Charter Public School Association. The Department will make information about the program and solicit their help in disseminating information about the program to local school districts and interested parties.

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION
REQUIRED FOR
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION GRANTS**

1. Project Director:

Prefix: * First Name: Middle Name: * Last Name: Suffix:
Mr. Craig D Rector

Address:

* Street1: P.O. Box 480
Street2: 205 Jefferson
* City: Jefferson City
County: Cole
* State: MO* Zip / Postal Code: 65102 * Country: USA

* Phone Number (give area code) Fax Number (give area code)
(573)526-1594 (573)526-6698

Email Address:

CRAIG.RECTOR@DESE.MO.GOV

2. Applicant Experience

Novice Applicant Yes No Not applicable

3. Human Subjects Research

Are any research activities involving human subjects planned at any time during the proposed project period?

Yes No

Are ALL the research activities proposed designated to be exempt from the regulations?

Yes Provide Exemption(s) #:

No Provide Assurance #, if available:

Please attach an explanation Narrative:**Attachment:**

Title :

File :

Project Narrative

Abstract Attachment Form

Attachment 1:

Title: **Missouri Abstract** Pages: **0** Uploaded File: **Abstract Final.doc**

The Missouri Federal Charter Schools Grant Program has three primary goals:

1. Improve student achievement for educationally disadvantaged students and others (as measured by the Missouri Assessment program, other standardized assessments and other performance measures).
2. Improve school accountability by strengthening leadership, board governance and sponsorship practices.
3. Increase the number of high quality charter schools operating in the Kansas City and St. Louis City School Districts (and other districts as allowed by the legislature).

The Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) is seeking to increase the number of high quality charter schools serving students and families in Missouri. The Federal CSP will augment efforts already underway at both the state level and within the charter sector itself. Additionally, DESE would like to continue work begun with the National Association of Charter School Authorizers (NACSA) to develop a tool to evaluate the work of sponsoring institutions.

There has been a reinvigorated push to deliver on the potential of the charter school model in Missouri. The Federal CSP will provide essential start-up support, incentives and meaningful tools for new charter public schools and their sponsoring institutions. The outcomes of this program will be shared with the larger charter community as well as the traditional education community in an effort to provide a strong ongoing return from this initial investment.

Project Narrative

Application Narrative Attachment Form

Attachment 1:

Title: **Missouri Narrative Attachment** Pages: **0** Uploaded File: **Complete 2010 csp grant 05242010 v2 Final.pdf**

Invitational Priority – High-Quality Charter Schools in Urban or Rural Areas

Missouri's charter school law currently permits charter schools in the Kansas City and St. Louis City Public School Districts. Legislation introduced during the 2010 session of the Missouri Legislature (SB 815) would allow for the expansion of charter schools into districts that have one or more school buildings in Levels 3, 4 or 5 of School Improvement. This change, if passed by the legislature, would allow charter schools to expand to thirty-three additional districts in the State of Missouri and would represent urban, suburban and rural districts.

Priority 1: Periodic Review and Evaluation (10 points) – The State provides for periodic review and evaluation by the authorized public chartering agency of each charter school at least once every five years, unless required more frequently by state law, to determine whether the charter school is meeting the terms of the school's charter, and is meeting or exceeding the student academic achievement requirements and goals for charter schools as provided under state law or the schools charter.

Section 160.405, RSMo. 6. Requires "The sponsor and the governing board and the staff of the charter school jointly review the school's performance, management and operations at least once every two years or at any point where the operation or management of the charter is changed or transferred to another entity, either public or private."

Additionally, Section 160.410, RSMo., 4. requires "The department of elementary and secondary education shall commission a study of the performance of students at each charter school in comparison with an equivalent group of district students representing an equivalent demographic and geographic population and a study of the impact of charter schools upon the constituents they serve in the districts in which they are located, to be conducted by the joint committee on education. The charter school study shall include analysis of the administrative and instructional practices of each charter school and shall include findings on innovative programs that illustrate best practices and lend themselves to replication or incorporation in other schools. The joint committee on education shall coordinate with individuals representing charter public schools and the districts in which charter schools are located in conducting

the study. The study of a charter school's student performance in relation to a comparable group shall be designed to provide information that would allow parents and educators to make valid comparisons of academic performance between the charter school students and an equivalent group of district students representing an equivalent demographic and geographic population. The student performance assessment and comparison shall include, but may not be limited to:

- (1) Missouri assessment program test performance and aggregate growth over several years;
- (2) Student reenrollment rates;
- (3) Educator, parent, and student satisfaction data;
- (4) Graduation rates in secondary programs; and
- (5) Performance of students enrolled in the same public school for three or more consecutive years.

The impact study shall be undertaken every two years to determine the impact of charter schools on the constituents they serve in the districts where charter schools are operated. The impact study shall include, but is not limited to, determining if changes have been made in district policy or procedures attributable to the charter school and to perceived changes in attitudes and expectations on the part of district personnel, school board members, parents, students, the business community and other education stakeholders. The department of elementary and secondary education shall make the results of the studies public and shall deliver copies to the governing boards of the charter schools, the sponsors of the charter schools, the school board and superintendent of the districts in which the charter schools are operated.”

In addition to these two formal evaluations, charter schools and traditional public schools are required to complete an annual report card. Because traditional districts and charter schools submit the data needed to generate these report cards through the Missouri Student Information System (MOSIS) and Core Data collection processes, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) utilizes the data that is reported by the charter schools to generate the document. Data included in the annual report

include (but are not limited to) data such as: enrollment, attendance, graduation and drop-out rates, average years of experience of professional staff, free/reduced lunch percentages, racial composition, certification of instructional staff and performance on the statewide assessment. DESE also generates an Annual Performance Report (APR) which provides information to traditional public schools districts and charters on the performance standards approved by the State Board of Education.

In 2007, the National Association of Charter School Authorizers (NACSA) received a 2-year, \$300,000 grant from the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, the Hall Family Foundation and the Greater St. Louis Community Foundation for an initiative to improve the quality of charter school sponsors in the State. Through this grant, NACSA worked specifically with sponsoring institutions and the DESE in three critically important areas:

1. Provision of technical assistance and support for new and existing sponsors;
2. Development of state-specific, model sponsoring resources; and
3. Facilitating the sharing of information and best practices between sponsoring institutions.

