



District of Columbia
State Education Office



City Build Incentive Grant

Round Two

Pre-Application Conference



City Build Concept

- City Build fosters neighborhood revitalization by promoting academic excellence and encouraging sustainable partnerships between public charter schools and community organizations.



City Build Objectives



- The City Build grant is designed to:
 - Promote excellence in education
 - Foster community development
 - Attract and retain residents
 - Create partnerships between public charter schools and community organizations through the development of Community Schools



Award Details



- Grants will be for a period of two years from date of award.
- Grants may be used for facility and/or programmatic needs.
- Eligible entities may apply for up to \$1,000,000 but may also apply for less than \$1,000,000.



Eligibility



- A public charter school board of trustees, holding a valid District of Columbia charter, with enrolled District of Columbia students; or
- A District of Columbia non-profit or for-profit organization, representing a public charter school and benefiting that school.
- Previous recipients of City Build grants are NOT eligible to apply.



The First Round

- The first round of City Build received much attention and was featured in an EdWeek report as a groundbreaking initiative that focuses on charter schools as a strategy for revitalizing residential neighborhoods—a concept not employed in other urban areas.

Establishing a Proud Tradition



- The first five City Build schools were chosen for innovative neighborhood engagement strategies, promising academic trends and permanent location need.
- This year the SEO is providing greater flexibility regarding location while maintaining the requirement that grantees use the funds to positively impact the larger community surrounding the public charter school.



Changes from Round One



Round two places more emphasis on:

- educational quality and requires growth gains reports
- sustainability of partnerships and collaborations that are designed to benefit the surrounding community
- greater flexibility regarding location, but applicants must still locate in a community demonstrating the potential for revitalization



Primary Grant Components



- All grant applications are required to include:
 - Growth gains based on standardized tests and other assessments
 - Proof of sustainable neighborhood collaboration
 - Evidence showing target neighborhood is undergoing revitalization or has near term potential for revitalization

Criterion A: Location Identification



- Applications should:
 - Demonstrate the potential for revitalization, either already underway or near term potential
 - Identify demographics and needs of the community
 - Describe how the school will serve as a community school as well as an anchor to attract and retain residents



Criterion B: Proven Educational Excellence



- Schools must provide proof of educational excellence through growth gains and benchmarking.
- Educational curriculum is based on sound academic research and is designed to promote educational excellence and growth.

Criterion C: Facility Assessment



- Facility Assessment should include:
 - Condition of current location and financial obligation to the current location
 - Suitability of location to handle enrollment growth
 - Clear explanation regarding the need for a new facility or expansion of an existing facility

- If no facility change, then clearly state how the current facility will meet the proposed programmatic initiative.