

Charter Schools

Currently:

- 186 operating charter schools in Colorado
- 47 districts authorize charter schools in Colorado (including Charter School Institute)

In 2011:

- 83,886 students enrolled in charter schools (including Pre-K)
 - K-12 count is currently 82,482 – full time equivalent (FTE) count is currently 73,085
- 27,541 or 33% of the charter school student population qualified for free and reduced lunch (FRL)
 - 36.6% of Pre-K – 12 charter school students are currently FRL eligible – based on PK-12 student count of 80,223

Colorado Public Charter Schools Startup and Implementation Grant Program

- 30 charter schools are currently being served by the grant program
- 18 schools are continued grantees from the 2010-11 and 2011-12 grant years
 - In the fall application cycle, 11 schools were approved for funding
 - Three of the 11 which were approved for funding are pending waivers from the federal grant office
 - There will be another application cycle in spring 2013
- 40-45 trainings are held annually by the CDE Schools of Choice Unit for charter schools and their authorizers
- The average grant size is \$196,500 per year over three years (\$589,500 total, on average). Applications that receive exceptionally high scores are awarded additional funds, following criteria in the evaluation rubric. These schools receive \$215,000 per year for a three-year total of \$645,000.
 - Grant applicants may request up to \$645,000 over a three year period. The estimated range of awards for a Start-Up Grant (year 1) is \$195,000 - \$215,000.
 - The average 2011-12 grant award across all sub-grantees was \$193,962 (\$5,624,885 in grants / 29 sub-grantees)
 - The average award for Tier 1 grantees in 2012-13 was \$208,000 (\$2,289,000 in start-up grants for Tier 1 / 11 sub-grantees)

Online Learning

- 35 online schools operate in Colorado
 - 24 multi-district online schools (these schools may accept and are funded for students who are Colorado residents, regardless of district of residence)
 - 11 single-district schools (these schools primarily serve students that reside within the authorizing district, but may be funded for up to 10 out-of-district students)
- 16 single-district programs (single-district programs are similar to single-district schools, but their students are aggregated with students in a brick-and-mortar school within the district for accountability purposes)
- 20 districts/BOCES authorize multi-district online schools in Colorado (including the Charter School Institute)
- 27 districts authorize single-district schools and/or programs
 - 13 of the single-district schools/programs began student instruction in fall 2011
- 16,441 students were enrolled in multi-district and single-district online schools and programs in fall 2011

Innovation Schools

- **37 schools** have received designation status in Colorado
- **4 school districts** have been approved as districts of innovation in Colorado
- **2 innovation zones** have formed: one in Kit Carson School District and one in Falcon School District 49.
Innovation zones are created if a group of public schools within a school district share common interests such as educational focus, serve sequential grades or geographical location.
- **9% of Denver Public School's students** were enrolled in innovation schools as of April 2012 (at the time DPS had 19 approved innovation schools)