The development of model documents included the following: model application, model evaluation rubric and model charter agreements. Additionally, resources were developed for sponsoring institutions to utilize in creating and implementing pre-opening requirements, performance plans, and monitoring plans. Guides were also developed to assist charter school sponsors in monitoring charter schools and making renewal determinations. These documents are provided to both potential applicants and sponsors on the Department's website:

<http://www.dese.mo.gov/divimprove/charterschools/charterschoolapplication.htm>

<http://www.dese.mo.gov/divimprove/charterschools/sponsorresources.htm>

Priority 2 – Number of High-Quality Charter Schools (10 points) – The State has demonstrated progress in increasing the number of high-quality charter schools that are held accountable in the

terms of the schools' charters for meeting clear and measurable objectives for the education progress of the students attending the schools, in the period prior to the period for which an SEA applies for a grant under this competition.

In the year immediately following the passage of Missouri's charter school law (1999-2000 school year), fifteen (15) charter schools opened in the Kansas City Missouri School District and served a total enrollment of 4,303 students. During the 2009-10 school year, 33 charters operating a total of 48 campuses in the Kansas City Missouri School District and St. Louis City School District have a statewide enrollment of 18,326. While this represents only 2% of total public school buildings in operation in the state, charter schools represent 30.95% of the total public school enrollment in Kansas City and 26.08% in St. Louis.

In the past ten years, there has been an overall increase of 18 charter schools. In addition to this increase in charters, over the same period seven schools have either been non-renewed, revoked or have relinquished their charters due to failure to improve student performance for governance reasons or financial instability.

Priority 3 – One Authorized Public Chartering Agency Other than a Local Education Agency (LEA), or an appeals process (10 points).

- (a) Provides for one authorized public chartering agency that is not an LEA, such as a State chartering board, for each individual or entity seeking to operate a charter school pursuant to state law; or**
- (b) In the case of a State in which only LEAs are the only authorized public chartering agencies, allows for an appeals process for the denial of an application or charter.**

Charter school law in Missouri allows for charter schools to be sponsored by a variety of institutions:

1. The school board of the district in which the charter plans to operate (currently the law restricts charter schools to the Kansas City and St. Louis City Public School Districts);
2. A public four-year college or university with its primary campus in the school district or in a county adjacent to the county where the school district is located;

3. A community college located within the boundaries of the school district;
4. Private four-year college or university, located in a city, not within a county, with an approved teacher education program and an enrollment of 1,000 students (St. Louis only); and
5. Any state college or university which provides education programs to any part of such district in which charter schools may be located and any campus of the state university located in a county of the third classification.

At the present time, Missouri has 33 approved charters operating 48 campuses. Each of the types of sponsoring institutions allowed by law is currently acting in the capacity of sponsor.

Missouri's charter school law contains provisions that allow a previously denied applicant an opportunity to have their charter re-reviewed. "If, a charter is denied, the proposed sponsor shall notify the applicant in writing as to the reasons for its denial and forward a copy to the state board of education within five business days following the denial. If a proposed charter is denied by a sponsor, the proposed charter may be submitted to the state board of education, along with the sponsor's written reasons for denial. If the state board determines that the applicant is sufficiently qualified to operate the charter school, and that granting a charter to the applicant would be likely to provide educational benefit to the children of the district, the state board may grant a charter and act as sponsor of the charter school."

An application approved by a sponsoring institution can only be denied by the State Board of Education if the application is not compliant with the law. Applicants who are denied by the state board after previously being approved by a sponsoring institution have the following recourse as outlined in the law, "Any disapproval of a charter pursuant to subsection 3 of this section shall be subject to judicial review pursuant to chapter 536, RSMo." (see Section 160.405, RSMo., 3. and 4.).

Priority 4 – High Degree of Autonomy (10 points). The State ensures that each charter school has a high degree of autonomy over the charter school's budget and expenditures.

According to Missouri charter school law, except as provided in sections 160.400, RSMo. to 160.420, RSMo, charter schools are exempt from all laws and rules relating to schools, governing boards and school districts, but must comply with laws and regulations of the state relating to health, safety and minimum educational standards. While charter schools are held to the same standards as traditional

public school districts, they may meet them in a different time frame as specified by their charter agreement. Charter schools are held accountable for complying with all Federal rules and regulations concerning Special Education and Title Programs.

Missouri charter school law allows an applicant, with the approval of their sponsoring institution to elect to become a Local Education Agencies (LEAs). While the charter school law indicates that this is for the sole purpose of qualifying for federal grants, this change to the charter school law has allowed charter schools in Missouri additional flexibility and control over all state and federal monies they are receiving. Prior to this change in the law, payments for state and federal aid programs were paid to the districts in which the charter was located. The district then had twenty days in which to make the payment to the charter. Operating as their own LEA, charter schools receive their state and federal aid payments on the same day as traditional public school districts directly from DESE.

The district and school board of the district in which the charter school operates have **no** authority or control over hiring/firing decisions, budgets and expenditures, curriculum and instructional methods. This allows for a high level of autonomy for charter schools.

(i) The contribution the charter schools grant program will make in assisting educationally disadvantaged and other students to achieve State academic content standards and State student academic achievement standards. (note: The Secretary encourage the applicant to provide a description of the objectives for the SEA's charter school grant program and to explain how these objectives will be fulfilled, including steps taken by the SEA to inform teachers, parents and communities of the SEA's charter school grant program and how the SEA will disseminate best or promising practices of charter schools to each LEA in the State.)

Under current Missouri charter school law (section 160.400, RSMo. 2), charter schools are authorized to operate in the Kansas City and St. Louis City public school districts. At the present time, the Kansas City 33 School District is classified as provisionally accredited and the St. Louis City Public School District is classified as unaccredited. These classifications indicate that the districts are not meeting the standards for academic performance outlined by the State Board of Education.

