

2025 Florida Public Charter Schools Program (CSP) Grant for New Operators

Stage I Applicant Technical Assistance Webinar





Introductions

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Agenda

- Method for Answering Questions (FAQs)
- Funding Authority
- Overview of Competition Process
 - Two Stage Application Process
 - Eligible Applicants
 - Stage I Proposal Requirements
- Stage I Method of Review
- Stage II Summary
- Demonstration of Application System
- Quick Tips & Reminders



Method of Answering FAQs



Method of Answering FAQs

- E-mail questions to charterschoolgrant@fldoe.org with "CSP Question" in the subject header by close of business on Friday, October 17, 2025.
- The Department will publish on our website FAQs with answers no later than Tuesday, October 21, 2025.



Method of Answering FAQs

Implementation Only Projects

Reimbursement grant only



- Applicants selected for funding must have the capacity to purchase all approved budget items immediately upon approval.
- Schools that cannot provide evidence that the school will open by August 2026 and will not have the capacity to expend all funds by June 2026 should not apply.



Funding Authority

Federal Funds: Title IV, Part C of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA) (20 U.S.C. 7221-7221j).



Overview of Competition Process

- Two Stage Application Process
- Eligible Applicants
- Stage I Proposal Requirements



Stage I:

- Open to all eligible applicants
- Proposal (application) is submitted online via <u>Survey Monkey Apply</u>

Stage II:

- By invitation only
- Proposal is submitted via Department's Office of Grants Management via the ShareFile system
- Budgets submitted with proposals



Definition of a New Operator:

- An applicant that <u>has opened less than five</u> public charter schools in Florida. This includes all charter schools opened, including those that subsequently closed.
- Note: If the applicant will work with a management company/education services provider that has operated five or more charter schools in Florida, the applicant is considered an Established Operator.



Eligible Applicants must also meet the following conditions:

- Submitted a charter school application to a local school district using the Department's model charter school application (Form IEPC-M1, effective February 2016, or later) as adopted in State Board of Education Rule 6A-6.0786; and
- Charter application has been approved by the district; or charter application is denied and pending an appeal.
- Applicants must open no later than August 2026.



 Applicants that submitted the Department's model charter school application to a local school district and subsequently applied to and were denied funding in any CSP competition held between 2016 and the present time cannot submit a revised charter application for this competition.



Proposal Requirements:

- Eligibility Form Verifies the applicant's eligibility to apply.
- Overview Form Census tract number must be provided here for opportunity zone preference points, if applicable.
- Charter School Application -The charter school application submitted as part of this CSP proposal must be the exact application submitted to the district for its review and approval.

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Proposal Requirements, continued

- Attachments A-Z from the model charter school application, as applicable
- Addenda A, A1, B from the model charter school application, as applicable
- Addenda AA-FF from the model charter school application, as applicable



Proposal Requirements, continued

- Attestation
- Stage I proposals do not need Superintendent signature.
- A grant budget is not required.



Online Submission

- Submit online via Survey Monkey Apply: https://flcsp-apply.smapply.io/
- Stage I proposal due by Friday, October 24, 2025, 5:00 pm Eastern Time (ET).
- The due date refers to the date and time the proposal must be fully submitted through the Survey Monkey Apply online application system.

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Stage I Method of Review

The Department utilizes separate and distinct review processes for **established operators** (operators who have opened at least five charter schools in Florida) and **new operators** (operators who have opened less than five charter schools in Florida).

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Completeness Review

- Eligibility Form
- Overview Form
- Charter School Application
 - Application Cover Sheet
 - Executive Summary
 - Educational Plan (subsections 1-9)
 - Organizational Plan (subsections 10-15)
 - Business Plan (subsections 16-22)
 - Addendum A Replications
 - Addendum A1 High-Performing Replications
 - Addendum B Education Service Providers



Completeness Review, continued

- Attestation
- Spot checks with district sponsors to ensure the application submitted to the CSP competition is the same as that submitted to the district



Capacity Review (more information in RFP)

- Each proposal will be evaluated in full by three independent reviewers with combined expertise in educational, organizational and business planning for charter schools.
- Each evaluator will review all subsections as well as relevant attachments, appendices or addenda, including the Applicant History Worksheet, if applicable.
- After individual reviews, CSP Proposal Review team will discuss and rate each subsection of the application. Each subsection will receive one of the following ratings:
 - ✓ Falls Far Below Expectations
 - ctations

 Meets Expectations
 - ✓ Does Not Meet Expectations
- ✓ Exceeds Expectations
- ✓ Approaches Expectations



Capacity Interview, continued

- Conducted virtually
- Applicant may have up to eight people attend the interview
- Interview team must reflect the leadership of the charter school yet be small enough that each person will contribute substantively.
- Applicants are encouraged to invite, at a minimum, key board members and the proposed school leader (if identified).

