

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Eligible Applicants for Charter School Program (CSP) Funding

**FROM:** Nathan Williamson, Director of Title Grants and Support  
Cole Dietrich, Assistant Director of Charter Schools and Special Programs

**SUBJECT:** Charter School Program (CSP) Funding

**DATE:** October 6, 2017

The Indiana Department of Education is pleased to announce that it is a recipient of more than \$59 million in Charter School Program (CSP) funding through its *Quality Counts* application to the U.S. Department of Education. The full IDOE press release can be found [HERE](#) and the U.S. Department of Education notice of awarded applicants can be found [HERE](#).

The IDOE will make funding available in the coming weeks through a competitive grant application process to eligible applicants to open and prepare for the operation of new charter schools or replicate and expand high-quality charter schools. The IDOE will utilize this opportunity to strengthen the high-quality options offered within our state. In order to apply for CSP funding, an applicant must have applied to an authorized public chartering authority to operate a charter school and provide adequate and timely notice to that authority. Eligible applicants may apply for up to \$900,000 over a total length of no more than five years, of which no more than 18 months of planning is included. Authorized activities include:

- Costs associated with preparing teachers, school leaders, and specialized instructional personnel, including professional development and hiring during the planning period
- Acquiring supplies, training, equipment, and educational materials
- Carrying out necessary renovations to ensure that a new school building complies with applicable statutes (excluding construction)
- Providing one-time startup costs associated with providing transportation
- Carrying out community engagement activities
- Providing for other appropriate, non-sustained costs related to opening, replicating, or expanding a high-quality charter school

Seven percent of the funding will be utilized for state-level technical assistance activities to support the authorizing process, meeting the needs of students with disabilities and English learners, improve fiscal practices, support the recruitment and retention of high-quality educators, engage parents and community members, and more.

Qualified peer reviewers with charter school experience are invited to submit an application to serve as a peer reviewer [HERE](#).

Questions regarding the *Quality Counts* grant can be sent to Nathan Williamson at [nwilliamson@doe.in.gov](mailto:nwilliamson@doe.in.gov) or 317-232-6671.