



## Policy Update

### Comparison of the Charter School Programs Appropriations language for FY 10, 11, & 12

On December 23, 2011 the President signed into law the *Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2012* funding the majority of the federal government through the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012. Included in the legislation is funding for the federal Charter School Programs which was held level despite a second year of mounting pressure to reduce federal discretionary spending. Below is a chart detailing the specific CSP appropriations language for the past three fiscal years. Fiscal Year 2012's language reflects little to no policy changes however it is important to take note is the subtle shifts in funding amounts for each of the charter school programs.

The Charter School Programs annual funding amounts:

FY 2010 = \$256,031,000

FY 2011 = \$255,519,000

FY 2012 = \$255,519,000

\*Specific changes highlighted in yellow

FY 2010 & 2011	FY 2012	NAPCS Notes on changes for FY 12
<p>Provided further, That of the funds available for part B of title V of the ESEA, the Secretary shall use up to <b>\$23,082,000</b> to carry out activities under section 5205(b) and under subpart 2:</p> <p>Provided further, That of the funds available for subpart 1 of part B of title V of the ESEA, and notwithstanding section 5205(a), the Secretary may reserve up to <b>\$50,000,000</b> to make multiple awards to non-profit charter management organizations and other entities that are not for-profit entities for the replication and expansion of successful charter school models and</p> <p>shall reserve <b>\$10,000,000</b> to carry out the activities described in section 5205(a), including by providing technical assistance to authorized public chartering agencies in order to increase the number of high-performing charter schools:</p>	<p>Provided further, That of the funds available for part B of title V of the ESEA, the Secretary shall use not less than <b>\$23,000,000</b> to carry out activities under section 5205(b) and under subpart 2:</p> <p>Provided further, That of the funds available for subpart 1 of part B of title V of the ESEA, and notwithstanding section 5205(a), the Secretary may reserve up to <b>\$55,000,000</b> to make multiple awards to non-profit charter management organizations and other entities that are not for-profit entities for the replication and expansion of successful charter school models and</p> <p>shall reserve up to <b>\$11,000,000</b> to carry out the activities described in section 5205(a), including <b>improving quality and oversight of charter schools</b> and providing technical assistance and grants to authorized public chartering agencies in order to increase the number of high-</p>	<p>For FY 12 there is a decrease of \$82,000 for the State Facilities Aid and Credit Enhancement Programs.</p> <p>For FY 12 an additional \$5 million is made available for the CMO Replication and Expansion Program.</p> <p>For FY 12 an additional \$1 million is made available for National Activities conducted by the Department. Also new language was inserted describing activities to include "improving quality and oversight of charter schools".</p>

<p>Provided further, That the funds referenced in the preceding proviso shall not be obligated prior to submission of a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate detailing the planned uses of such funds:</p> <p>Provided further, That each application submitted pursuant to section 5203(a) shall describe a plan to monitor and hold accountable authorized public chartering agencies through such activities as providing technical assistance or establishing a professional development program, which may include planning, training and systems development for staff of authorized public chartering agencies to improve the capacity of such agencies in the State to authorize, monitor, and hold accountable charter schools:</p> <p>Provided further, That each application submitted pursuant to section 5203(a) shall contain assurances that State law, regulations, or other policies require that:</p> <p>(1) each authorized charter school in the State operate under a legally binding charter or performance contract between itself and the school's authorized public chartering agency that describes the obligations and responsibilities of the school and the public chartering agency; conduct annual, timely, and independent audits of the school's financial statements that are filed with the school's authorized public chartering agency; and demonstrate improved student academic achievement; and</p> <p>(2) authorized public chartering agencies use increases in student academic achievement for all groups of students described in section 1111(b)(2)(C)(v) of the ESEA as the most important factor when determining to renew or revoke a school's charter.</p>	<p>performing charter schools:</p> <p>Provided further, That each application submitted pursuant to section 5203(a) shall describe a plan to monitor and hold accountable authorized public chartering agencies through such activities as providing technical assistance or establishing a professional development program, which may include <b>evaluation</b>, planning, training, and systems development for staff of authorized public chartering agencies to improve the capacity of such agencies in the State to authorize, monitor, and hold accountable charter schools:</p> <p>Provided further, That each application submitted pursuant to section 5203(a) shall contain assurances that State law, regulations, or other policies require that:</p> <p>(1) each authorized charter school in the State operate under a legally binding charter or performance contract between itself and the school's authorized public chartering agency that describes the obligations and responsibilities of the school and the public chartering agency; conduct annual, timely, and independent audits of the school's financial statements that are filed with the school's authorized public chartering agency; and demonstrate improved student academic achievement; and</p> <p>(2) authorized public chartering agencies use increases in student academic achievement for all groups of students described in section 1111(b)(2)(C)(v) of the ESEA as the most important factor when determining to renew or revoke a school's charter.</p>	<p>The requirement that the Department submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations detailing the planned uses of CMO replication and expansion funds prior to awarding the grants is removed for FY 12.</p>
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