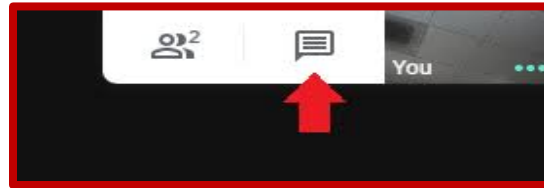


Welcome: The webinar will begin shortly

- To USE PHONE FOR AUDIO: 617-675-4444, PIN: 400 571 956 5384#
- Please **MUTE YOUR AUDIO** when we begin.
- Use the Chat option to send questions, by clicking on icon in the upper right hand corner.



- Slides and Questions and Answers will be posted to the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) [CSP Grant](http://marylandpublicschools.org/programs/Pages/Charter-Schools/CSPGrant.aspx) page at:
<http://marylandpublicschools.org/programs/Pages/Charter-Schools/CSPGrant.aspx>; or enter **CSP grant** in search box on the home page for [MSDE](http://www.marylandpublicschools.org) at:
<http://www.marylandpublicschools.org>



Maryland Charter Schools Program Preview: Request for Grant Applications



Maryland Charter Grant Applications

June 23, 2020



Agenda

Welcome

Maryland Charter Schools Overview

Charter Schools Grants



Maryland Charter Schools

- Number of schools and enrollment
- Location
- Provisions of the Law

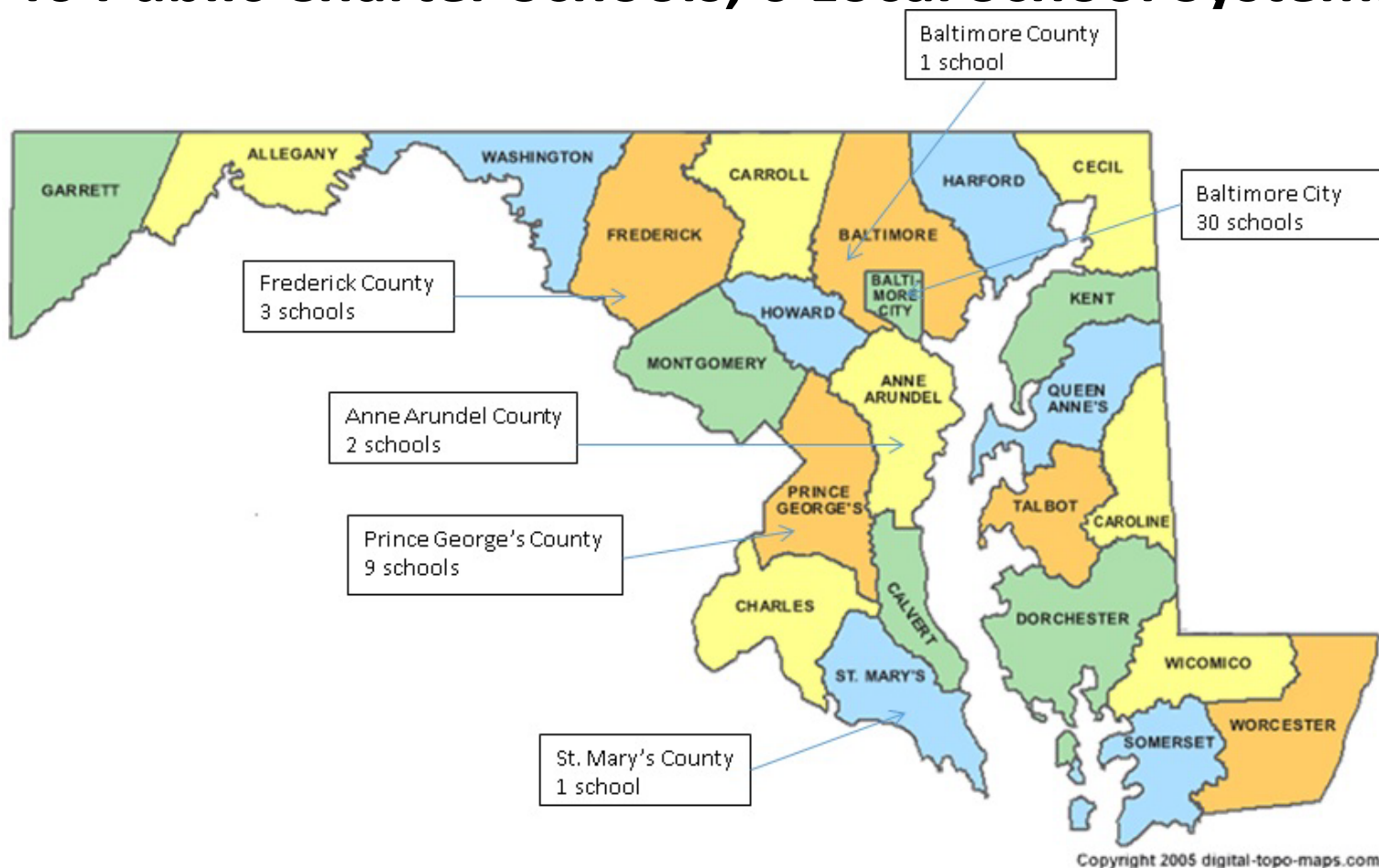
Public Charter Schools in Maryland 2019-2020



