What is the CSP Grant?

The Utah Charter Schools Program State Entity Grant — funded through Title IV, Part C of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act — provides **$44 million over five years** to launch or **expand 16 schools** and **create 5,000 new seats statewide**, with a priority on serving underserved communities and educationally disadvantaged students.

The grant also:
- strengthens authorizing practices
- supports charter boards
- builds leadership capacity
- shares best practices across the state

Who is eligible to apply?

To qualify, an applicant must:

- Have been approved by an authorizer for a new school, replication, or expansion.
- Meet federal definitions of a charter school and a charter school developer.
- Be a nonprofit organization.
- Notify the authorizer that they intend to apply for CSP funds.
- Be a high-quality charter school (if applying for expansion or replication).
- LEA has not previously received CSP funds for the same purpose in the past 3 years.

Your first official step is to complete the Letter of Intent and Eligibility Verification in the SurveyMonkey Apply portal. UAPCS verifies eligibility within five business days.

This grant is available for:

- New charter school approved to open its first campus
- Existing high-performing charters ready to replicate their model (satellite)
- Existing high-performing charters ready to expand grade levels or capacity

Why does this grant exist?

1. **Catalyze growth** where communities need more high-quality options.
2. **Support strong governance** and long-term sustainability.
3. **Promote innovation** in teaching and school design.
4. **Support enrollment** processes that provide equal access for all learners.
5. **Promote collaboration**—both between charters and districts, and across charter networks

How much funding is available?

For Spring 2026, the total competition pool is $8,000,000. This will be distributed in three categories:

- One New School Award – $2 million
- One Replication Award – $2 million
- Two Expansion Awards – $2 million each

Projects can **last up to 42 months**, including an **18-month planning period** and a **24-month implementation period.**

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What can CSP funding be used for?

This grant is very specific about allowable, one-time, non-sustained costs.

Funding can support:
- Hiring teachers, leaders, or instructional support staff during the planning period
- Professional development
- Purchasing technology, equipment, curriculum, and supplies
- Minor facility repairs or renovations required for compliance
- Start-up transportation costs
- Community engagement and recruitment
- Other one-time start-up expenses that can't be covered with operational funds

If your school needs one-time resources to get a new or replicated program off the ground, this grant may be an excellent fit.

Key Dates for CSP Grant Process:

Training #1: Introduction to CSP Webinar	January 14, 2026 @ 5:30 pm via Zoom
Letter of Intent / Eligibility Check Deadline	January 14, 2026 by 11:59 pm
Training #2: Required RFA Orientation Webinar	January 20, 2026 @ 5:30 pm via Zoom
RFA Published & Application Window Opens	January 22, 2026 @ 7:00 pm
Training #3: Required Budget Support Webinar	January 26, 2026 @ 6:00 pm via Zoom

What can CSP funding NOT be used for?

- Construction
- Ongoing salaries after the school opens
- Food and beverages
- Student activities
- Utilities
- Incentives or gifts
- Apparel
- Lobbying

Your CSP Grant Support Team

- CSP Program Administrator: Shannon Greer, shannon@utahcharters.org

- CSP Controller: Barbie Faust, barbie@utahcharters.org

- CSP Program Coordinator: Suzanne Owen, suzanne@utahcharters.org

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