



**Great
Schools
Colorado**

Charter Schools Program Grant

Post-Award TA Webinar for Subgrantees | May 28, 2026



Meet the School Services Team

School Quality • Growth • Business Services



QUALITY + GROWTH

BILL KNOUS

Senior Director of
School Quality & Growth



SCHOOL QUALITY

KAROLINA VILLAGRANA

Director of School
Quality



BUSINESS SERVICES

JENNIFER LARSON

Director of Business
Services

Meet the CSP Grant Team



DAWNA TAYLOR

Grant Executive Lead &
Project Director



MARK HEFFNER

Grant Fiscal Lead
(VP of Finance Operations)



TANESHA BELL

Director of Monitoring &
Compliance



DAVE MOHR

Grant Fiscal Manager
(Director of Accounting)



BRIGHT HOMAWOO

Associate Director of
Monitoring & Compliance

Webinar Objectives

By the end of this orientation, you will:

- Understand CSP technical assistance opportunities connected to your subgrant goals and award.
- Identify available TA programming options and determine which supports best fit your school's current context, needs, and implementation stage.
- Clarify expectations for participation in required and optional TA opportunities.

About the GSC CSP Grant

The League's Great Schools Colorado (GSC) CSP project provides subgrants to qualified charter school developers and operators.

Project objectives:

- Increase the number of high-quality charter schools and high-quality charter school seats in Colorado.
- Improve the overall quality of Colorado's charter school sector and strengthen its impact on statewide school improvement.

TA Overview

- Supports quality, implementation, and sustainability
- Required for CSP subgrantees
- 3% minimum reserved for individualized TA
- Includes trainings, coaching, conferences, and targeted support

High-Quality TA Offerings

Core Programs

- Administrator Leadership Training
 - Leadership Institute: Foundations of Charter School Leadership & Administration
 - VISTA: Leadership Accelerator
- Board and Governance Training
- Enrollment & Community Engagement
- Specialized Cohorts for Operations and Finance

Other Approved Activities

- National Charter Schools Conference (NCSC)
- School Safety Trainings
- School-Wide Professional Development
- Contracting external TA providers

Leadership and Quality Technical Assistance

2026–2027 Cohort | Colorado League of Charter Schools

VISTA

Leadership Accelerator for Charter School Leaders

Vision • Instruction • Strategy • Talent • Achievement

Build the leadership systems that drive student success.

A high-impact, cohort-based accelerator that helps charter leaders strengthen instruction, align strategy, and lead lasting school improvement.

PROGRAM EXPERIENCE

- 4 in-person convenings
- 2 Learning Lab school visits
- 1:1 coaching + personalized onboarding
- Peer collaboration across Colorado

Designed for new leaders (Years 0–5) and founding leaders.

Eligible leaders may participate at no cost through GSC funding

**Leadership
systems
that drive
student success**

Instruction • Strategy • Talent

Program Arc & Impact

Start Strong → Build Systems → Deepen Practice → Sustain Impact



Leaders learn to:

- Drive student achievement through instructional leadership
- Use data to guide decisions and monitor progress
- Align strategy, operations, and resources
- Build high-performing teams and school culture

What makes VISTA different

Learning Labs • Applied school planning • 1:1 coaching • Statewide cohort collaboration

2026-2027 | Colorado League of Charter Schools

FOCSL&A

Foundations of Charter Leadership & Administration

Charter-specific induction + professional learning

Equip leaders to launch, lead, and sustain high-quality charter schools.

A one-year leadership experience for rising and current charter leaders
- with a pathway for Colorado Principal & Administrator Induction.

PROGRAM EXPERIENCE

Targeted training workshops
Individualized coaching
Charter-focused leadership development
In-person and virtual sessions

Aligned to CSI/CDE induction requirements and Colorado Principal & Administrator Quality Standards



Launch
Lead
Sustain

Training • Coaching •
Network

Pathways & Learning Arc

Three access points -> one charter-focused leadership experience

Participation pathways

GSC Grant Track

Grant-aligned leadership training and technical assistance.