The passage of the Missouri charter school law in 1998 was part of language intended to assist in the settlement of the St. Louis desegregation case as well as to allow parents in the two urban areas to have a choice about where they enroll their children. Performance was an issue for these two school districts at that time as well. Performance continues to be an issue for both school districts as twenty-two of the fifty-two schools identified as the state's persistently lowest-achieving schools in accordance with the Section 1003(g) definition.

Under the law (section 160.405, RSMo. 2.(4).), sponsoring institutions are required to "give priority to charter school applicants that propose a school oriented to high risk students and to the reentry of dropouts into the school system. If a sponsor grants three or more charters, at least one-third of the charters granted by the sponsor shall be schools that actively recruit dropouts or high-risk students through their proposed mission, curriculum, teaching methods and services. For the purposes of this subsection, a "high-risk" student is one who is at least one year behind in satisfactory completion of course work or obtaining credits for graduation, pregnant or a parent, homeless or has been homeless sometime in the preceding six months, has limited English proficiency, has been suspended from school three or more times, is eligible for free or reduced-price lunch, or has been referred by the school district for enrollment in an alternative program."

Senate Bill 815 (SB815) introduced during the 2010 session of the Missouri Legislature would permit charter schools in districts that have been classified as unaccredited by the State Board of Education or in a district that has a Title I school in level 3, 4, or 5 of School Improvement. This proposed expansion of the charter school law would expand the number of districts in which charter schools could be located in to a total of thirty-three, representing urban, rural and suburban school districts.

Missouri Charter Public School Association

Charter schools will have access to additional resources through the Missouri Charter Public School Association (MCPSA). MCPSA was formed in 2005 to advocate for legislative change to benefit Missouri's charter public schools, including: more equitable funding, LEA status, sponsor funding, and stronger accountability language. In October 2006, MCPSA moved to expand its portfolio of services to

member schools and the broader charter school community. The development and growth of the MCPSA since 2000 has provided DESE with a partner in dissemination of best practices.

In addition to posting information about Missouri's Federal CSP grant on its own public charter school website and informing all applicants (both potential and those in progress) about the Federal CSP opportunity in Missouri, DESE charter school staff will work with the state's blossoming charter support community to both disseminate information about Missouri's Federal CSP grant, and encourage charter applicant groups to apply for funds. MCPSA has agreed to promote Missouri's Federal CSP program on its website and provide DESE with opportunities at charter support events (including the statewide annual conference) to present information and conduct technical assistance activities regarding the Federal CSP grant.

DESE will also work with The NACSA to ensure sponsoring entities are aware of Missouri's Federal CSP grant and provide application guidance to their newly sponsored schools. Other groups who work with pre-operational and applicant charter groups, such as the St. Louis Mayor's Office, will also be a source of Federal CSP grant information to school groups in their early stages.

The general public, including parents and communities, will be informed through targeted media advisories and public service announcements generated by DESE and MPCSA. Teachers, parents and communities will have access to DESE's website and bulletin board; charter schools will be encouraged to post information about the CSP and other Federal grant programs on their websites. CSP sub-grant applicants will address public information objectives and activities in their proposals.

DESE's Division of Quality Schools will disseminate best practices from schools, including charter schools, as part of state and regional meetings and conferences.

DESE will collaborate with MCPSA to assist in communication of critical information and coordination of training events designed to impart promising practices to LEAs in a meaningful way.

MCPSA's workshops and annual state charter schools conference have provided DESE with an outlet for training in the State assessment system, English Language Learner education, data reporting, special education, school finance and requirements associated with LEA status. As MCPSA matures, it is anticipated that this partnership will also evolve to provide more opportunities for both state and national

best practices to be shared and applied. Consistent communication and regularly scheduled events will be a key component of MCPSA's service to member schools and its advocacy network.

DESE, in consultation with other stakeholders, has determined that the following objectives will be met during the term of the grant award:

Objective 1: Improve Student Performance

- a. MAP Performance – By September 30, 2014 the State will increase the percent of charter school students performing in the top two levels, or who are on target to become proficient, on the Missouri Assessment Program mathematics and communication arts sections by 20% as measured by performance on the MAP grade level or end of course assessments.
NWEA MAP Performance – By September 30, 2014, seventy-five percent of students in charter schools receiving sub-grants will show an average growth of one year on the Northwest Evaluation Association – Measure of Academic Progress (NWEA-MAP) on mathematics, communication arts and science post-test scores; students two or more years behind in grade level would be expected to show more than one year growth achievement.
- b. Graduation Rates - By September 30, 2014 charter schools will maintain a high school graduation rate of students from charter schools at a rate that exceeds the graduation rates in the urban districts in which charter schools may be located. In the 2009 school year, St. Louis Public School Districts had a graduation rate of 45.7%, while charter schools located in the same district had a graduation rate of 96.7%. In the Kansas City 33 School District, the district had a graduation rate of 64.2%, while charter schools located in the same district had a graduation rate of 77.0%

Objective 2: Improve administration, governance and sponsorship practices

- a. By September 30, 2012 one-hundred percent of charter school sponsors will participate in best practice program development activities with DESE and National Partners (i.e. NACSA).
- b. DESE will work to develop an sponsor evaluation tool in conjunction with national partners.
- c. By September 2011, sponsoring institutions will be required to provide board training or contract for training services through organizations that provide such services.

- d. DESE will contract with Northwest Missouri State University to conduct an evaluation of the Federal Charter Schools grant program and its relationship to the increased number of high performing charter schools that are being operated in Missouri.

Objective 3: Increase the number of high performing charter schools

- a. By September 30, 2014, the State will have approximately 48 charter schools open at the start of the school year. Thirty-three charter schools were open at the beginning of the 2009-10 school year.
- b. DESE will request a waiver to allow charter operators who elect to replicate successful practices in high performing charter schools access to the Federal CSP for additional campuses opened under the same charter.

(ii) The degree of flexibility afforded by the SEA to charter schools under the State's charter school law. (Note: The Secretary encourages the applicant to include a description of how the State's law establishes an administrative relationship between the charter school and the authorized public chartering agency and exempts charter schools from significant State or local rules that inhibit the flexible operation and management of public schools.

