

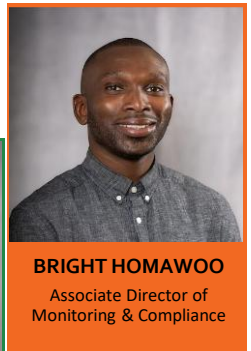


Charter Schools Program Grant

Post-Award Webinar for Subgrantees | May 14, 2026

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Meet the CSP Grant Team



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School Services Team



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Senior Director of School
Quality & Growth




JENNIFER LARSON
Director of Business
Services



KAROLINA VILLAGRANA
Director of School Quality

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Contracted Partners




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STEPHANIE VANDYK
Partner



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Lead Financial Consultant



LAUREN TYLER
Grants Management
Specialist

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Webinar Objectives

By the end of this orientation, you will:

- Understand how your CSP subgrant is structured—including post-award requirements and the differences between the planning and implementation periods.
- Know key fiscal procedures: reimbursements, documentation, and internal controls.
- Recognize monitoring and reporting expectations to stay in good standing.
- Learn where to find help, resources, and next steps.

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Agenda

1. About the GSC CSP Grant
2. Grant Periods & Allowability
3. Reimbursements
4. Fiscal Management & Controls
5. Monitoring & Oversight
6. Grant Resources
7. Q & A

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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.

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Overview of Post-Award Requirements

- After approval, the GSC team reviews each application to confirm eligibility and required documents before finalizing awards.
- **Key items:** approved CSP budget, executed charter contract/assurances, board bylaws and financial policies, CMO agreements, and an active Unique Entity Identification (UEI) for sam.gov.
- When the review is complete, your Grant Award Notification (GAN) is issued.
- Any gaps may become GAN conditions — items to address before the first release of funds.

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Grant Periods & Allowability

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Grant Periods

- **Planning Period** – no more than 18 months
- **Implementation Year 1** – up to 12 months
- **Implementation Year 2** – up to 12 months
- **Total Grant Period** – no more than 36 months

Your exact start and end dates are listed in your Grant Award Notification (GAN) and depend on when you open or expand.

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How Grant Periods Impact Allowability

Planning Period

- Allowability is more flexible because new seats aren't yet supported by per-pupil funding.
- CSP funds fill the gap before per-pupil funding begins.
- Start-up costs are easier to justify as temporary.

Implementation Years 1 and 2

- Schools begin receiving per-pupil revenue to support new seats.
- Allowability becomes more limited; CSP cannot cover costs expected to be publicly funded.

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Permissible Activities

An applicant receiving a subgrant under this program may use the subgrant funds only for allowable activities as defined in the ESSA § 4303(h):

1. Preparing teachers, school leaders, and specialized instructional support personnel, including through paying the costs associated with—
 - a. providing professional development; and
 - b. hiring and compensating, during the eligible applicant's planning period specified in the application for subgrant funds, that is required under this section one or more of the following:
 - i. Teachers.
 - ii. School leaders.
 - iii. Specialized instructional support personnel.
2. Acquiring supplies, training, equipment (including technology), and educational materials (including developing and acquiring instructional materials).
3. Carrying out necessary renovations to ensure that a new school building complies with applicable statutes and regulations, and minor facilities repairs (excluding construction).
4. Providing one-time, startup costs associated with providing transportation to students to and from the charter school.
5. Carrying out community engagement activities, which may include paying the cost of student and staff recruitment.
6. Providing for other appropriate, non-sustained costs related to the activities described in this RFA when such costs cannot be met from other sources. [20 U.S. Code § 7221b\(h\) Local Use of Funds](#)

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Cost Principles

All costs must follow federal cost principles ([2 C.F.R. Part 200, Subpart E](#)):

- **Allowable** — Costs permitted under federal rules and the CSP grant; **necessary** and **reasonable**, consistent with your organization's policies, not paid by another federal award, and documented within the grant period.
- **Reasonable**: Costs necessary to achieve grant goals, follow sound business practices, and reflect market prices.
- **Allocable**: Costs that directly support the approved grant project (i.e., seats being added and expenses dated within the correct grant period) and can be assigned to its objectives.