CSI Principal Induction

A charter-tailored pathway to validate an initial principal license.

Open Enrollment

Flexible access to high-quality professional learning.

2026-2027 session arc

Leaders build aligned systems across instruction, culture, finance, talent, and distributed leadership.



Leaders leave able to:

Set measurable goals • use data to prioritize • strengthen coaching systems • build sustainable teams

Subgrantees need to register for all sessions in to meet TA requirements



NATIONAL CHARTER SCHOOLS
INSTITUTE



Heather Wendling

Vice President of Professional Services

School Quality Reviews (SQRs)

- Intensive site visit that includes:
 - Instructional Observations
 - Document Review
 - Stakeholder Interviews
- Detailed report based on the rubric with recommendations for research-based steps to improve school performance
- Debrief with stakeholders to conclude the review

Finance & Operations Technical Assistance

Strong Finance & Operations Systems Support High Quality Schools



Sustainable School Operations

Budgeting, compliance, procurement, and operational planning



Staff & Leadership Capacity

Coaching and professional learning for school leaders and operations teams



Strong Systems & Processes

Tools, templates, workflows, and operational infrastructure



Strategic School Support

Practical guidance tailored to different school stages and needs

Operations and finance systems are critical to school sustainability, growth, and long-term success.



2025–2026 Operations & Finance TA Programs



Operations Fellowship

Audience: For operations leaders and aspiring ops leaders

Format: Hybrid cohort + coaching + capstone

Focus: Leadership • Systems • Team Management

Finance Community of Practice

Audience: For finance leaders and business managers

Format: Peer cohort + coaching

Focus: Budgeting • Reporting • Sustainability

Procurement Coaching

Audience: For growing and expanding schools

Format: 1:1 coaching support

Focus: Purchasing • Vendor Strategy • Compliance

Startup Finance & Readiness

Audience: For schools opening in Fall 2027

Format: Startup coaching + readiness planning

Focus: Governance • Enrollment • Launch Readiness

Practical Tools & Support for Schools



PARTICIPATION INCLUDED

- ✓ 1:1 coaching sessions
- ✓ Peer learning cohorts
- ✓ Workshops & virtual sessions
- ✓ Capstone projects
- ✓ Tools, templates, and implementation support

SCHOOLS WORKED ON

- ✓ Standard Operations Procedures (SOP) development
- ✓ Budgeting tools & dashboards
- ✓ Enrollment systems
- ✓ Procurement planning
- ✓ Vendor strategy
- ✓ Startup readiness assessments
- ✓ Team roles & operational planning

“*This was the best training I have ever attended.*”

Save the Date: Annual Finance Seminar



Friday, August 28, 2026

📍 Denver, Colorado



Practical Learning

Budgeting • Compliance • Sustainability



Peer Connection

Charter finance & operations leaders from across Colorado



CSP-Aligned Training

Supports annual grant training expectations



Designed for both experienced leaders and newer business managers.

Community Engagement & Enrollment Support In Partnership with Seminar

WHO THIS IS FOR



Schools in declining enrollment zones



Schools experiencing enrollment shifts or instability



Schools preparing to increase enrollment as part of CSP goals



Schools seeking to strengthen community engagement systems



Schools wanting to build capacity of their "Extreme Owner of Enrollment"



Schools looking to improve internal cohesion and shared accountability around enrollment

WHAT SCHOOLS WILL GAIN



Enrollment strategy development



Community engagement planning



Internal systems and structures



Shared team accountability around enrollment



Best practices for family engagement and outreach



Tools and processes to support sustainable enrollment growth



Sign-ups: August–September |  Program Launch: October |  Cohort + Coaching

Board Governance Technical Assistance

Supporting Strong, Sustainable Charter School Governance



BOARD GOVERNANCE PLAYBOOK

- Newly revised and enhanced governance resource
- Practical tools, templates, and best practices
- Designed to support strong, sustainable charter school governance



ASYNC BOARD LEARNING MODULES

- Flexible online governance training modules
- Accessible for new and experienced board members
- Focused on core governance responsibilities and effective oversight



FALL & SPRING GOVERNANCE TRAININGS

- Trainings for new board members
- Leadership-focused sessions for board chairs
- Opportunities for ongoing learning, networking, and governance development

"Strong governance creates the conditions for strong schools."