The Secretary also encourages the applicant to include a description of the autonomy charter schools have received over such matters as the charter's budget, expenditures, daily operation and personnel in accordance with their State's law.)

Passed during the 1998 legislative session, Missouri's charter school law is one of the strongest in the nation. The Center for Education Reform recently gave Missouri's law a B grade and ranked it the 10th strongest law of the 39 states and the District of Columbia with charter school laws.

Missouri's charter school law allows for a variety of sponsoring institutions including: the board of education of the school district in which the charter is to be located; a public four-year college or university with its primary campus in the school district or in a county adjacent to the county in which the district is located, having an approved teacher education program that meets regional or national standards of accreditation; a community college located in the district; any private four-year college or university located in a city not within a county with an enrollment of at least one thousand students, and

with an approved teacher preparation program or any state college or university which provides educational programs to any part of such district and any campus of the state university located in a county of the third classification.

A proposed charter school's application denied by any of these sponsoring institutions may be submitted to the State Board of Education, along with the sponsor's written reasons for denial requesting the State Board of Education act as the sponsor. If the State Board determines that an application meets the requirements of the law and is likely to provide educational benefit to the children of the school district, the State Board may grant the charter and act as the sponsor of the charter school.

Two sections of Missouri law (section 160.405, RSMo. 3. and 160.405, RSMo 6.) establish the administrative relationship between the charter school and its authorized chartering agency. Section 160.405, RSMo. 3. requires that as part of the application process the sponsoring institution develop a monitoring plan under which the sponsor will evaluate student performance. Section 160.405, RSMo. 6. requires the sponsor and the governing board and staff of the charter school jointly review the schools performance, management and operations at least once every two years or at any point where the operation or management of the school is changed or transferred to another entity.

Charter schools in Missouri are granted a great deal of autonomy. By law, charters are "exempt from all rules and regulations relating to schools, governing boards and school districts" unless they have been specifically identified in the charter school law. At the present time, charter schools are required to comply with the provisions of law regarding student assessment, the Safe Schools act (relating to student discipline, the minimum number of days and hours of instruction provided, requirements of the Open Meetings (Sunshine Law) requirements, transmittal of student records, publish financial reports and complete an annual report card.

Missouri charter school law was amended in 2005 to allow charter schools to become their own Local Education Agencies (LEA's). with the approval of their sponsoring institution. All thirty-three charter schools in operation during the 2009-2010 school year operate as LEAs. Operating as LEAs, charter schools in Missouri are free to make decisions about their budget, expenditures, daily operations, calendar, curriculum and staffing. While the charter school law indicates that this is for the sole purpose of qualifying for federal grants, this change to the charter school law has allowed charter schools in

Missouri additional flexibility and control over all state and federal monies they are receive. Prior to this change in the law, payments for state and federal aid programs were paid to the districts in which the charter was located. The district then had twenty days in which to make the payment to the charter. Operating as their own LEA, charter schools receive their state and federal aid payments on the same day as the state makes similar payments to traditional public school districts.

(iii) The number of high-quality charter schools to be created in the State. (Note: The Secretary considers the SEA's reasonable estimate of the number of new charter schools to be authorized and opened in the State during the three-year period of this grant.

The Secretary also considers how the SEA will inform each charter school in the State about Federal funds the charter school is eligible to receive and ensure that each charter school receives the schools commensurate share of Federal education funds that are allocated by formula each year, including during the first year of operation of the school and during a year in which the school's enrollment expands significantly.

Missouri's charter school law limits the establishment of charter schools to the State's two urban districts, the Kansas City 33 District and the St. Louis City School District. At the present time, there are no limits to the number of charter schools that may be established within the boundaries of either school district. Since Missouri's grant submission in 2008, the Missouri legislature removed a restriction from the original charter school law that placed a five percent limit on the number of buildings that the local school district could convert from traditional status to charter school status. The law currently gives the districts where charter schools are allowed, the flexibility to utilize the Restart model in as many buildings as they believe is appropriate.

Missouri's charter school law is one of the strongest in the nation and as indicated by the Center for Education Reform. During the 2009-10 school year, there are 33 approved charters operating 47 campuses in the two cities. The total enrollment in charter schools is 18,326. Charter schools represent 30.95% of total public school enrollment in Kansas City and 26.08% in St. Louis. At the present time, six new charter schools are scheduled to begin operation during the 2010-11 school year. Additionally, one

school district is investigating the possibility of utilizing the Restart model for three (3) of their buildings that are chronically underperforming.

In an effort to improve the quality of applications being received by sponsoring institutions a number of activities are taking place. MCPSA is offering a program called CharterStart for groups in the process of developing their charter. CharterStart workshops provide training sessions on a variety of topics related to planning and operating a successful charter school. Sessions are developed with the input of current charter schools, best practices in education and business, research based programs, and the work of charter support organizations nationwide. Additionally, CharterStart Workshops are specifically designed to provide expertise in alignment with the stages of the application process. Workshops are designed for groups based on the planned opening of the school.

The St. Louis Mayor's office has also designed a Request for Proposal (RFP) process designed to assist potential high-quality charter schools in obtaining sponsorship through the support of the Mayor. The application format articulates the consistent criteria and evaluation process used to determine support.

The St. Louis Charter School Advisory Board and its review process create a mechanism for analysis and public input.

Funded by a grant from the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, the Hall Family Foundation and the greater St. Louis Community Foundation Missouri charter school sponsors, in conjunction with DESE and the NACSA have developed model documents that include a new application, evaluation rubric, and guidance for the development of performance and monitoring plans.

Community interest has expanded in charter schools because of the St. Louis City School District's loss of accreditation and the Kansas City 33 District's provisional accreditation status. In July of 2009, The Illinois Facilities Fund (IFF) issued a report, "Public School in St. Louis; Place, Performance and Promise" funded by NACSA. This report generated interest in the development of high performing charter schools in the geographic locations that did not have a Tier 1 School. Tier 1 for purposes of this report is defined as:

"A public school that met at least half of the Annual Proficiency Target in both Communication Arts and Math, meaning that in 2008 at least 25.5 percent of students were proficient or above in Communication Arts and at least 22.5 percent of students were proficient or above in Math."

