



**U.S. Department of Education
Grant Performance Report (ED 524B)
Project Status Chart**

PR/Award # (11 characters): U282T180014

SECTION A - Performance Objectives Information and Related Performance Measures Data (See Instructions. Use as many pages as necessary.)

1. Project Objective **[X] Check if this is a status update for the previous budget period.**

Support authorizers of alternative schools with identifying, developing, and disseminating mission-related performance measures that are credible, relevant, and rigorous for schools that serve students who have special needs and/or are at extreme risk of failure. (Application, p. 25)

Performance Measure	Measure Type	Quantitative Data					
		Target			Actual Performance Data		
		Raw Number	Ratio	%	Raw Number	Ratio	%
1.a. In Year 1, the A-GAME Project Team convenes the NALT three times to collect example AEC related documents, policies, and practices to develop 8 best practice resources.	PROJECT	3			3		
1.b. In Year 1, the A-GAME Project Directors conduct authorizer needs assessment with the 11 authorizers that are members of the National Authorizer Leadership Team.	PROJECT	11			11		
1.c. In Year 1, the A-GAME Project Team and NALT complete an AEC Model Framework Components resource.	PROJECT	1			1		
1.d. In Year 1, the A-GAME Project team and NALT will complete an AEC Data Standards framework resource.	PROJECT	1			1		
1.e. In Year 2, the A-GAME Project Team and National Authorizer Leadership Team complete a Rubrics for New AEC Applications and AEC Renewal Applications resource.	PROJECT	1			1		
1.f. In Year 3, the A-GAME Project Team and evaluator completes a final report that describes the best practices resources developed through the project and how authorizers with AEC charter schools have implemented the resources.	PROJECT	1			N/A		

Explanation of Progress (Include Qualitative Data and Data Collection Information)

The A-GAME Project Team has successfully completed all the project work for Year 1 and Year 2 performance measures for Objective 1.

The A-GAME Project Team convened the National Authorizer Leadership Team (NALT) three times in Year 1 (Tampa, Florida in February 2019; Chicago, Illinois in May 2019; Washington, DC in September 2019). Each event was hosted by a participating NALT member. Agendas for the meetings are available through hyperlink or upon request. Time at each meeting was spent sharing best practices, policies, and materials, and providing feedback on draft documents and tools being created for purposes of dissemination.

The A-GAME Project team turned best practices and recommendations from the NALT members into documents and resources which are currently under development. A report outlining recommendations and examples of how authorizers can hold alternative charter schools accountable, using research-based practices and data standards, is available on the A-GAME website <https://nationalcharterschools.org/a-game-grant/>. Additional resources—including an AEC data tool and two review rubrics for new and renewal AEC charter applications—were completed and are also available on the A-GAME website for download and viewing

- The *Measuring Quality: A Resource Guide for Authorizers and Alternative Schools* document provides concrete recommendations for ways to measure outcomes for AEC charter schools. The guide includes data standards in the form of business rules and minimum sample sizes to consider when measuring AEC school quality.
- The *Guide to Evaluating Alternative Education Campus Application to Operate a New School* and *High-Stakes Rubric for Assessing Alternative Education Campus for Charter Renewal* resources provide examples for evaluating new applications and assessing renewal applications, respectively, following guidance from the *Measuring Quality* report.

The A-GAME Project Team and the grant evaluator, Basis Policy Research (Basis), are in the process of collecting information that will be used to complete a final report that will be produced by the end of Year 3. The report will describe the resources developed through the grant, examine the extent to which authorizers with AEC charter schools were provided with and accessed information from the grant, and analyze the ways in which authorizers with AEC charter schools implemented the grant resources and changed practices, including a discussion of potential barriers to implementation.

Basis has created a dissemination activity tracking sheet and is using it to monitor whether authorizers with AEC charter schools receive and access information from the project. The tracking sheet contains an overall data sheet that tracks dissemination to authorizers with AEC charter schools, and a more comprehensive data sheet that compiles information about every instance where an organization receives resources from the A-GAME project, including communications, meetings, conference calls, presentations, report downloads from the project website, use of the online data tool, webinars, and external partner outreach. The tracking sheet can be accessed here: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1VefCgLkjZaV4QGRyvBC_NI_dgOYGAsXLeFq_gsDV1sE/edit#gid=276497813.

In addition to tracking dissemination activities, which will allow Basis to report on the breadth of project outreach and authorizer access, Basis will administer surveys to authorizers with AEC charter schools that access project materials and conduct interviews and focus groups with NALT and Regional Network authorizers. The surveys of all authorizers that access materials will focus on measuring perceptions of the importance and relevance of project materials and demonstrations of how authorizers implement the resources. The interviews and focus groups with NALT and Regional Network authorizers will provide in-depth information about how authorizers that had more extensive engagement with the A-GAME project resources put the resources into practice, including an analysis of implementation barriers and strategies these authorizers may have used to overcome barriers to implementation. The report will provide recommendations for the sustainability of project resources based on the analysis of implementation.



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2. Project Objective ☒ **Check if this is a status update for the previous budget period.**

Encourage and assist authorizers in transforming their work from compliance-based, one-size-fits-all approaches to more rigorous and personalized approaches that harness the power of technology and focus on ensuring students are ultimately prepared for success in college, work, and life.