- 46 Public Charter Schools
- 6 Local School Systems
- 24,000 K-12 Students
- 30 Nonprofit Operators

Maryland Public Charter Schools: 2019-2020

46 Public Charter Schools, 6 Local School Systems



Public Charter Schools in Maryland

Growth supported with the CSP grant

Watershed Public
Charter School opens
in Baltimore County in
September 2019.



Chesapeake Math and IT
South Elementary
opened in September



Baltimore
International
Academy West
opens in
Baltimore City
in September
2019.



Provisions of MD Public Charter School Law (Education Article § 9-101 *et seq*)

Authorizing:

Local School Boards are the authorizers of public charter schools. The State Board hears appeals.

Accountability:

Public Charter Schools participate in the State accountability system

Employees:

Public Charter School staff are employees of the Local School System and are represented by the local bargaining units.

Funding:

Per pupil funding must be commensurate with the amount of funding expended on behalf of all public school students.

Autonomy:

Key areas of increased autonomy are curriculum, governance, financial management, and selection of staff. Waivers are required from state and local regulations.

Enrollment:

Open Enrollment and admission by lottery. Weighted lotteries are allowed in some circumstances.

Maryland Charter Schools Grant Program

- Overview
- Eligibility
- Timelines
- Allowable Expenses

Charter Schools Program: U.S. Department of Education

Purpose

- Support the startup of new charter schools, the replication of high quality charter schools, and the expansion of high quality charter schools
- Award grants to eligible applicants to open and prepare for the operation of new charter schools
- Strengthen Authorizing

Grant Activities

- **Subgrants: Grants for the startup, replication, and expansion of public charter schools**
- Technical Assistance for Charter Schools: Support for charter school developers and charter schools
- Technical Assistance for Local School System: Support for local school system staff
- Dissemination: Reports, Conference

2020 Grant Program

Total Grant to Maryland State Department of Education: \$23,343,872

Grant Round	Grant funds available	Estimated Number of Awards
Current, Round 3	\$8,000,000	5-8
Total of 3 Rounds	\$21,243,891	18-22



Technical Assistance for Charter School Developers and Charter Schools

[Maryland Alliance of Public Charter Schools](http://www.marylandcharterschools.org/)

<http://www.marylandcharterschools.org/>

Resources

- Updates and [grant application](http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/programs/Pages/Charter-Schools/CSPGrant.aspx) documents will be posted online
 - <http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/programs/Pages/Charter-Schools/CSPGrant.aspx>
- [Uniform Guidance – 2 CFR 200](https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/learn-grants/grant-policies/omb-uniform-guidance-2014.html)
 - <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/learn-grants/grant-policies/omb-uniform-guidance-2014.html>
- [Every Student Succeeds Act, Title IV, Part C](https://innovation.ed.gov/files/2017/03/Statute-for-website.pdf) (PDF)
 - <https://innovation.ed.gov/files/2017/03/Statute-for-website.pdf>

Dun & Bradstreet Unique Identifier for Businesses

Each applicant must have a DUNS number which is active in SAM.gov and required for submission.