Based on the number of schools opening in the past three years and the number of schools that are known to be in some part of the development phase, Federal CSP funds will be used to support both planning and implementation grants to a minimum of 18 schools over the three-year period of the grant:

Year 1: Six new schools – either operation or planning grants

Year 2: Six new schools either operation or planning grants/six continuation grants

Year 3: Six new schools either operation or planning grants/twelve continuation grants.

In an effort to be transparent and to ensure that all individuals and planning groups are aware of the funds available from the Federal CSP, DESE will partner with those organizations and sponsoring institutions that sponsor or provide technical assistance or support to charter schools including the MCPSA, all Missouri Sponsors and the St. Louis Mayor's Office. Additionally, information will be posted on DESE website concerning the grant.

DESE utilizes multiple strategies to inform charter schools about Federal funds available to them. Charter schools in Missouri participate in the annual Federal Programs conference held by DESE. This conference outlines program requirements as well as provides information to school districts and charter schools about what is required to access funds. DESE also provides information about Federal Programs and Special Education through email communications through the Fedpro and SELS list serves.

Additional technical assistance regarding Federal Programs is provided to charter schools through Instructional Improvement staff located in the areas where charter schools are located.

During the first year of operation, charter schools report data through the MOSIS/Core Data collection system. This data includes estimated enrollment, estimated free or reduced lunch count and attendance information. Payments are made to charter schools based on the estimated data until after the official count date. Once the official count date occurs for each program, the charter updates the information previously reported and each funding program reconciles what the actual payment should be with the estimated payment that has been made to the charter school previously. If, during succeeding years of operation, the charter school anticipates or experiences a significant expansion in their enrollment, a letter is submitted to DESE staff providing information about any increase in enrollment projected by the

charter. Again, this will be taken into consideration when allocations of federal program funds are calculated.

Following the passage of the initial legislation, each newly established charter school was a building within the school district as the law did not allow them to become LEAs at that time. Each charter school reported the data utilized to generate their state aid payment and federal programs payments to the local school district. State and federal aid payments based on this data were made to the local school district by DESE. The local district, by law, had twenty (20) days from the receipt of the funds to make payment to the charter school. Senate Bill 287, which became effective July 1, 2006, allowed charter schools already in existence to amend their charters to become their own local education agency (LEA). During the first year following the passage of this legislation, all Kansas City Charter schools became their own LEA and St. Louis charter schools followed their lead in the year immediately afterward. Once a charter school elects to become its own LEA, it receives all state and federal payments directly from DESE. At the present time, all charter schools in operation and **all** currently approved charter schools which will begin operation in the fall of 2010 are their own LEAs. DESE calculates the state aid payment for charter schools utilizing current year information in the same formula utilized for all school districts. This change in the charter school law allows charter schools to receive their payments at the same time as traditional public schools districts. The following sections of Missouri charter law describe the distribution of state aid to charter schools.

Chapter 160.415 Section 4 addresses the distribution of state school aid for LEA charter schools:

160.415. 4. A charter school that has declared itself as a local educational agency shall receive from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education an annual amount equal to the product of the charter school's weighted average daily attendance and the state adequacy target, multiplied by the dollar value modifier for the district, plus local tax revenues per weighted average daily attendance from the incidental and teachers' funds in excess of the performance levy as defined in section 163.011, RSMo, plus all other state aid attributable to such pupils. If a charter school declares itself as a local education agency, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education shall, upon notice of the declaration,

reduce the payment made to the school district by the amount specified in this subsection and pay directly to the charter school the annual amount reduced from the school district's payment.

If a charter elects to remain a building within the district rather than become its own LEA, the following section of state law governs payments of state, federal and other aid paid for services:

Chapter 160.415 Section 1-2 address distribution of state school aid for charter schools that are buildings within the local LEA:

160.415. 1. For the purposes of calculation and distribution of state school aid under section 163.031, RSMo, pupils enrolled in a charter school shall be included in the pupil enrollment of the school district within which each pupil resides. Each charter school shall report the names, addresses, and eligibility for free and reduced lunch, special education, or limited English proficiency status, as well as eligibility for categorical aid, of pupils residing in a school district who are enrolled in the charter school to the school district in which those pupils reside. The charter school shall report the average daily attendance data, free and reduced lunch count, special education pupil count, and limited English proficiency pupil count to the state department of elementary and secondary education. Each charter school shall promptly notify the State Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the pupil's school district when a student discontinues enrollment at a charter school. 2. Except as provided in subsections 3 and 4 of this section, the aid payments for charter schools shall be as described in this subsection.

(1) A school district having one or more resident pupils attending a charter school shall pay to the charter school an annual amount equal to the product of the charter school's weighted average daily attendance and the state adequacy target, multiplied by the dollar value modifier for the district, plus local tax revenues per weighted average daily attendance from the incidental and teachers' funds in excess of the performance levy as defined in section 163.011, RSMo, plus all other state aid attributable to such pupils.

(2) The district of residence of a pupil attending a charter school shall also pay to the charter school any other federal or state aid that the district receives on account of such child.

(3) If the department overpays or underpays the amount due to the charter school, such overpayment or underpayment shall be repaid by the public charter school or credited to the public charter school in twelve equal payments in the next fiscal year.

(4) The amounts provided pursuant to this subsection shall be prorated for partial year enrollment for a pupil.

(5) A school district shall pay the amounts due pursuant to this subsection as the disbursal agent and no later than twenty days following the receipt of any such funds. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education shall pay the amounts due when it acts as the disbursal agent within five days of the required due date.

Charter schools also receive a commensurate share of other state aid and federal programs monies that a local school district might otherwise be entitled to receive for services being provided to students. For all federal programs, charter schools provide the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education with estimated data to utilize in the calculation of their allocation or entitlement. Necessary corrections are made to the data and payments are adjusted when the charter conducts the official count as outlined by each individual program. If a charter experiences significant growth, notification is provided to the appropriate staff to make adjustment to the charter's allocation in the next fiscal year.