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Capacity Interview, continued

- Tentatively scheduled for the week of December 1, 2025 or December 8, 2025.
- Requests to reschedule will not be considered.





Stage I Review- Established Operators

Preference Points

- Opportunity Zones and Schools of Hope
- National Charter School Growth Fund
- Rural Those opening in Rural and Low-Income School Districts (RLIS)
- Service Area Schools that will operate in districts that received a grade of "C" or lower for last two years
- Student Recruitment and Enrollment Applicants who score a rating of "Exceeds Expectations" on relevant section of the model charter application



Stage I Review- FAQs

 Q: Is a school that previously received a CSP grant eligible for this grant?

A: No.

 Q: Would our expansion into a middle or high school be considered a new charter school and be eligible for this CSP grant?

A: No. This is a competition for schools that have their own contract and MSID.



Stage I Review- FAQs

 Q: We have applied in two districts for 3 schools. Do we apply for CSP grants separately for each school?

A: Yes. A separate application must be completed for each school.

 Q: Can schools that applied previously but did not make it past Stage I apply again this year?

A: Yes.



Stage II Summary

- Highest scoring applications invited to submit a Stage II proposal.
- Invitation to Stage II does not a guarantee of funding.
- Stage II proposals due to the Department January 2025.



Stage II Proposals

- Upon invitation to submit Stage II, the Department will offer webinars focused on budget completion.
- The Department will only accept applications from applicants invited to Stage II.
- Review RFP for all technical requirements.



Awards

Implementation Only Projects

- Maximum project period of nine months.
- The project start date will be the date that the prioritized funding list (PFL) is approved by the Commissioner of the Florida Department of Education.
- The Department anticipates a project effective date during the month of January 2025.



Awards

Implementation Only Projects

Reimbursement grant only



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- Schools that cannot provide evidence that the school will open by August 2026 and will not have the capacity to expend all funds by June 2026 should not apply.



Stage II

Pre-Award Costs

 The Department may approve, or allow reimbursement for, expenses on allowable items incurred no more than 90 days before the start of the project effective date. Such costs are defined as pre-award costs, and are allowable only to the extent that they would have been allowable if incurred after the project effective date and are allowable only with approval of the Florida Department of Education.

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Stage II

Pre-Award Costs, cont.

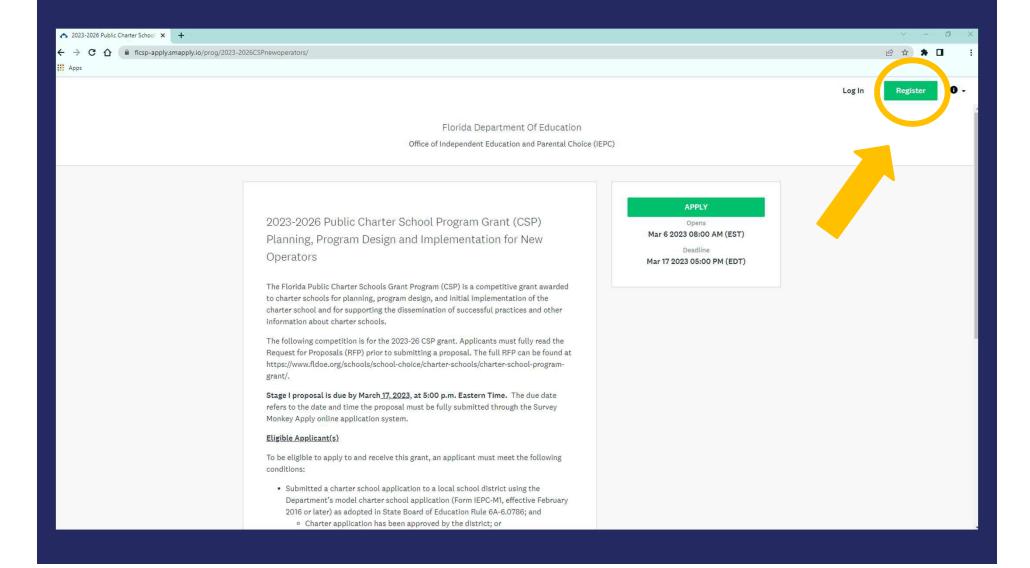
- The Department's approval for pre-award costs does not guarantee reimbursement.
- Sub-grant recipient should incur costs at their own risk.
- To receive reimbursement, the fiscal agent (sponsor/district) may require evidence of proper procurement procedures, the date the obligation was incurred, and verification that the item was deemed reasonable, necessary, and allowable by the Department.



