

CSP Microgrants for Local Authorizers

The CSP grant awarded in September 2023 aimed to expand quality authorizing across the state. It included funding in the form of Microgrants for districts that participate in the Excellence in Authorizing Consortium and contribute to the Community of Practice. CSP Microgrants are intended to support the local authorizer's pursuit of quality authorizing.

Who can apply for a CSP microgrant?

- Local districts that maintain an up-to-date charter authorization schedule with procedures that are made publicly available on their district websites and actively participate in the Excellence in Authorizing Community of Practice.

- The Excellence in Authorizing Community of Practice 2025 Cohort schedule is as follows.

May 14, 2025, 10:00 AM - Virtual - new members joining the Excellence in Authorizing Community of Practice

May 28, 2025, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM - In-person (Claiborne Bldg.) - all members

July 9, 2025, 10:00 AM - Virtual - all members

July 23, 2025, 10:00 AM - Virtual - all members

September 10, 2025, 10:00 AM - Virtual - all members

September 24, 2025, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM - In-person (Claiborne Bldg.) - all members

- New member districts will need to attend a minimum of 75% (5 out of 6) convenings.
 - Existing member districts will need to attend a minimum of 75% (4 out of 5) convenings.

How can a district benefit from a CSP Microgrant?

- By participating in the Community of Practice, districts can share experience, gain knowledge, and develop best practices to improve charter school authorizing across the state.
- Receive reimbursement of the costs of statutorily required third-party charter application review.

How can a district apply for and receive a CSP Microgrant?

- Districts will complete the CSP Microgrant Application, documenting their participation in the Community of Practice, and submit paid invoices for third-party review vendor services provided in the 2025-2026 Application Cycle, by January 31, 2026.
- The CSP grant manager will verify website requirements, Community of Practice participation, and third-party vendor invoices. LDOE will then send applicants a notice of award.
- All Microgrant funding will be dispersed via eGMS. To withdraw funds from eGMS, third-party review invoices will be necessary.

How much CSP Microgrant funding will be dispersed?

- Authorizers may be awarded between 25% and 100% of costs incurred for third-party application review for the specified application year up to CSP budgetary limits and Microgrant application demands.

Will there be future Community of Practice and Microgrant opportunities?

- Yes, as is true for the 2025 Cohort, local districts that maintain an up-to-date charter authorization schedule with procedures that are made publicly available on their district websites and actively participate in the Community of Practice via a bimonthly virtual forum will be eligible.
- 2025 Cohort participants may continue participation in the Community of Practice and reapply for CSP Microgrants in subsequent application cycles.
- The Community of Practice 2026 Cohort schedule will tentatively meet in the following months, with attendance required at 5 out of 6 convenings. Specific dates to be determined.

November 2025

January 2026

March 2026

May 2026

July 2026

September 2026