



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**  
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION



December 6, 2012

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) anticipates that a Request for Proposals (RFP) will be issued in early 2013 seeking applications from organizations interested in opening a new state or local charter school in Connecticut. The purpose of this correspondence is (1) to notify you of the anticipated issuance of this RFP, and (2) to invite you to send the CSDE a preliminary "Letter of Interest" indicating your potential interest in responding to this RFP. Further details about the Letter of Interest and the future RFP are available below.

As you may know, in the 2012 legislative session, Governor Malloy introduced and the Connecticut General Assembly passed a landmark education legislative package that strengthens opportunities for charter schools in the State of Connecticut. In Connecticut, charter schools are public nonsectarian schools that operate independently of any local or regional board of education and represent an innovative means for educational change. These schools are designed and operated by enterprising groups with a clear educational mission. Currently, there are 17 state charter schools comprising prekindergarten through Grade 12 operating in Connecticut.

The primary goal of the anticipated RFP will be to attract high-quality school operators to serve high-need students in low-achieving school districts in Connecticut. The CSDE seeks providers in particular, but not exclusively, that can provide dual language programs and other models addressing language acquisition for English language learners. In addition, the CSDE seeks charter schools that will result in the reduction of racial, ethnic and economic isolation, specifically in Hartford. A summary of the new opportunities can be found here in Sections 29-33 of Public Act 12-116: <http://www.cga.ct.gov/2012/ACT/PA/2012PA-00116-R00SB-00458-PA.htm> For your reference, the complete Connecticut charter school laws are available in Sections 10-66aa through 10-66mm of the Connecticut General Statutes.

If you are potentially interested in responding to a future RFP seeking applications from charter school operators, we encourage you to complete the enclosed Letter of Interest. Please note that the completion of the Letter of Interest is entirely voluntary. You are not required to provide a Letter of Interest in order to submit a response to a future RFP, and providing a Letter of Interest will not obligate an entity to submit a formal response to an RFP. The purpose of the Letter of Interest is simply to allow the CSDE to gauge the level of interest from those organizations who may wish to respond to a future RFP, and to ensure that the CSDE has accurate and complete contact information for those organizations interested in the RFP. **Please be advised that the deadline for providing a Letter of Interest to the CSDE is January 4, 2013.**

For planning purposes, it is anticipated that the CSDE will issue an RFP seeking formal applications for proposed charter school operators in early 2013. It is anticipated that the full application will be due approximately eight weeks from the date the RFP is issued. Further details regarding the formal application process will be available once the RFP is issued.

If you have any questions about this process, please call Robert Kelly, Charter School Program Manager, at 860-713-6574 or e-mail him at [Robert.Kelly@ct.gov](mailto:Robert.Kelly@ct.gov).

## Letter of Interest to Apply to Establish a State or Local Charter School

### Requirements:

Pursuant to Subsection (c) of Section 10-66bb of the C.G.S. as amended by Section 32 of Public Act (P.A.) 12-116, the SBE is required to review applications for local and state charter schools located in a town having one or more Commissioner's Network schools, as defined in Section 19 of Public Act 12-116; or a town that has been designated as a low achieving school district, pursuant to Section 10-223e of the Connecticut General Statutes. A list of these school districts is available on page 4 of this letter.

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### Potential Applicant Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Office Phone/Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Charter:       State Charter School       Local Charter School

Projected School Opening Date:       September 2013       September 2014       Undecided (2013 or 2014)

<p><b><u>Email or Mail to:</u></b></p> <p><b>Karen Gliha</b> CT State Department of Education Bureau of Fiscal and Internal Operations Room 309 P.O. Box 2219 Hartford, CT 06145-2219 karen.gliha@ct.gov</p>	<p><i>or</i></p>	<p><b><u>Deliver to:</u></b></p> <p><b>Karen Gliha</b> CT State Department of Education Bureau of Fiscal and Internal Operations 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford CT</p>
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**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:** Received By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_

# Letter of Interest to Apply to Establish a State or Local Charter School

## Letter of Interest

The Letter of Interest should provide a narrative for the establishment of a charter school that includes all of the following information:

**Please limit your response to no more than three pages.**

- **Mission Statement** –State in one or two sentences what the school intends to do, for whom, and to what degree.
- **Educational Program** – Briefly describe the educational school model you are considering for a charter school. This can include the core beliefs and values about education and any particular educational philosophy or model that will be used by the school.
- **Statement of Need** – Describe how you feel a charter school can enhance or expand the educational options currently available in the community and how students from any targeted population might be served. Describe how you believe a school can improve student learning and achievement. Please include any information about existing partnerships and conversations with community stakeholders, if any.
- **The Founding Group** – Describe the charter school founding group, including the schools currently operated including name, address, date established and enrollment.

## Affiliations

Educational Service Provider/Management Organization (*if any*): \_\_\_\_\_

Partner Organization (*if any*): \_\_\_\_\_

## Letter of Interest to Apply to Establish a State or Local Charter School

### List of Authorized Connecticut Districts

Ansonia  
Bloomfield  
Bridgeport  
Bristol  
Danbury  
Derby  
East Hartford  
East Haven  
East Windsor  
Hamden  
Hartford  
Killingly  
Manchester  
Meriden  
Middletown  
Naugatuck  
New Britain  
New Haven  
New London  
Norwalk  
Norwich  
Putnam  
Stamford  
Vernon  
Waterbury  
West Haven  
Winchester  
Windham  
Windsor  
Windsor Locks