If the applicant does not have an active DUNS number, apply for a Dun & Bradstreet unique identifier for businesses at [Dun & Bradstreet](#):

<https://www.dnb.com/duns-number/view-update-company-credit-file.html>

Timeline

➤ June 23, 2020 – Pre Application Technical Assistance

- June 23 – July 2, 2020 – Q&A posted
- **August 13, 2020, 5:00 PM EST – Applications due**
- August 13 – September 10, 2020 – Peer Review Period
- September 21 – 30, 2020 – Interviews
- October, 2020 – Final decisions and Notice of Grant Award (NOGA)

Eligible Applicants

Under ESSA, Sec. 4310 (6), the term “eligible applicant” means a developer that has—

- (A) applied to an authorized public chartering authority to operate a charter school; and
- (B) provided adequate and timely notice to that authority.

Eligible Applicants: Conditions

One of the following conditions must be met:

- The applicant has submitted an application to operate or expand a charter school to a local board of education and the charter application has been approved by the local board; or
- The applicant has submitted an application to operate or expand a charter school to a local board of education and the charter application is pending; or
- The charter application has been denied and an appeal to the Maryland State Board of Education is pending; or
- The applicant is in year one or two of operating a new charter school or a conversion charter school.

Expansion and Replication

- *Expand* means to significantly increase enrollment or add one or more grades to the high quality charter school.
 - $\geq 30\%$
- *Replicate* means to open a new charter school, or a new campus of a charter school, based on the educational model of an existing charter school, under an existing charter or an additional charter under state law.

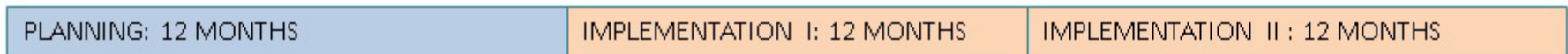
Competitive Priorities

- 1) A charter school program that will be located in a high needs area.
- 2) A program focus on educationally disadvantaged students, through recruitment and programming.
- 3) Replication or expansion of a high quality charter school: An existing charter school that meets the criteria for a Maryland Quality Charter Schools that seeks grant support for expansion or replication.
- 4) A charter school program will be located in a county that does not currently have charter schools.

Required Timeline for the Subgrant

- Schools with opening date of September 2021
- Total subgrant period: Maximum of 36 months
 - Planning and Program Design Period: Up to 18 months before school opening
 - Implementation: Up to 36 months less the Planning and Program Design Period

Timeline Examples:



Allowable Activities and costs

All expenditures must be allowable, necessary, reasonable and allocable. An eligible applicant receiving a subgrant shall use the funds for one or more of the following:

Acquiring supplies, training, equipment (including technology), and educational materials

Preparing teachers, school leaders, and specialized instructional support personnel, including through paying the costs associated with providing professional development, and hiring and compensating teachers, school leaders and specialized instructional support personnel during the planning period.

Carrying out necessary renovations to ensure that a new school building complies with applicable statutes and regulations, and minor facilities repairs (excluding construction).

Providing one-time, startup costs associated with providing transportation to students to and from the charter school.

Carrying out community engagement activities which may include paying the cost of student and staff recruitment.

Providing for other appropriate, non-sustained costs related to the opening and preparation to open, replicate or expansion of a charter school.

Use of Funds – Necessary Renovations

“Carrying out necessary renovations to ensure that a *new school building* complies with *applicable statutes and regulations...*”

- The Department is interpreting “new school building” to include an existing building that is a new (or first-time) site for a charter school that is opening or expanding.
- As a general matter, an expenditure that is not specifically authorized by statute must be necessary, reasonable, and allocable to the grant in order to be allowable under the CSP (2 CFR 200.403(a)).
- CSP funds generally may not be used to purchase real property or for construction, unless specifically authorized by statute or the implementing regulations of the program (34 CFR 75.533). However, under Section 4303(h)(3) of the ESEA, grantees may use CSP funds to carry out “necessary renovations to ensure that a new school building complies with applicable statutes and regulations, and minor facilities repairs (excluding construction).”

Use of Funds – Necessary Renovations

- Under section 200.13 of the Uniform Guidance, renovations or improvements that materially increase the value or useful life of a “capital asset” (e.g., land, building or facility, equipment, and intellectual property (including software)), are “capital expenditures.” In order to charge a capital expenditure to the CSP grant or subgrant, the grantee or subgrantee must obtain the prior written approval of the Department or State entity (i.e., “pass-through entity”) (2 CFR 200.439(b)(3)).
- For information regarding title, use, and disposition of real property improved with Federal grant funds and reporting requirements for such property, grantees should refer to 2 CFR 200.311 and 200.329, respectively.

