

MEMORANDUM

TO: District Superintendents
Public Information Officers

FROM: Laura Bayne
Deputy Superintendent, Division of Strategic Engagement

DATE: March 10, 2026

RE: 2026–27 Charter Schools Program—Planning and Implementation Subgrant

The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) announces that the 2026–27 Request for Proposals for the Charter Schools Program Planning and Implementation subgrant is now available online. Approximately \$3 million in funding will be distributed on a competitive basis and the deadline to apply is May 8, 2026.

The SCDE will award funds to expand the number of high-quality charter schools across the state and to expand opportunities for all students, particularly traditionally underserved students, to attend charter schools. For charter schools opening during the 2026–27 or 2027–28 school year, this is a multi-year project with a combined performance period of up to 36 months. A charter school that meets the federal definition of a charter school and is in the first year of operation may apply for an implementation-only subgrant for up to 24 months.

A technical assistance webinar for grant applicants will be held on March 23, 2026, via [Adobe Connect](#). Participants may log in up to 30 minutes in advance of the session to test their equipment and download handouts.

Visit the [SCDE Grant Opportunities page](#) for updated information on grants, eligibility, application deadlines, and technical assistance. For more information about the Charter Schools Program Planning and Implementation subgrant, contact Terri Prince at tmprince@ed.sc.gov or Beth Poff at bpoff@ed.sc.gov.