

**\*\*Subject: New Mini-Grant Program for Charter Schools – Please Complete Survey\*\***

Dear Charter School Leaders,

As part of our ongoing efforts to support the schools we oversee, the New Mexico Public Education Commission is excited to announce a new mini-grant program for this fiscal year. This program is designed to provide additional resources directly to charter schools, aligned specifically with each school's performance framework and allows each school to choose an area they can see would benefit their school the most.

The performance framework represents your annual performance measures, and the support offered through these grants must be targeted to help improve outcomes in key areas where you were rated "working to meet" or "does not meet." We are offering the grants at no cost to your school. We invite you to participate in a brief survey to apply for the grant, indicating your interest and the specific type of support that would be most beneficial to your school's needs. You might benefit from a New Mexico expert providing additional training to your governing board 1-on-1 at your school site. Or maybe there is a professional development opportunity that will lead to increases for your STEAM program. As long as it is tied to an indicator, we can help provide support for it.

How the Program Works:

- Step 1: Applications for the first round of mini-grants are open now. The first round will provide up to \$10,000 in support (unless overages can be justified). Complete the survey [here](#) to help us create a menu of options tied to each performance framework indicator.
- Step 2: In the survey, briefly explain how the requested support mini-grant would improve your school's outcomes.
- Step 3: After your application has been accepted, you will work directly with REC 10 to schedule and have your service paid for through an approved vendor for the Spring semester. If you have a specific vendor you would like to use, please indicate on your survey.

Each school's survey will be reviewed by a PEC subcommittee and will be awarded with the mini-grant as long as the narrative is completed and shows a connection to the performance framework with expected increases in outcomes. Should there be remaining funds after the first round, a second round of applications will open, offering additional opportunities for funding.

We encourage you to submit your survey responses as soon as possible to help us determine the types of support that would have the greatest impact for your school, but no later than **December 1, 2024.**

Thank you for your continued commitment to excellence in education. We look forward to supporting you through this new initiative.

Best regards,  
Pattie Gipson  
Chair, New Mexico Public Education Commission