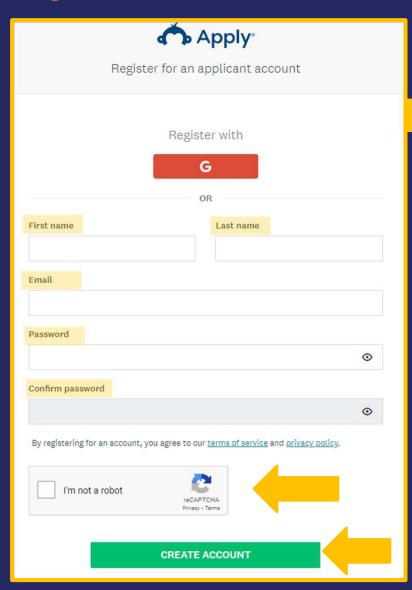
Demonstration of Application System

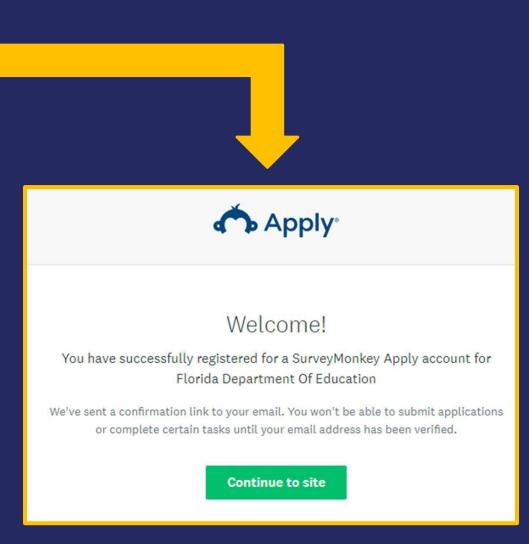
Survey Monkey Apply

1. First-time Survey Monkey Apply users will need to create an account.

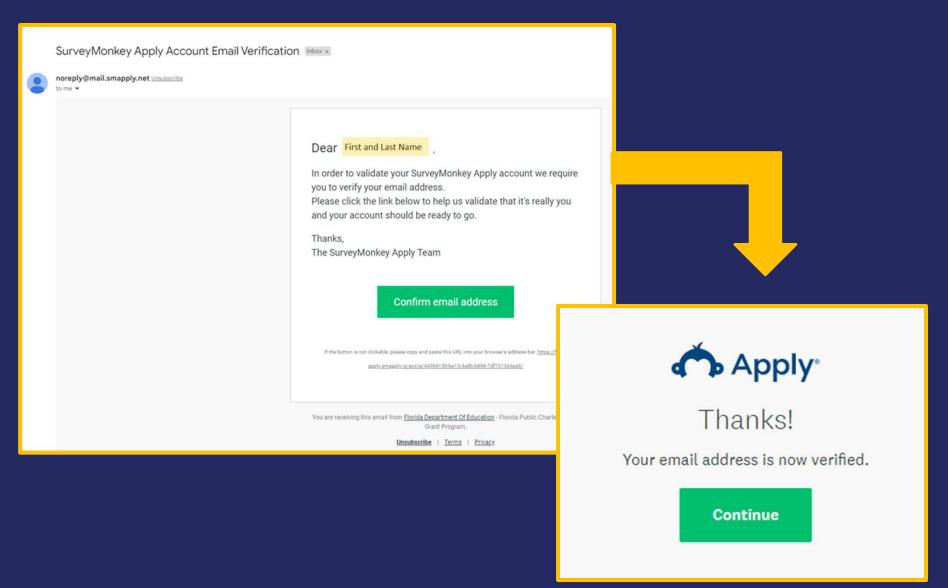


1.1 Survey Monkey Apply will require user information to register for an account.

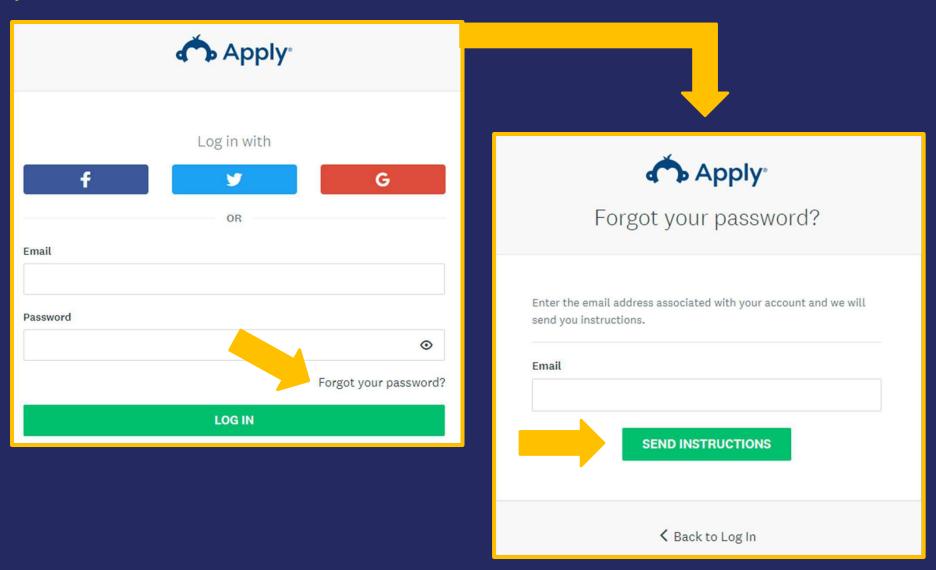




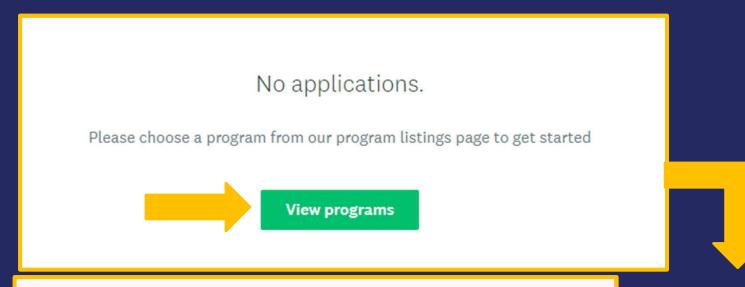
1.2 User's email address will need to be verified.



2. Existing Survey Monkey Apply Account but can't recall password



3. Select the applicable RFP Competition.



Programs

2025 (Implementation Only 7 New Operators

Accepting applications from Apr 24 2025 03:00 PM (EDT) to May 7 2025 05:00 PM (EDT)

2025 Charter School Program Grant (CSP) Implementation Only -Established Operators



MORE >

4. To start the application, click Apply.

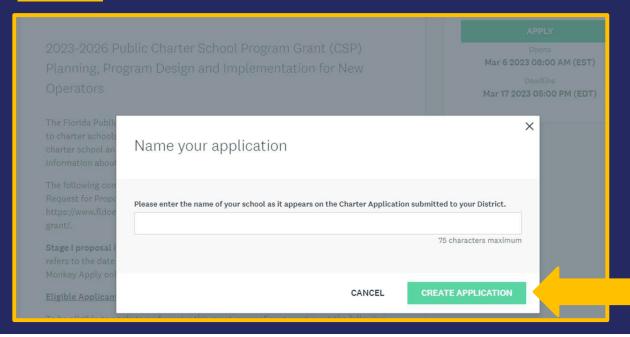
2025 (Implementation Only - Established Operators) Charter School Program (CSP) Grant

The Florida Public Charter Schools Grant Program (CSP) is a competitive grant awarded to charter schools for the initial implementation of the charter school.