(iv) The quality of the management plan for the proposed project. In determining the quality of the management plan for the proposed project, the Secretary considers the adequacy of the management plan to achieve the objectives of the proposed project on time and within budget, including clearly defined responsibilities, timelines, and milestones for accomplishing project tasks. (Note: In addition to describing the proposed objectives of the SEA charter school grant program and how these objectives will be fulfilled, the Secretary encourages applicants to provide descriptions of the steps to be taken by the SEA to award subgrant funds to eligible applicants desiring to receive these funds, including descriptions of the peer review process the SEA will use to review application for assistance, the timelines for awarding such funds, and how the SEA will assess the quality of the applications.)

Lack of start-up funding is one of the documented barriers in the creation of charter schools. Federal support under this program will be an important part of the process that moves excellent proposals from the initial stages of planning through the opening of a school. In an effort to ensure that all individuals and planning groups are aware of the planning funds available from the Federal CSP, DESE will partner with those organizations and sponsoring institutions who sponsor or provide technical assistance or support to

charter schools including the MCPSA, all Missouri Sponsors and the St. Louis Mayor's Office.

Additionally, information will be posted on DESE website concerning the grant.

Applicants that have received approval from sponsoring institutions but have not yet opened will be eligible to apply for these competitive grants. Grants will be awarded to charter school applicants that demonstrate the potential to be high performing and will allow these charter schools the opportunity to continue planning in the year prior to opening. Planning grants will allow the charter school to hire an administrator to work on curriculum alignment and professional development, plan for and purchase library/media center materials, develop an evaluation model for staff and conduct all other planning required for a successful opening. It will also allow charters to begin the purchase of equipment, materials and supplies and other items necessary to begin operation.

DESE will also provide the opportunity for charter schools to apply for competitive implementation grants. Eligible grantees will include applicants who have been previously awarded the CSP planning grant and applicants who have a charter that has been approved by a sponsoring institution but who may not have participated in the planning grant. Implementation grants may cover administrative costs, such as office and clerical expenses and professional development for staff. Additional goods, services, curriculum materials and equipment may also need to be purchased during the initial opening of the school.

Implementation grants will assist new schools in providing the necessary support during the early years of operation.

DESE will make Federal funds available to eligible developers in a fair and impartial manner. Potential recipients will be invited to submit requests for planning and implementation sub-grants beginning in the summer of 2010. Selection of proposals will be accomplished using a peer review process that draws upon the expertise of urban educators, education-oriented businesses, charter school sponsors and charter school leaders. This grant will be administered by the Federal Discretionary Grants (see Craig Rector's resume attached) section of DESE. Applications received will be assigned to a team of three readers who will score the application using an established program rubric. The readers will have been vetted for any conflict of interest. All readers will be aware of the goals of the program and will be trained in proper grant reading etiquette and in how to complete grant evaluation rubric. The three readers will have the opportunity to provide scoring comments and identify any items that may need to be addressed

in negotiations. Scores for each grant application will be tabulated and will be ranked highest to lowest. Applications will be recommended for funding starting at the top and will continue until all funds have been awarded or until no quality applications remain.

Charter schools will be required to complete a self-monitoring checklist after six months of the award of the grant and will be required to complete a self-monitoring checklist in every fiscal year in which they are awarded a grant. Additionally, charter applicants/schools must participate in an on-site monitoring review of their program at least once during the period in which they receive the Federal CSP grant. Sub-grantees will be required to submit to DESE an annual report detailing use of their grant funds. This information will be collated and submitted to the U.S. Department of Education annually in order to assist the Secretary in evaluating the charter schools grant program.

Missouri's charter school law requires that charter school proposals contain items A-L of subsection (b)(2) of Section 10303 of the Federal charter schools statute.

Competitive preference will be awarded to applicants whose representatives demonstrate a strong local presence. DESE will provide bonus points to applicants opening schools that will serve any of grades 7-12 in their first three years of operation.

Missouri's charter school law requires charter schools to submit to all interested stakeholders an annual report of their academic and financial activities and assessment data for research purposes. It mandates that charter schools have a financial audit completed by a certified public accountant. It also requires that they report any educational innovations to the local school board, the public sponsor, the state board and the local community. This information will be used by DESE to compile an annual report on the effectiveness of Missouri's charter schools.

Key Activity 1 & 2. Implementation Plan		
Strengthen the charter school authorization process and increase accountability for charter school performance.		
Increase the number of high performing charter schools.		
Timeline	Activities	Responsible Parties
Immediately	Seek waiver to allow for charter schools who have demonstrated success to be allowed to apply for grant for expanding the number of campuses where services are being provided.	
August 2010	Implement the charter school sponsorship standards.	The Department
August 2010	Begin development of the charter school sponsor evaluation process.	The Department
February 2011	Field test the implementation of the charter school sponsor evaluation process in 30% of the current sponsoring institutions.	The Department
September 2011	Begin Implementation of the charter school sponsor evaluation process.	The Department
October 2010-May 2011	Propose change in charter school statute to legislature and governor to hold charter schools and sponsors accountable for sustaining high quality charter schools.	The Department, charter school sponsors and charter organizations
October 2010-September 2011	Identify conditions under which the State Board may close a charter in lieu of the sponsor.	The Department, charter school sponsors, charter school organizations

(v) The SEA’s plan to monitor and hold accountable authorized public chartering agencies through such activities as providing technical assistance or establishing a professional development program, which may include providing authorized public chartering agency staff with training and assistance on planning and systems development, so as to improve the capacity of those agencies to authorize, monitor and hold accountable charter schools.

In 2007, NACSA received a 2 year, \$300,000 grant from the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, the Hall Family Foundation and the Greater St. Louis Community Foundation for an initiative to improve the quality of charter school sponsors in the State of Missouri. Through this grant, NACSA has been working with DESE and charter sponsors in three critically important areas:

1. Provision of technical assistance and support to existing and new sponsors;
2. Development of state-specific, model sponsoring resources; and
3. Facilitating the sharing of information and best practices with all sponsoring institutions.