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Federal Budget Categories

All CSP expenses must fit into one of the following federal budget categories:

- Personnel
- Fringe Benefits
- Furniture and Equipment
- Supplies
- Contractual
- Travel
- Other

Additional requirements:

- Use correct object codes
- Include clear justifications in budget narrative

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Allowable vs. Unallowable Costs*

Allowable examples:

- Curriculum development
- Staff recruitment
- Professional development
- Start-up materials

Unallowable examples:

- Construction
- Debt service
- Lobbying
- Recurring operating expenses

**These are common examples — refer to the GSC CSP Allowable Cost Guide, 2 CFR Part 200, and EDGAR guidelines.*

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Sustainability Planning

- Begin planning early for funding after the grant ends
- Leverage CSP funds to build lasting systems and capacity
- Explore additional funding sources and partnerships to support long-term growth
- Participate in a School Quality Review in Implementation Year 2 to assess strengths, identify growth areas, and plan long-term improvement.

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Reimbursements

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Reimbursement Process

- Subgrantees submit monthly reimbursement requests to the GSC team.
- Use Foundant to submit by the 10th of each month for paid expenses.
- Attach required documentation (e.g., invoices, payroll, receipts) — varies by expense type, but at a minimum each expense must have an invoice/receipt/contract **and** proof of payment.
- Requests are reviewed by the GSC team for budget alignment and allowability.
- Payments are typically issued near the beginning of the following month after the due date to the fiscal agent (i.e., school or authorizer).

Additional reimbursement guidance will be provided in a separate webinar.

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Impacts on Funding Availability

Budget Alignment

- Spending must follow the approved budget; unused or misaligned funds can be reduced or adjusted.

Monitoring Concerns

- When compliance concerns arise, reimbursements may be temporarily suspended until corrected.

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Fiscal Management & Controls

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Building Strong Internal Controls

- Keep CSP and non-CSP funds separate; no commingled accounts.
- Dual approval for purchases — no single-person control.
- Maintain documentation for at least 5 years after the grant ends.
- Keep records organized so spending is clear and easy to verify.

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Procurement & Equipment Management

- Follow federal procurement standards: fair competition, cost reasonableness, no conflicts.
- Tag and track all CSP-funded equipment: location, user, condition.
- Report losses or disposals promptly.
- Disclose related-party or board member vendor relationships.

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Audit and Financial Review

- CSP funds may be reviewed as part of your annual audit and are subject to federal single audit requirements if spending thresholds are met.
- Must follow Uniform Grant Guidance (2 CFR 200) for cost allowability and documentation.
- Keep grant funds clearly separated in your records and maintain backup documentation for all expenses.

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Monitoring & Oversight

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Monitoring Activities

Programmatic Desk Reviews

Annual check of key policies, publicly posted information, and enrollment/performance data to ensure compliance and track progress toward grant goals, including student outcomes measured by SPF data.

Site Visits

Two on-site visits during Implementation Years 1 and 2, one per year, to check grant execution — including observations, interviews, document review, and inventory checks.

Intermittent Monitoring

Additional reviews (e.g., reporting, document requests, or extra site visits) may occur if concerns arise between scheduled reviews.

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Annual Progress Report (APR)

- Summarizes your school's progress on grant goals and use of CSP funds
- Includes narrative, financial, and enrollment/performance data
- Submitted annually, usually late spring/early summer
- Helps inform the League's CSP reports to the U.S. Department of Education
- Late or incomplete reports may delay reimbursements or affect eligibility

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Charter Authorizer Oversight

- Stay in good standing with your authorizer
- Maintain compliance with charter contract
- Notify the GSC team of material changes

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Risk Assessment

- All subgrantees are reviewed for potential risk of noncompliance with grant rules.
- Risk factors may include lower-than-projected enrollment, late reporting, delays in spending, leadership or governance changes, and fiscal or operational concerns.
- Higher risk can lead to increased monitoring and additional support/technical assistance (TA).