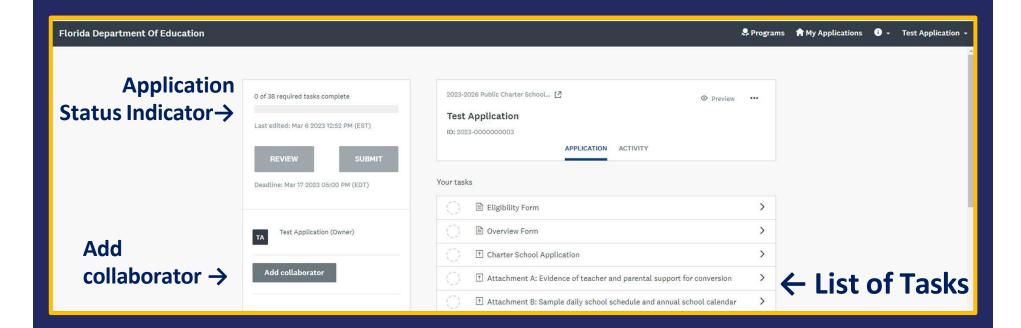
The following competition is for the 2025 CSP grant. Applicants must fully read the Request for Proposals (RFP) prior to submitting a proposal. The full RFP can be found at https://www.fldoe.org/schools/school-choice/charter-schools/charter-school-program-grant/

APPLY
Opens
Apr 24 2025 03:00 PM (EDT)
Deadline
May 7 2025 05:00 PM (EDT)

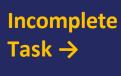
5. Enter the school's name <u>as it appears on the charter application submitted to your</u> sponsor.