Key Dates to Save

- **Annual Finance Seminar** - Friday, August 28th (Denver metro-area location)
 - AFS 2026 Registration - TBD ([event Info](#))
 - AFS 2025 Recap | [Materials](#)
 - AFS 2024 Recap | [Slides](#)
- **Leadership Summit 2026** - Friday, October 2nd at the Westin Denver Downtown (1672 Lawrence Street, Denver, CO 80202)
 - LS26 Registration - open now! ([event info](#))
 - LS25 Recap | [Materials](#)
- **Colorado Annual Charter Schools Conference 2027** - Wednesday-Friday, March 3rd-5th at the Gaylord Rockies Resort and Convention Center (6700 N Gaylord Rockies Blvd, Aurora, CO 80019)

In the Loop: From the League's Website (1)



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Technical Assistance Offerings

Great Schools - Technical Assistance Survey

Our Legislative Work

Working for you everyday

The League team is at the capitol and working for the entire charter sector every day to ensure our agenda moves forward and our space is defended.

Learn more



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- Leadership Summit 2026 >
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- Cancellation Policy
- Past Events & Recordings >
- Submit Conference Keynote Proposal

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The League team is at the capitol and working for the entire charter sector every day to ensure our agenda moves forward and our space is defended.

[Learn more](#)



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[2026 Grant Competition](#)

[2025 Grant Competitions](#)

Great Schools Colorado

Supporting the growth of high-quality public education in Colorado through the federal Charter School Program.

Great Schools Colorado: Federal Funding for Charter Schools

The [Colorado League of Charter Schools](#) is distributing \$77 million in federal education funding to help Colorado expand students' opportunities to attend high-quality public charter schools that meet and exceed state academic standards.

The funding is part of the U.S. Department of Education's Charter Schools Program (CSP), and the funds are distributed through the League's five-year "Great Schools Colorado" project. The program will award over 30 subgrants focusing on two objectives:



Innovation doesn't come from state department edicts, but from community voices.

Karega Rausch

President & CEO,
NACSA

Grant Resources

Post-Award Support

- Post-Award Webinars
 - (TBD) June 1:30-2:30 PM - GSC Reimbursements
- New CSP Awardee Consultation via GSC Office Hours
 - Grant Program-related: <https://calendar.app.google/HxYD2xrgfSQa31CK6>
 - Grant Budget-related: <https://calendar.app.google/n37wKhPbQY2DFDnU8>
- Regular/Ongoing 1:1 Check-in Calls
 - As frequent as needed/identified (e.g., monthly, bi-monthly, quarterly)
 - Available now on Tuesdays & Fridays for Awardees/Subgrantees: <https://calendar.app.google/JhK8aZJg2RkLaBrU6>

Resources and Tools

- [Technical Assistance Overview](#) (25/26)
- [Foundant GMS Portal](#)
- [League](#) & [GSC](#) Websites
- Board Governance [Playbook](#) and [Modules](#)

Questions?

SUBGRANTEE SUPPORT

- **GSC Website:**
www.greatschoolscolorado.org
- **Grant Program Email:**
GreatSchools@coloradoleague.org
- **Foundant System Support:**
GSCsupport@coloradoleague.org
- **Grant Fiscal Email:**
Accounting@coloradoleague.org
- **TA Questions:**
schoolservices@coloradoleague.org



Feedback Survey



THANK YOU!

Please be sure to complete our TA evaluation form linked in our follow up communication to share your feedback regarding today's webinar presentation.