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Corrective Action Plans (CAPs)

- Issued when compliance issues or risk indicators are identified.
- Outlines specific steps and deadlines to resolve concerns.
- Timely completion helps maintain funding and avoid delays or suspension.

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Technical Assistance (TA)

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Overview

- GSC-related technical assistance is designed to provide proactive support throughout the grant lifecycle
- TA offerings are focused on strengthening school quality, implementation, and long-term sustainability
- Participation in TA activities are required as a condition of funding
- A minimum 3% of total award reserved for individualized TA activities
- Support may include:
 - Webinars and trainings
 - Coaching and professional development
 - Conferences and peer learning opportunities
 - Targeted support based on school needs

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Compliance TA

- Ongoing support to help schools understand and meet grant requirements
- Assistance with reimbursement procedures and documentation expectations
- Guidance on allowable costs, budgeting, and fiscal compliance
- Support for monitoring activities, reporting requirements, and corrective actions
- Targeted assistance provided based on identified risks or implementation needs

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Post-Award Support

- Post-Award Webinars
 - May 28th @ 1:30-2:30 PM - GSC TA Offerings
 - (TBD) June @ 1:30-2:30 PM - GSC Reimbursements
- New CSP Awardee Consultation via GSC Office Hours (now through 9/30)
 - Grant Program-related: <https://calendar.app.google/HxYD2xrgfSQa31CK6>
 - Grant Budget-related: **Pending; availability TBD**
- 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>

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Key Dates to Save

- **Annual Finance Seminar (AFS)** - Friday, August 28th
 - AFS 2025 Recap | [Materials](#)
 - AFS 2024 Recap | [Slides](#)
- **Leadership Summit 2026 (LS26)** - Friday, October 2nd at the Westin Denver Downtown (1672 Lawrence Street, Denver, CO 80202)
 - LS25 Recap | [Materials](#)
- **Colorado Annual Charter Schools Conference 2027 (AC27)** - Wednesday - Friday, March 3rd - 5th at the Gaylord Rockies Resort and Convention Center (6700 N Gaylord Rockies Blvd, Aurora, CO 80019)

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

The screenshot shows the Colorado League of Charter Schools website. The header includes the logo, navigation links for 'the League', 'Advocacy', 'Events+', 'Charters+', and 'More', along with 'Register' and 'Login' buttons. A search icon is also present. The 'Membership' dropdown menu is open, listing options: 'Membership', 'Great Schools Colorado', 'CLCS Action', 'Who We Are: Mission, Vision, Principles', 'Support Us', 'Hall of Fame', and 'Contact Us'. A secondary dropdown menu is visible, listing 'Technical Assistance Offerings' and 'Great Schools - Technical Assistance Survey'. The main content area features a section titled 'Our Legislative Work' with the subtext 'Working for you everyday' and a paragraph describing the team's work at the capitol. A 'Learn more' button is located below the text. A circular image of a young girl is partially visible on the right side of the page. At the bottom, there are three circular icons: a megaphone, a magnifying glass with an 'r', and a ruler with a pencil.

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In the Loop: From the League's Events+ Page

The screenshot shows the Colorado League of Charter Schools website with the 'Events+' dropdown menu open. The header navigation is the same as in the previous screenshot. The 'Events+' dropdown menu lists: 'Calendar', 'Leadership Summit 2026', 'Annual Conference 2027', 'Recorded Trainings', 'Cancellation Policy', 'Past Events & Recordings', and 'Submit Conference Keynote Proposal'. The main content area is identical to the previous screenshot, featuring 'Our Legislative Work' and the 'Learn more' button. The circular image of the young girl and the three bottom icons are also present.

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In the Loop: From the GSC [Website](#)

The screenshot shows the Great Schools Colorado website. At the top left is the logo. To the right are navigation links: About, Competitions, Resources, Technical Assistance, and Contact Us. A search bar is also present. Below the navigation is a banner image of children in a classroom with the text "Great Schools Colorado" and "Supporting the growth of high-quality public education in Colorado through the federal Charter School Program." Below the banner is a featured article titled "Great Schools Colorado: Federal Funding for Charter Schools". The article text states: "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:". To the right of the article is a quote: "Innovation doesn't come from state department edicts, but from community voices." attributed to Karega Rausch, President & CEO, NACSA.

