

# The Tri-State Alliance To Improve District-Led Charter Authorizing

THE TRI-STATE ALLIANCE TO  
IMPROVE DISTRICT-LED CHARTER  
AUTHORIZING

Presented by the Colorado Charter School Institute



A Project of the Colorado Charter School Institute (CSI), in partnership with:

1. California Charter Authorizing Professionals (CCAP)
2. Colorado Association of Charter School Authorizers (CACSA)
3. Florida Association of Charter School Authorizers (FACSA)



*The Alliance will improve the quality of the charter school sector by addressing the current gap in best practice resources, training and professional development for district and small/rural authorizers.*

*-Grant Application*

# An Overview

**Source:** Federal Charter Schools Program (CSP)

**Recipient:** CSI is grant recipient and fiscal agent

**Grant Period:** Three-Year

**Total Funding:** \$2,669,053

**Primary Partnership:** State-Based Authorizing Associations:

- CCAP
- CACSA
- FACSA

# Additional Partners



# Why District Authorizers?

- ▷ They are the entities that do most of the authorizing
- ▷ They need support, but their individual needs may be different
- ▷ They are too-often misunderstood and over-simplified

# District Authorizers are the Norm Nationally

- ▷ Established by law in 33 charter states
- ▷ 90 percent of all authorizers are districts
- ▷ Districts oversee 53 percent of charter schools
- ▷ More than half of large authorizers are districts

# Why these states?

Large impact &  
existing partner groups

Tri-State Alliance states represent:

- ▷ 41 percent of the nation's authorizers
- ▷ 30 percent of the nation's charter schools



# Impact on the Sector

	Authorizers	Charter Schools
California	327	1257
Colorado	48	255
Florida	46	654
	<b>421</b>	<b>2166</b>

# Project Goals

1

Strengthen authorizing practices

2

Improve access, services, and outcomes for students with disabilities and English Learners

3

Engage and provide support to more authorizers in partner states

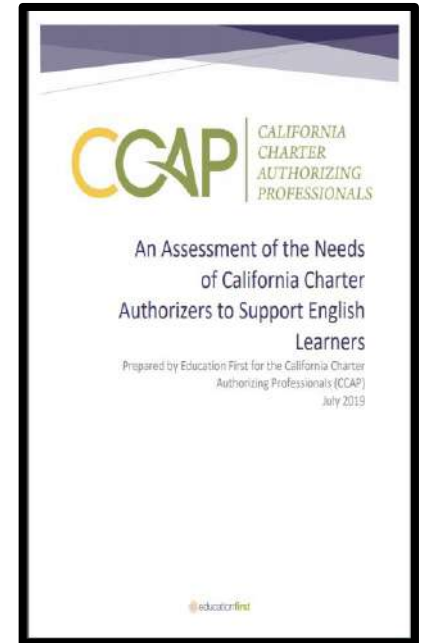
4

Support states outside the Tri-State Alliance

# Goal 1

Strengthen authorizing practices:

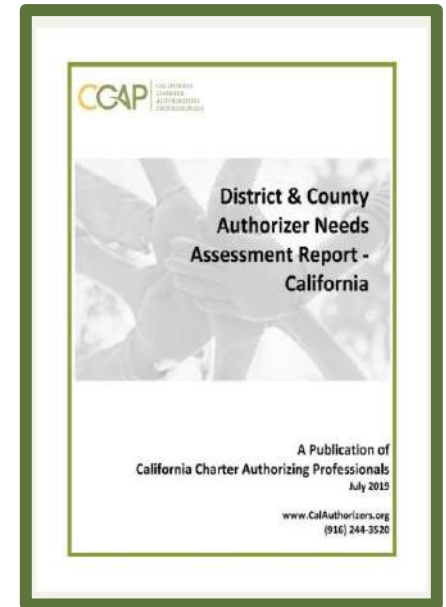
1. Based on state-specific needs assessments;
2. Creating four model materials in each state; and
3. Creating a series of professional learning opportunities in each state.



# Goal 2

Work with authorizers to improve access, services, and outcomes for disadvantaged students in charter schools

- CO and FL focusing on student with disabilities;
- FL focusing on English learners





# Goal 3

Increase impact by engaging more districts in each state, including:

- ▷ Small and rural districts
- ▷ Districts authorizing struggling charter schools with:
  - low performance; or
  - problems with academics, finance, governance, or operations

# Goal 4

Support states outside the Tri-State Alliance that seek to establish statewide associations for charter authorizers or otherwise support authorizers.

		
	<p><b>Identifying National Dissemination State Targets</b></p> <hr/> <p>The Tri-State Alliance to Improve District-Led Charter Authorizing</p>	
		

# Funding

Budget Period	Funding
Year 1 10/1/18 - 9/30/2019	\$1,033,869
Year 2 10/1/19 - 9/30/2020	\$749,305
Year 3 10/1/19—9/30/2021	\$915,879
	<b>TOTAL \$2,669,053</b>

# **Most Work is Housed with Our Partners**

Most funding passed through to CCAP;  
CACSA; and FACSA



# **Expand state groups to influence and support more authorizers in each state**

- ▷ Engage districts not yet involved in state-based groups
- ▷ Specialized programs for rural and small districts
- ▷ Focus on helping districts that authorize struggling charter schools

# Create Material

- ▷ Each state partner assemble a wish list of documents and material
- ▷ Compare across states for efficiency
- ▷ Create model materials based on each state's needs
- ▷ Cross-state sharing to accelerate and increase range of materials available

# State Association Materials Schedule

California	Colorado	Florida
<b>Year 1</b>		
Annual Report & Rubric	Model Contract	Annual Report & Rubric
Toolkit for Petition Review	Annual Report & Rubric	Pre-opening Checklist
<b>Year 2</b>		
Model MOU	Renewal Toolkit	FACSA preferred language here
Model Board Resolution for best practice (pending board approval)	Year Zero Guide	

# Host Meetings and Forums

- ▷ Each state association to hold in-person and remote meetings
- ▷ Focused meetings with small and rural authorizers
- ▷ Peer-to-peer networking and outreach
- ▷ Annual national meeting of all partners

# Expand Access and Improve Services for All Students

- ▷ Focus on district-level practices that ensure access and quality services for all students, including:
  - Students with disabilities
  - English learners