



Start a School

AN EDUCATION FREEDOM FOUNDATION INITIATIVE

Connecticut

Charter Schools

Charter schools are authorized by the State Board of Education. Local charter schools are funded by local or regional boards of education; state charter schools are funded by the state. They provide small-scale educational programs managed by a governing board comprised of teachers and parents or guardians of the students enrolled in the school and may include community members. Charter schools offer a range of educational programs, small class size, and enhanced teacher-parent communication.

Northeast Charter Schools Network (NECSN) serves as the network organization supporting the Connecticut Charter Schools Association and the New York Charter Schools Association. To learn more about charter options in Connecticut, check out the [Northeast Charter Schools Network](#). The following is from their [website](#):

Steps to Start a Charter School

CSDE Releases Charter Request for Proposals

As the demand for high-quality public school options grows in our state, we're pleased to share that the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) has released a [Request for Proposals \(RFP\)](#) to receive applications for state and local charter schools.

This represents a pivotal opportunity for interested applicants to help grow Connecticut's thriving public charter school sector and expand these high-quality educational options to more students in more communities.

CTCSA, in partnership with CSDE, is here to support applicants through the process and ensure they have all of the information they need. Below, you will find a variety of resources for those interested in applying.

The first step in creating a Charter school is to register as a corporation. This is usually a non-profit LLC. Register with your state's Division of Corporations.

If you are planning to operate as a non-profit, you will need to obtain your IRS Non-Profit status by submitting [IRS Form 1023](#).

How to Apply

Application information is [linked here](#). Please email the application in PDF format to: Felicia.Canty@ct.gov.

Information Session

CTCSA will host an information session to support prospective applicants with the application process and answer questions. [Click here to register](#) for our information session.

Additional Support

For any questions for the Connecticut State Department of Education, reach out to Robert Kelly at (860) 713-6574 or robert.kelly@ct.gov.

If you are interested in applying and would like to schedule a conversation to learn more about specific supports available to applicant groups, please contact Katie Maron at kmaron@ctcharters.org.

CSP Grant Funding Available

The Connecticut Charter Schools Association (CTCSA) is pleased to inform all charter school developers and existing schools in Connecticut of the availability of federal funding for charter school operators through the federally funded [Great Schools for Connecticut \(GSCT\)](#) Charter Schools Program (CSP) grant. This grant is administered by CTCSA.

Individuals and applicant groups who wish to open new schools in Connecticut, and existing schools in Connecticut that wish to expand or replicate, may apply for funding through the GSCT CSP grant to fund allowable start-up costs. We encourage existing schools in Connecticut that are authorized to [expand or replicate](#), or individuals and applicant groups who are seeking to open a new school to apply for federal CSP funding under the GSCT grant. Recent awardees of CSP funding include Edmonds Cofield Preparatory Academy for Young Men.

For further details, please refer to the [GSCT website](#). You can also learn more at our upcoming webinars.

- [CSP Intro and RFA Webinar](#)
- [CSP Budget Support Webinar](#) The email contact for the GSCT team at the Connecticut Charter School Association is: csp@ctcharters.org. The email contact for the GSCT CSP liaison at the Connecticut State Department of Education is Felicia Canty: Felicia.Canty@ct.gov.

Statutes and Rules

- [Connecticut General Statutes § 10-66aa to 10-66uu, inclusive](#)
- [Charter School Legislation](#)

Resources

- Department of Education
450 Columbus Blvd., Suite 602
Hartford, CT 06103
Charter School Programs Manager: robert.kelly@ct.gov - (860) 713-6574
Charter School Liaison: felicia.canty@ct.gov - (860) 713-6573
- [Connecticut Charter Schools Best Practices 2022 - 2023](#)
- [Charter Schools Directory](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Charter Renewal Public Hearing Dates and Locations](#)
- [Report on the Operation of Charter Schools in Connecticut](#)
- [Public School Choice in Connecticut](#)
- [Charter School Questions and Answers](#)
- [Bidders' Conference Presentation](#)
- [2023-24 Budget Worksheet](#)