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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

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Grant Resources

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Grant Documents

- The League's GSC CSP Grant Funding awarded under the federal 2024 Notice Inviting Applications (NIA)
- FY26 Request for Applications (RFA) for New, Replication, and Expansion Schools
- Federal 2014 CSP Non-Regulatory Guidance
- Your approved subgrant application and budget
- Your Grant Award Notification (GAN)

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Resources and Tools

- [2024 NIA and FY25 GSC RFA](#)
- [CSP Non-Regulatory Guidance \(2014\)](#)
- [EDGAR](#) and [2 CFR 200 \(Uniform Guidance\)](#)
- [Foundant GMS Portal](#)
- [League](#) & [GSC](#) Websites

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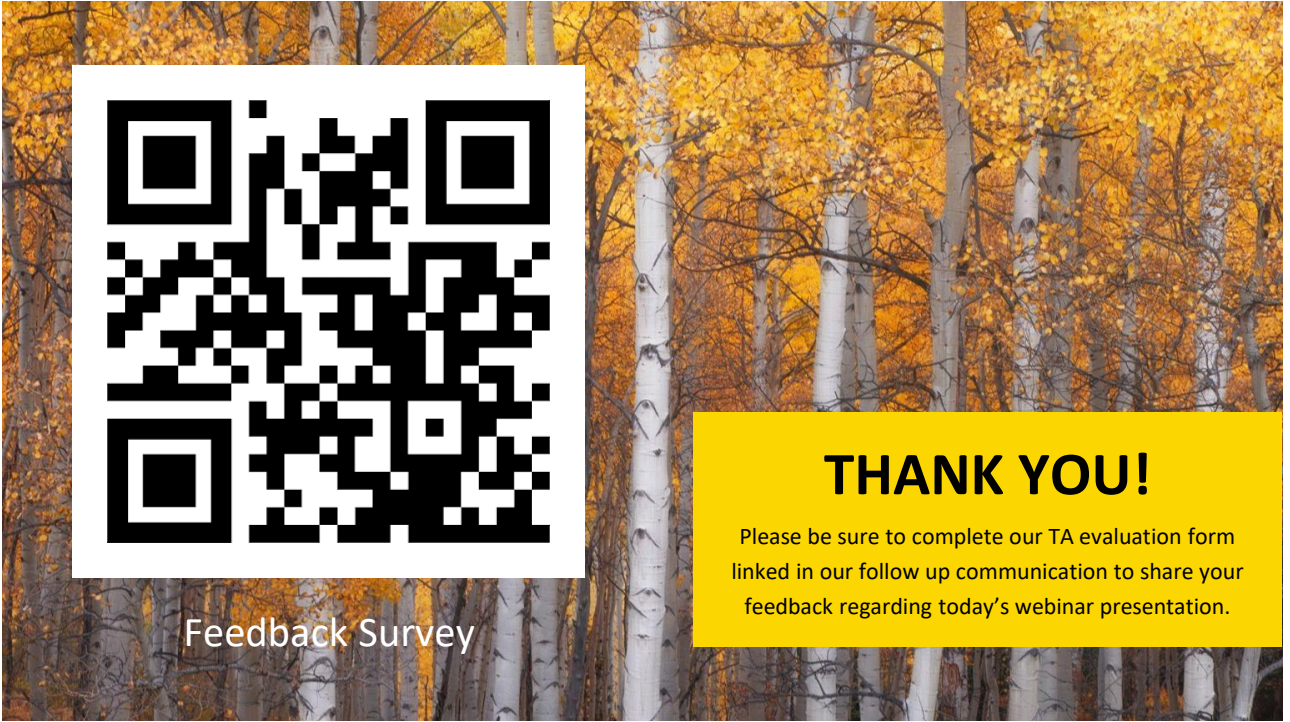


Questions?

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

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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.