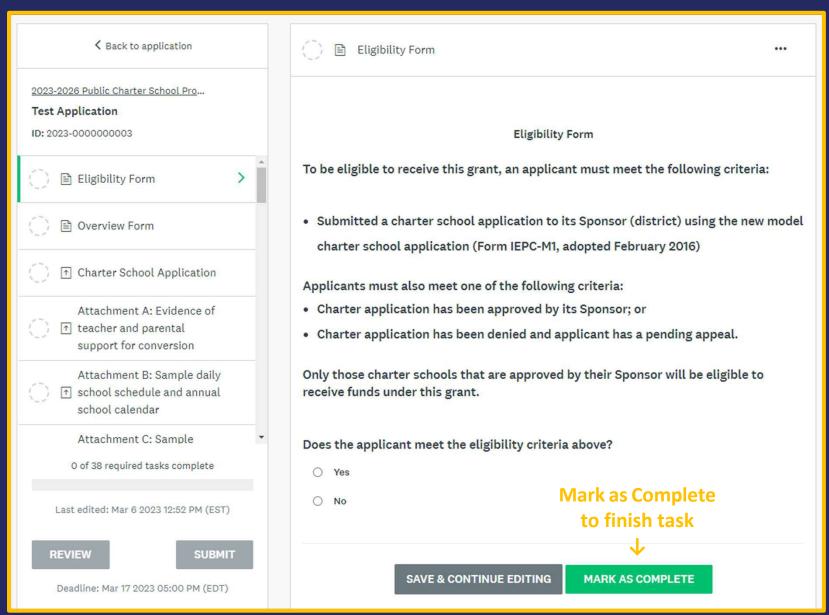


6. Home page.

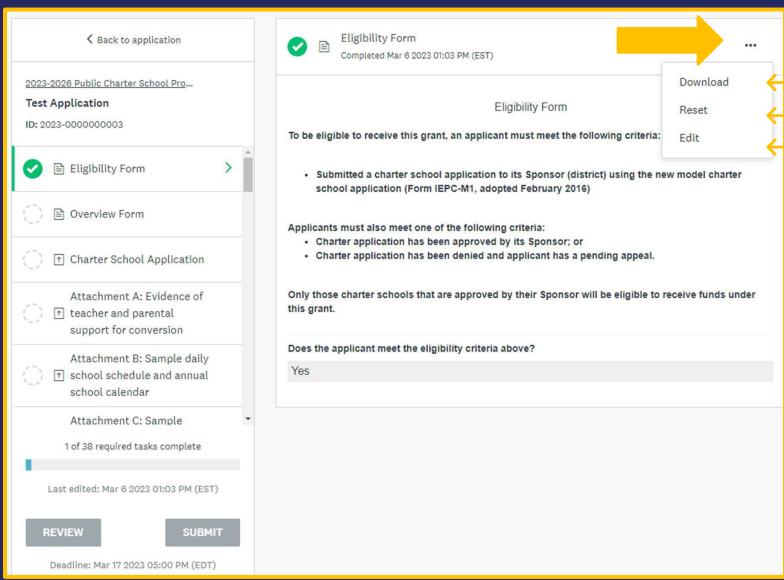


7. Complete each task.





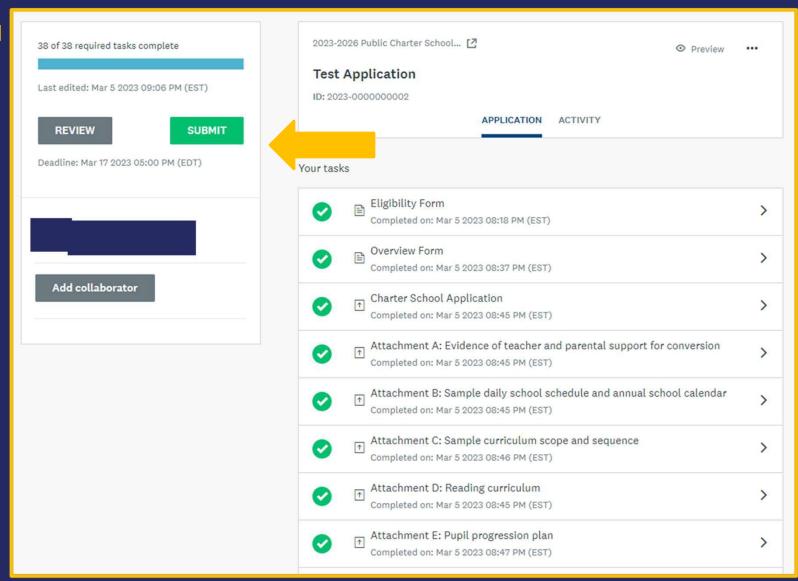
Tasks may be downloaded, reset, or edited before the application is submitted.



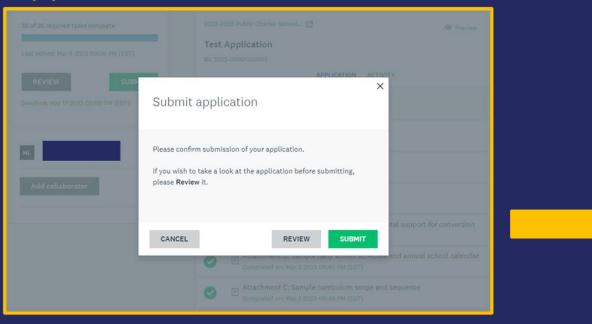
Download Task Reset Task Edit Task

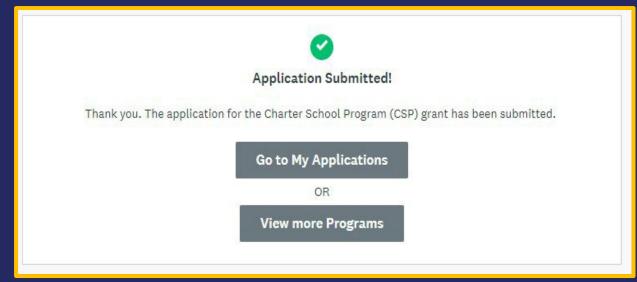
8. Submit the application.

Completed
Task →



9. Application Submission Confirmation







Quick Tips & Reminders



Quick Tips

- Upload attachments as a single <u>clear</u> PDF document.
- When possible, create a PDF instead of scanning a printed document.



Quick Tips

Implementation Only Projects

Reimbursement grant only



- Applicants selected for funding must have the capacity to purchase all approved budget items immediately upon approval.
- Schools that cannot provide evidence that the school will open by August 2026 and will not have the capacity to expend all funds by June 2026 should not apply.



Reminders

- Email questions to <u>CharterSchoolGrant@fldoe.org</u> by Friday, October 17, 2025 at 11:59 pm ET.
- Submit Stage I proposal through Survey Monkey Apply by Friday, October 24, 2025 at 5:00 pm ET.
- Application submissions or changes to applications will not be accepted after this deadline.



Thank you for participating.

Contact us at charterschoolgrant@fldoe.org