Procurement Policy

As a “non federal” entity uses its own procurement policy that meets certain standards. 2 CFR § 200.318

These include but are not limited to:

- Written conflict of interest policy
- Records maintained including rationale for method of procurement
- Competition provided to the extent possible
- Methods:
 - Micro purchase – bidding not required (< \$3,000)
 - Sealed bids (typical for construction) – lowest price
 - Competitive proposals – most advantageous proposal
 - Non competitive – service or item only available from one source or pass-through entity (MSDE) authorizes non competitive bids

Budget Format (example)

1. Salaries and Wages

Administrative / Business Operations

	Planning Period	Implementation I	Implementation II
Staff pre-opening			

Classroom / Instructional

	Planning Period	Implementation I	Implementation II
Staff pre-opening			

Totals

	Planning Period	Implementation I	Implementation II
Total Salaries & Wages			

Budget Guide (example)

Administrative / Business Operations

	Example of Allowable Costs	Not Allowed and Notes on Limits
Staff pre-opening	Administrative staff pre opening of school	In general, no salary costs after school opening, covered by PPA. Some costs may be allowable if linked to school growth.

Classroom / Instructional

	Example of Allowable Costs	Not Allowed and Notes on Limits
Staff pre-opening	Professional Development, local workshops, conferences	Food for meetings is not allowed. Grantee may be required to provide contracts to MSDE for review.
Curriculum	Consulting for curriculum development, program goals, assessment tools	Grantee may required to provide contracts to MSDE for review.

Pre-Award Expenses

In limited circumstances some pre-award expenses may be included in the grant.

- The planned costs must be allowable, necessary, reasonable and allocable. The final determination of whether a cost is allowable, necessary, reasonable and allocable is made by the MSDE.
- The planned costs must budgeted for within the subgrantee's application.
- The costs cannot be for more than 90 days and cannot precede the date the subgrant application is submitted by an eligible applicant to the MSDE.
- There is no reimbursement to the grant if the charter application is denied.

Spending Funds Before the Charter is Awarded

Applicant submits a full application which includes Planning and Implementation.

Amount of Funding for Planning pre-charter approval is capped.

- Determination by the MSDE, capped at 25% of total award
- Divide planning period activities and expenses
 - Pre-charter approval phase and post-charter approval phase

Timeline is limited.

- Charter approval must be secured within 9 months of notice of grant approval.

Note:

- The grant timeline does not change.



Questions about Expenses and Budgets

Subgrant Application

Required Sections	Description	Points Possible
Executive Summary	Needs of the community Mission and vision	5
Objectives	Three to five goals Progress measures	15
Project Design	Educational Program and methods, alignment with MSCCR Outreach and Lottery	30
Educationally Disadvantaged Students	Engagement Inclusion of Students with Disabilities, English Learners, and others	15
Professional Development	Plans Connects to Budget	10
Governance	Board roles, terms Accountability	15
Parent and Community	Activities for community outreach External partners	10

Subgrant Application

Required Sections	Description	Points Possible
Management and Leadership	Management of program and finances Roles and external partners	10
Partners	Roles and responsibilities of key partners Charter management organization role and fees	10
Facility	Status Site or selection process	5
Sustainability	Sustainability post grant period Budget pro-forma	5
Budget	In the format provided	10
Budget Narrative	Explains all costs Aligns with plan and goals	10
Total	Up to	150
Competitive Priorities	Up to 4 (5 points each)	20

Attachments

Part of RFA package:

- ✓ Cover Page
- ✓ Application checklist
- ✓ Signed Assurances

Gather:

- ✓ Charter School Application
- ✓ Charter Budget (pro-forma at capacity)
- ✓ Charter/Contract
- ✓ IRS Determination of nonprofit status
- ✓ Conflict of Interest
- ✓ Procurement
- ✓ Resumes
- ✓ Board List
- ✓ Letters of Support
- ✓ GEPA

General Education Provisions Act (GEPA)

Each application must develop and describe the steps the applicant proposes to take to ensure equitable access to, and equitable participation in, the project or activity to be conducted with such assistance, by addressing the special needs of students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries in order to overcome barriers to equitable participation.