In addition to this work, two critical keys to quality charter school oversight, support and intervention are the development of standards of professional practice for sponsorship and the development and utilization of a mechanism to evaluate the State's charter school sponsors.

The development of statewide model documents for charter school proposals, contracts, monitoring and renewal provides sponsors of Missouri charter schools with the ability to conduct their core responsibilities in a more consistent and effective way.

The development of an effective evaluation instrument to be utilized in reviewing the work of charter school sponsors would provide staff of DESE the necessary tools to draw conclusions regarding a sponsor's performance and to make informed decisions regarding the institution's ability to continue to serve as a charter school sponsor in the State of Missouri. The ultimate goal of these projects is to improve the quality of charter school sponsorship and the quality of charter schools providing services to Missouri students.

Missouri is working to strengthen the charter school authorizing/sponsorship process towards increased accountability to ensure performance and fiscal integrity. The State will:

- Develop and implement standards for charter sponsorship based on the NACSA's Principles and Standards for Quality Charter School Authorizing.
- Develop and implement a process for evaluating charter school sponsors to improve performance and ensure accountability for the oversight of charter schools in their portfolio (based on work being completed by NACSA and being implemented in WI, CO and NM)
- Develop and implement guidelines for sponsors that hold them accountable for closing poor performing charter schools;
- Work toward legislative changes that will:

- Require sponsoring institutions to enter into a performance contract with the charter school's governing board prior to the school beginning operation;
- More clearly define the terms/conditions under which a charter school may be placed on probation or closed;
- Permit the State Board to close a charter school, in lieu of the sponsor, for specific cause (academic performance, management/governance issues, financial, failure to provide required services (special education), etc.).

(vi) In the case of SEAs that propose to use grant funds to support dissemination activities under section 5204(f)(6) of the ESEA, the quality of the dissemination activities and the likelihood that those activities will improve student academic achievement.

- During this grant cycle, the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education does not elect to use grant funds to support dissemination activities.

(vii) The Secretary considers the quality of the evaluation to be conducted of the proposed project. In determining the quality of the evaluation, the Secretary considers the extent to which the methods of evaluation include the use of objective performance measures that are clearly related to the intended outcomes of the project and will produce quantitative and qualitative data. (Note: The Secretary encourages the applicant to include a strong evaluation plan in the application narrative and to use that plan, as appropriate, to shape the development of the project from the beginning of the grant period. The Secretary encourages the applicant to design the plan so that it includes (a) benchmarks to monitor progress toward specific project objectives and (b) outcome measures to assess the impact on teaching and learning or other important outcomes for project participants. In its plan, we encourage the applicant to identify the individual and/or organization that will serve as the evaluator and to describe the qualifications of the evaluator. We also encourage the applicant to describe, in its application the evaluation design, indicating: (1) they types of data that will be collected; (2) when the various types of data will be collected; (3) the methods that will be used; (4) the instruments to be developed and when; (5) how the data will

be analyzed; (6) when reports of results and outcomes will be available; and (7) how the applicant will use the information collected through the evaluation to monitor progress of the funded project and to provide accountability information both about success at the initial site and about effective strategies for replication in others settings. Applicants are encouraged to devote an appropriate level of resources to project evaluation.

DESE will conduct the required evaluation of the CSP project utilizing a team from Northwest Missouri State University located in Maryville, Missouri. The members of this team are qualified to conduct the evaluation through a decade of experience working in and administering a National Science Foundation Teacher Enhancement grant, a Math Science Partnership Title IIB grant and Missouri Department of Higher Education Improving Teacher Quality grants. Dr. Marilyn S. Rhea, a project evaluator and professional development director with a decade of grant related experience, will lead the actual work of the evaluation team. Other members will come from the Education Leadership faculty at Northwest.

1. The project evaluation will be done utilizing and improving upon procedures currently being used by sponsors in their evaluation of charter schools as outlined in state statute. While charter schools and their sponsoring institutions must jointly conduct an evaluation of their performance, management and operation by their sponsor every two years, there is no standardized instrument for completing this evaluation. Using a roundtable approach, DESE, the NWMSU evaluation team, representatives from MCPSA, charter school administrators and other stakeholders, will develop an instrument to standardize evaluation reports. It is anticipated this common report will include but not be limited to:

- Compliance with Missouri statute law
(reference http://www.dese.mp.gov/schoollaw/publawbook/Index_C.htm)

- Evaluation of accountability tool – Six Questions
Adapted from University of Missouri-Kansas City and Colorado League of Charter Schools Accountability Process and performed by the charter school sponsor as per existing Missouri charter school policies.

- Student achievement data from multiple sources – varied by grade level served including Missouri Assessment Program (MAP), Northwest Evaluation Association – Measure of Academic Progress (NWEA-MAP) and National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) – see objective 2e in Requirement 1.
- Demographic data on the population served by the charter school including but not limited to: attendance rates, graduation rates where applicable, Free/Reduced lunch eligibility, students in need of special services.

The Missouri Assessment Program (MAP) test includes both grade level assessments and end-of-course exams. The MAP test includes multiple choice, constructed response and performance items that assess student performance. The above report will be analyzed between and across Missouri charter schools using appropriate statistical tools. Qualitative analysis will also be applied to items in the accountability tool. Where appropriate, these reports will be compared to traditional public schools with similar demographics.

1. In the year charter schools do not complete a full evaluation as described above, they will be required to assist in completing the following online surveys:
 - Student survey of sample populations determined by assignment of random numbers for grades 6-12 to determine their level of engagement and learning conditions. This survey will not be administered to elementary students because of their young age.
 - Parent survey with questions of similar nature to student questions selected in a similar manner. Parents will be provided access to a computer for completing these surveys during regularly scheduled activities such as parent/teacher conference days. Parents of elementary students will be included in this survey.
 - Teacher surveys also determined by random number assignment dealing with satisfaction working in the charter school environment, selection and implementation of curriculum and professional development needs.
 - Administrator survey of the chief educational officer at each charter school regarding the overall quality of the school, staff qualifications, curricula implementation, NCLB requirement status as well as an opportunity to share innovative ways that particular

school is meeting the diverse needs of its students. Principals will also be surveyed for information regarding professional development needs specific to the staff and school.

