

For Immediate Release

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Press Contact

Amanda Oberg
(720) 985-1481
amandaoberg@csi.state.co.us

Prospect Academy set to receive \$375,000 in Year 1 funding

Denver, CO (May 27, 2022) – [Prospect Academy](#), a charter public school approved by the [Colorado Charter School Institute](#) (CSI) to open in Arvada this fall, will receive \$375,000 with the passing of House Bill 22-1294.

[House Bill 22-1294](#) recently passed unanimously out of the Senate and was signed by Governor Jared Polis on May 26, 2022. The bill creates additional pathways for charter schools to better serve students with special needs, including the ability for certain charter schools to pursue administrative unit (AU) status from the state.

Also included in this bill was an allocation to support Prospect Academy, a school designed to meet the needs of struggling learners and students who learn differently. The school anticipates that over 50% of its students will qualify for special education services.



Since special education funds are distributed to schools based on their prior year's special education enrollment, as a new charter school, Prospect Academy would not be eligible to receive special education funding until its second year. The funding allocated through HB 22-1294 ensures the school has equitable funding to support students with special needs in its first year.

Clare Vickland, CSI Director of Student Services and Professional Learning, shares, "This model of charter school is a first for Colorado and is tailored to supporting students who have historically not succeeded in a traditional setting. This founding team has worked for years to make this dream a reality and we are thrilled for this school to open its doors in the fall!"

Prospect Academy will initially serve students in grades 5-8 and provide personalized programming to support all learners, including students with diagnosed learning differences such as autism, ADHD, and dyslexia.

Mia Coffing, Prospect Academy founding principal, shares: "This funding is incredibly helpful in our first year. It will allow us to serve students in an equitable manner and provide mental health services and support in critical areas such as speech, occupational therapy, and physical therapy. We are grateful for CSI's partnership in opening Prospect."

Prospect Academy is currently enrolling for the 2022-23 school year. Learn more here: <https://www.prospectacademyco.org/>.

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About Prospect Academy

Our school is founded on the belief that all students, including those who learn differently, can reach their potential with the right programming and support. Our instructional model is designed to support students who have diagnoses of autism, dyslexia, dyscalculia, dysgraphia, and ADHD, or those who might have similar profiles or learning styles to the aforementioned diagnoses. We believe that these diagnoses do not preclude students from engaging in rigorous, college-track academics. Social emotional learning and support is a cornerstone of our school and will not just be a buzzword that we incorporate at designated times during the day or week but will be seamlessly integrated into everything we do. Learn more at <https://www.prospectacademyco.org/>.

About the Colorado Charter School Institute (CSI)

CSI is a statewide charter public school authorizer in Colorado, currently authorizing 42 schools from Towaoc to Steamboat Springs, Grand Junction to Colorado Springs and serving over 20,000 PK-12 students. As a charter authorizer, CSI focuses on the outputs—that is, the quantitative evaluation of academic, organizational, and financial school performance—providing schools the flexibility to focus on and make decisions about inputs like instructional strategies, educational programming, internal assessment system, facility selection, and staffing. The focus on outcomes rather than processes allows CSI to be neutral on educational model and maintain a diverse portfolio of school models, which include Classical, Early College, Alternative, and Montessori models. Learn more at www.csi.state.co.us and follow CSI on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).