

Defending and Advancing Charters 2025

Despite a \$1.2B state budget deficit in 2025, the Colorado League successfully advocated for significant advancements in charter school funding.

These crucial wins include a **\$250M increase to the state's Moral Obligation Program**,
\$5M in additional CSI Equalization funding,
a 3.6% increase in **FY26 Per-Pupil Revenue (PPR)**,
and a **\$4M PERA true-up** benefiting Denver charters.

Simultaneously, the League actively **protected the charter sector from potential threats**, including an anti-charter majority on the State Board and proposed reductions to per-pupil, at-risk, and part-time enrichment program funding.

Furthermore, the League actively **safeguarded charter autonomy** by ensuring major anti-charter legislation did not advance and by taking an important first step towards regulatory relief through a **streamlined UIP** process. We also passed legislation that **strengthens AECs** out of recognition of the outsized role charters play in serving Colorado's AEC students.

These efforts to bolster funding and defend against detrimental policies contributed to the continued growth and strength of Colorado's charter sector. In the past year, charter enrollment increased by nearly 1,000 students to more than **15,000 additional students** since 2017 (a 13% increase) – while non-charter enrollment has declined by 6%.

The League, Working for you

League Membership: **88%**
Member Satisfaction: **92%**

2x League advocacy spending is **two times** the League Member dues: making your investment go further.

15 Professional Cohorts

28 Public Relations Wins

15+ Trainings & other events

3+ Major Events



COLORADO LEAGUE of
CHARTER SCHOOLS

Charters, by the Numbers

15.5%

Of all Colorado public school students attend charters (PK-12)

136,218

Colorado's public charter school students. That's **51% more** than Colorado's single largest school district (DPS).

+13

+15

Colorado charter school students gain **13 extra days of math instruction** per year and **15 extra days of reading instruction** compared to non-charter students.

(Center for Research on Education Outcomes (CREDO) at Stanford University, 2023)

262



Number of charter schools in Colorado, a **22.4% INCREASE** over the past decade

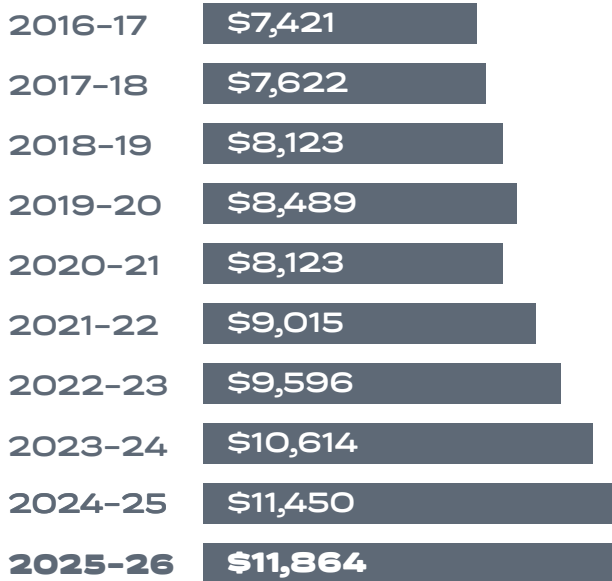
2024-2025 CHARTER SCHOOL FUNDING PROGRESS

55%

Members reporting that funding, growth, and enrollment issues are top concerns and priorities on the most recent League Member survey.

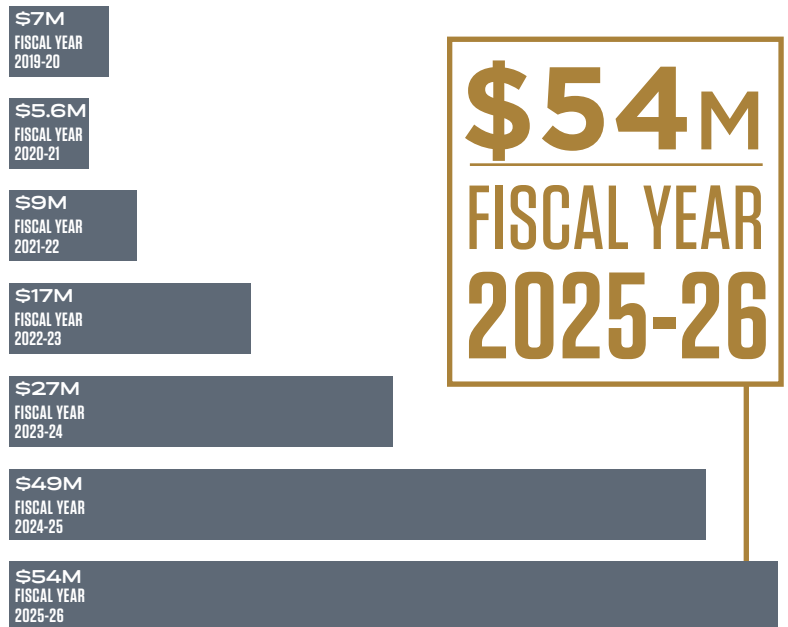
Here are four items that demonstrate our track record to help our members' growth and funding.

1 School PPR in Colorado



Percentage of increase over ten years: **60%**

2 CSI Equalization Fund



3 Moral Obligation Program

+\$250M

\$1B

A single-year increase of \$250 million, to a total of \$1 billion for schools.

4 Great Schools Colorado (CSP) and SFIG

\$100M

In Fall of 2024, the League won a federal five-year CSP award of \$68 million for new, expanding, and replicating charter schools in Colorado and was instrumental in helping CDE win the State Facilities Incentives Grant (SFIG).