- A short satisfaction survey will be developed to monitor the quality of all professional development opportunities, conferences and workshops conducted as part of this grant.

Also in this year, charter schools will provide appropriate student achievement data. All of the above will be analyzed using appropriate statistical tools to determine the difference among and between charter schools and help identify key success indicators.

2. Beginning in the second year of the grant and continuing through years 3, 4 and 5, school case studies will be performed on one high achieving charter school and one low achieving charter school using the Survey of Enacted Curriculum (University of Wisconsin-Madison, CCSSO). This online instrument allows the evaluators to make use of aggregated teacher reports (individual teacher responses are disclosed only to the teacher) to develop a base-line of information about grade level teacher practice in mathematics, science and English language arts, and to inform professional development or school improvement planning efforts. This data will also be analyzed using appropriate statistical tools to identify specific differences in low and high achieving student populations in the selected charter schools. DESE will determine which schools will be studied during this time period.

In addition to evaluating the performance of recipients of the Federal CSP grant, DESE has also asked the evaluation team to review the performance of the agency's implementation of the grant program. The evaluation team will become familiar with the program objectives and will be invited to all major meetings of the entities involved in this grant. The evaluation team will observe interactions between stakeholders and the response of program administrators to grant recipients.

The evaluation team will complete their work in a timely manner that allows administrators at DESE, charter school sponsors and administrators, and any other interested parties to make informed decisions about the implementation of the program and allow for changes in the implementation to ensure that the grant is implemented in such a way as to create high performing, successful charter schools.

Key Activity 4 - Evaluation

Strengthen the charter school authorization process and increase accountability for charter school performance.

Increase the number of high performing charter schools.

Timeline	Activities	Responsible Parties
July 1, 2010	Begin review and evaluation of instruments currently being utilized by sponsoring institutions to conduct the performance, management and operational review required by law.	Evaluation team
August 2010 – January 2011	Convene and conduct roundtable of sponsors, charter school leaders, MCPSA, DESE and other interested stakeholders to begin the development of a standardized format for use in the review required by law (to be conducted every other year).	Evaluation team, DESE, charter school leaders, charter school sponsors and charter school stakeholders
Non-evaluation year	Conduct a survey of students, parents, teachers and administrators. Topics to include environment, engagement, curriculum implementation, staff etc., based on participant.	Evaluation team
August – October (each year of grant term)	Evaluation team will analyze performance data supplied by the charter school (which may include NWEA-MAP or other assessment tool) as well as data from the MAP assessment.	Evaluation team
November (each year of grant term)	Analysis of student performance data will be provided to the charter school leader, sponsoring institution and DESE for review and use.	Evaluation team
July 2011-completion of grant cycle	Conduct case studies of high and low achieving charter schools to determine what factors are key to success.	Evaluation team
Ongoing	Utilize feedback from schools, sponsors and evaluation team to make necessary modifications to the grant program to ensure success toward meeting the programs goals: improving student performance, improving administration, governance and sponsorship practices as well in as increase the number of high performing charter schools.	Charter Schools Office

Project Narrative

Other Attachment Form

Attachment 1:

Title: **Missouri Other Attachment** Pages: **0** Uploaded File: **Other Attachment Final.doc**

Budget Narrative

Budget Narrative Attachment Form

Attachment 1:

Title: **Missouri Budget Narritive** Pages: **0** Uploaded File: **Budget Narrative Final.doc**

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education requests funding in the amount of \$2,178,750 to implement Year 1 of the Charter Schools Grant Program, with funding requests for subsequent years that reflect the applications we know to be in various stages of development. Funding will support a structure of sub-grants: planning sub-grants for charter schools whose charters have been approved, implementation grants for charter schools that have been in operation less than two years and grants for additional campuses for charters that have demonstrated success in improving student performance.

Sub-grant Award Projections

The Department estimates that 15 sub-grants will be awarded during the first year of the grant. DESE anticipates that eight grants will be awarded to high quality proposals for 7-12 locations, with the remainder being awarded to K-5 applicants. Charter schools that intend to serve students in K-8 programs will be eligible for awards of up to \$125,000. Applicants for 9-12 programs will be eligible for awards of up to \$150,000. The Department reserves the right to increase the award amounts, based on available Federal funds and the number of applicants that demonstrate the promise to operate high quality charter schools.

Program Administration

DESE will allocate \$103,750 or approximately 5% of the total for administrative costs associated with routine program administration; announcing the program, impact and process evaluation, creating a peer review system to select awardees; providing pre- and post-award technical assistance in the areas of planning, research and evaluation; and ensuring that all sub-grantees abide by Federal and state statutes related to the awards. Administrative funds will also be utilized to attend the mandatory meeting required to participate in the grant as well as travel to the National Association of Authorizers Conference. In Years 2 and 3 administrative funds may be used for identification and dissemination of successful charter school structures and practices as well as continued evaluation of the impact of the Federal CSP on the number of quality charter schools and progress the Department has made toward achieving the goals outlined in Requirement 1.

Budget Summary

	Year 1 2010-11	Year 2 2011-12	Year 3 2012-13	Grant Totals
Planning & Implementation Sub-Grants	\$ 2,075,000	\$2,900,000	\$1,650,000	\$6,625,000
Program Administration @ 5%	103,750	145,000	82,500	331,250
Totals	\$ 2,178,750	\$3,045,000	\$1,732,500	\$6,956,250

Timeline: Year 1

Date	Activity	Responsible Section
July 1	Sub-grant applications available	Federal Discretionary Grants (FDG)
July 15-July 30	Mandatory informational meeting	FDG & State Charter Schools (SCS)
August 15	Application deadline	FDG
August 15-31	Grant screening and review	FDG & SCS
September 1 -30	Grant award notification/negotiation	FDG
October 1	Grant award approval Grant activities may begin	FDG
October - April	On-site monitoring reviews	FDG & SCS
May 15	Preliminary final expenditure report due	FDG
September 30	Grant activities end	FDG
October 30	Project evaluation due Final expenditure report due	FDG