

# DEFENDING & 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+**

Town Halls

**3+**

Major Events

## 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**

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.

**+15**

(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

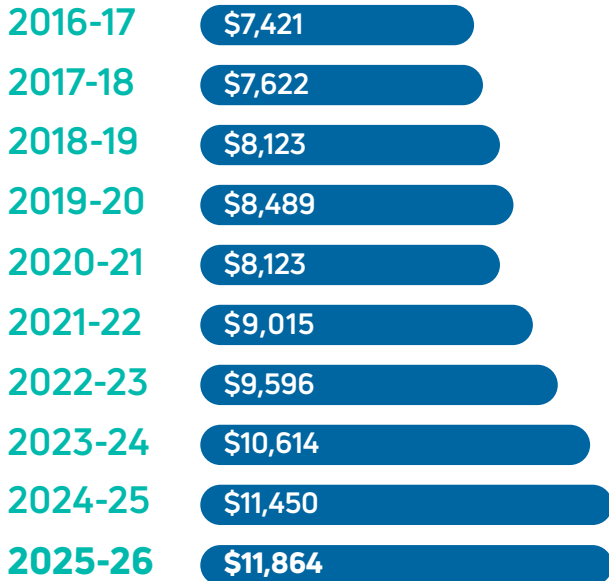
# 2024-2025 CHARTER SCHOOL FUNDING PROGRESS

# 51%

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

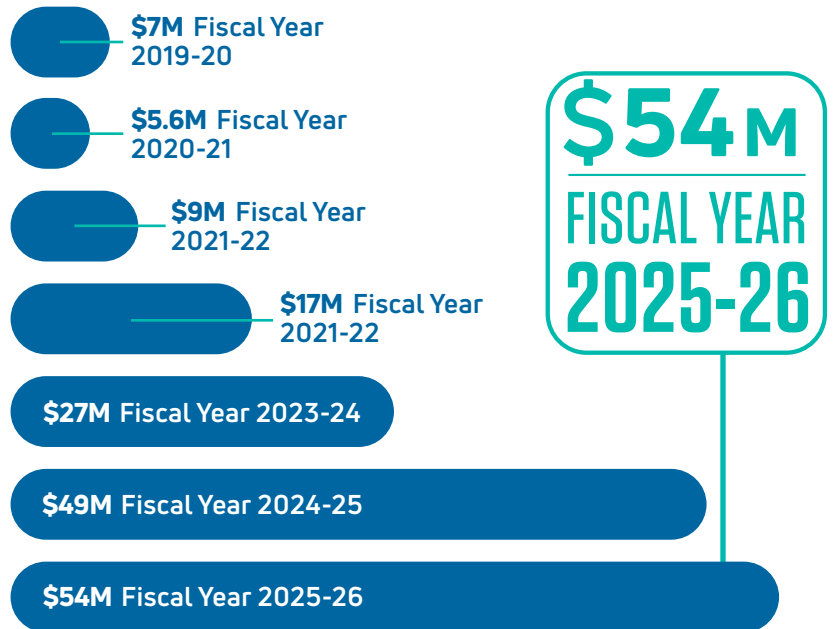
Here are four items that demonstrate our track record to help our members' growth and funding.

## 1 School PPR in Colorado



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

## 2 CSI Equalization Fund



## 3 Moral Obligation Program

**+\$250 M** → **\$1B**

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

## 4 Great Schools Colorado (CSP) and SFIG

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).

# \$100M

# YOUR MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

The Colorado League of Charter Schools is a full-service, non-profit membership organization offering a variety of benefits including: legislative advocacy, performance management, professional development, governance trainings, group purchasing programs, teacher effectiveness services, new school development support, employment and facilities consultation, marketing and communications assistance, and more.

**Benefits of membership include:**

## Advocacy

- State and federal advocacy, full-time, and year-round
- Regional advocacy and community engagement support
- Access to Legislative Summaries (the League's one-pager resources for school leaders)

## Resources, Support, & Guidance

- Guidance, support, and technical assistance for new school developing groups and members wishing to replicate or expand their current school
- Online Resource Center
- On-Demand Webinars
- Access to information, resources, best practices, and answers to charter-related questions through dedicated staff
- Access to our Charter Marketplace for vendor directories and discounted, pre-contracted pricing
- Unlimited job postings on the League's Jobs Board
- Newsletters and communication
- League Staff School Visits

## Convenings

- Member Learning Communities to bring together a group of people with similar challenges (based on school role) to build connections and share in problem-solving around the relevant issues
- Discounted access to our major events, including our Annual Conference, and Leadership Summit
- FREE: Advocacy Day and Annual Finance Seminar
- Town Halls
- Regional Convenings of school leaders, business managers, and board members

**Read more at:**  
[coloradoleague.org/about/membership.html](https://coloradoleague.org/about/membership.html)



## Consultancy & Coaching Services (discounted pricing for members)

Trainings, consulting, coaching and other services are available through our School Services Department to support you, your team, or your entire school or network, including:

- Academic & Instructional Support
- Exceptional Students
- Social Emotional Learning
- Human Resources and Talent
- Facilities and Finance
- School Operations
- Governance and Boards
- Enrollment Support: Marketing and Communications
- Health and Wellness
- Regional Advocacy
- Community Engagement
- Professional Development Opportunities
- School Quality Reviews

**Please refer to the [School Services](#) section of our website**

### League Member Quality Standards & Supports

MQSS began in 2023-2024 school year and is instrumental in creating a new structure and system internal to the League that, over a four-year timeline, allows for more intensive support and accountability in the case of chronically underperforming schools. Please visit this page on our website to read more about MQSS: [coloradoleague.org/about/mqss.html](https://coloradoleague.org/about/mqss.html)