Hire, recruit, and involve individuals from traditionally underserved ethnic minority groups, bilingual individuals, and individuals with disabilities to manage, plan, implement, receive, and evaluate program services.

Administer a pre-participation survey to all potential training participants, as needed, to identify special accommodation needs – such as wheel chair access, assistive technology, transportation assistance, etc.

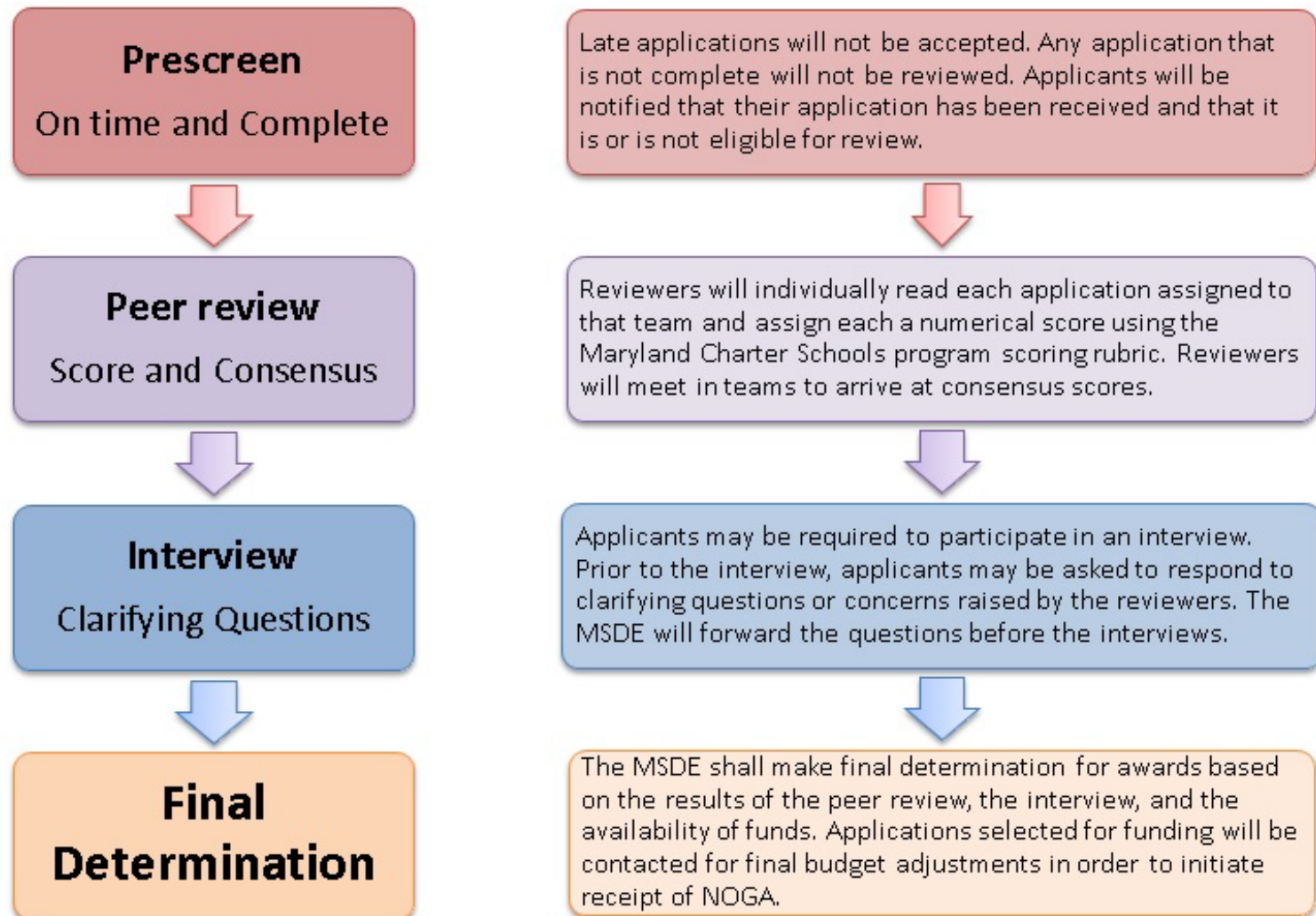
Offer free onsite childcare for individuals who must bring their children to program activities as appropriate.

Post information materials, schedules of events, and program assessments on the internet – which will enable assistive computer devices to interpret the materials for users.

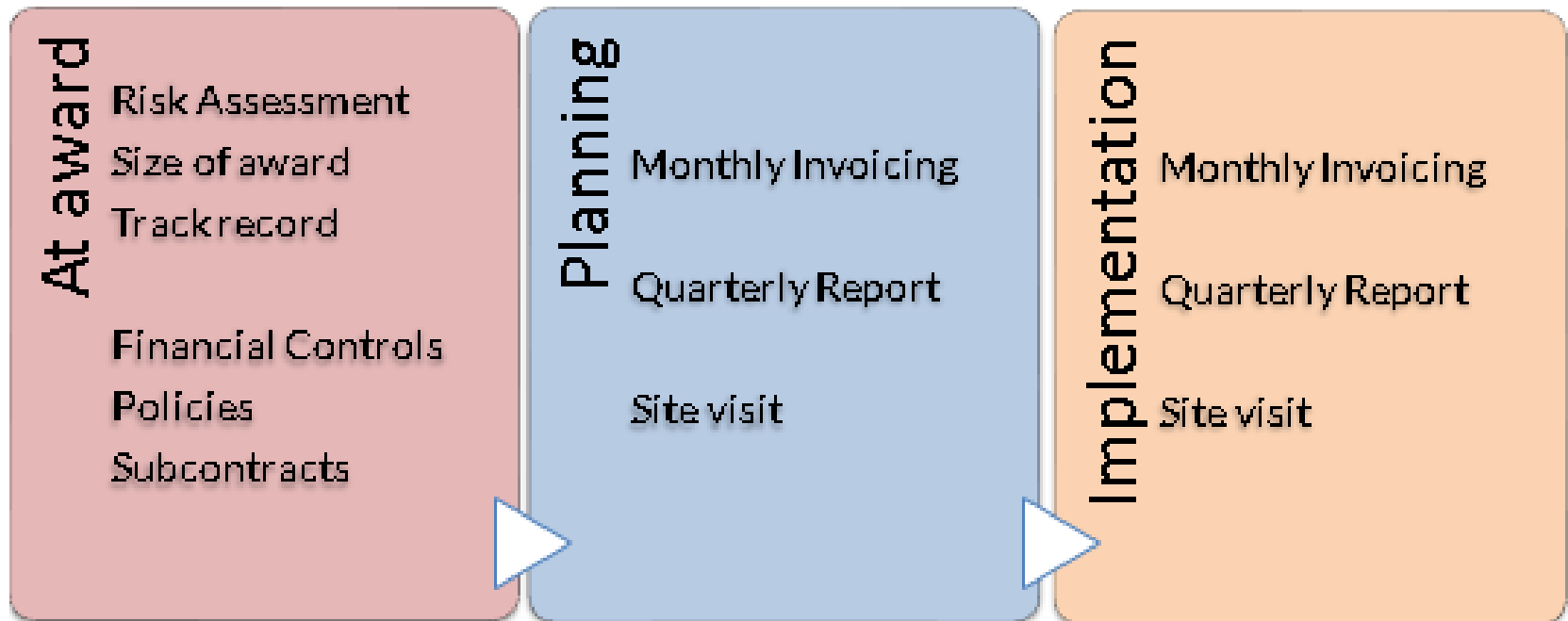
Offer transportation vouchers for consortium members and families who must use personal or public transportation to attend meetings, activities, and workshops, as needed.

Develop or acquire and disseminate culturally relevant and sensitive curriculum and information materials that can be understood and accessible to all potential participants, regardless of their unique challenges.

Review Process



Monitoring



Submission

Applications are due:

Thursday, August 13, 2020, **5:00 PM (EST)**

Email to: **CHARTER.MSDE@MARYLAND.GOV**

Submit PDF files electronically

Up to **3**:

1. Cover Page, Narrative, Budget, and Budget Narrative
2. Required Attachments
3. Submitted Charter Application

Questions

Questions submitted through the chat function will be answered and sent to all participants.