Performance Measure	Measure Type	Quantitative Data					
		Target			Actual Performance Data		
		Raw Number	Ratio	%	Raw Number	Ratio	%
2.a. By Year 2, the A-GAME Project Team identifies 30 authorizers with AEC charter schools to participate in four sets of Regional Capacity Building Teams for three meetings each.	PROJECT	30			32		
2.b. In Year 2, the A-GAME Project Team develops a technical assistance and coaching plan for Regional Capacity Building Team meetings.	PROJECT	1			1		
2.c. In Year 2, the A-GAME Project Team develops content for Regional Capacity Building Team meetings.	PROJECT	1			1		
2.d. In Year 2, the A-GAME Project Team and authorizers from NALT conduct four sets of Regional Capacity Building Teams for three meetings each.	PROJECT	12			4		

Explanation of Progress (Include Qualitative Data and Data Collection Information)

The A-GAME Project Team is on track to meet all of the performance measures by the end of Year 2, with the three of the four goals having already been met. The work in this objective includes identifying authorizers for the Regional Capacity Building Networks, conducting outreach to secure participation commitments from authorizers, developing materials for the network meetings, and organizing and conducting meetings.

In the grant application, the A-GAME Project Team identified 15 states that contain over 80% of the charter school authorizers with at least one AEC charter school (151 out of 188 authorizers in 2018-19) and over 90% of the total number of AEC charter schools in the country (558 out of 616 AEC charter schools in 2018-19). Therefore, the team recruited authorizers from these states, to have the largest impact through these regional networks. However, it was not a requirement for authorizers participating in the Year 2 Regional Networks to currently have operating AEC charter schools and many authorizers without officially designated AECs asked to join, partly because they wanted to learn how to create a viable definition of alternative education campuses and build the accountability support structures simultaneously. As a result, 25 states are now included in the A-GAME regional networks, representing 28% of the authorizers overseeing AECs and 58% of the AECs themselves. The reason that the Regional Networks came so close to

reaching 90% of the AECs through their authorizers is by recruiting some of the largest authorizers of AECs in the nation, including Texas, Arizona, agreeing to do a separate convening for California with 9 authorizers and the state education agency. All authorizers were eligible for participation if they committed to the following criteria:

- Demonstrate organizational commitment to the A-GAME mission of increasing the number of quality AEC charter schools available to students across the country
- Demonstrate capacity to implement new policies and/or practices within organization
- Participate in three regional networking meetings in 2020

Authorizers Participating in the A-GAME Regional Networks, by State, as of April 2020

	State	Total AEC Charters, 2018-19	Number of Authorizers in A-GAME Networks	Number of AEC Charters in A-GAME Networks
Originally Targeted States	Arizona	92	1	92
	California	102	9	20
	Colorado	22	1	3
	DC	8	1	8
	Florida	52	2	7
	Georgia	3	2	0
	Illinois	16	1	16
	Massachusetts	7	1	7
	Michigan	46	3	19
	Minnesota	7	2	7
	Nevada	1	1	1
	New York	10	2	9
	New Mexico	16	1	6
	Ohio	45	3	11
	Texas	131	1	131
Additional Participating States	Delaware		1	1
	Hawaii		1	0
	Idaho		1	4
	Indiana		2	4
	Maine		1	1
	Missouri		2	3
	Pennsylvania		1	1
	South Carolina		1	3
	Utah		1	2
	Washington		1	0
Total	25 States	558	43	356

The A-GAME Project Team used a variety of outreach strategies to recruit authorizers to participate in Regional Capacity Building Network activities. The strategies included reaching out to the professional networks of the A-GAME Project Team and NALT members, meeting in-person with authorizers at NACSA's October 2019 annual leadership conference, and using the A-GAME website as a tool to provide information about what participation in the Regional networks would entail. The A-GAME Project Team used a survey to gauge commitment and capacity among interested authorizers. In response to this outreach, the A-GAME team received completed interest surveys from 33 additional authorizers. All 32 of the "new" authorizers have accessed materials via the website and/or by attending the first of three sets of regional meetings. In total authorizers now

participating in the A-GAME come from 25 states, which include the original 15 targeted states plus 10 states from which authorizers expressed unanticipated interest. The table above provides information about the number of authorizers and AEC charter schools in the participating states.

The participating authorizers were assigned to one of four Regional Networks: California, Mid-Western/Western, Northeast, and Southeast; and the first set of regional meetings were held in February of 2020. In total, at least one individual from 39 of the 43 authorizers now participating in the A-GAME Network were able to attend one of these meetings. A number of authorizers sent additional staff to the meeting (at their own expense), resulting in a total of 48 attendees across the four meetings.

One goal of the Regional Network is to facilitate and build networking opportunities among authorizers willing to change their approach to measuring school quality and to do so using tools and thought leadership developed by the A-GAME project. Additionally, authorizers participating in the Regional Network work with members of the network to learn about and adopt best practices in the authorizing of alternative charter schools. To that end, at each convening, participants were introduced to the resources developed during Years 1 and 2 of the project, including a national data tool for AECs. This data set contains comparative data by state for AECs on graduation rates, achievement rates, and various attendance rates. Each participant provided feedback on the usefulness of the tool and the accuracy of their state's data. Utilizing the tools created by the A-GAME Team and NALT members, authorizers then embarked on a journey of developing goals that are responsive to student populations and their experience in school. The process forced participants to think in different ways about measurement and goal setting for schools in a way that emphasizes individual students' needs—a process we describe as student-centered accountability.

In addition to authorizers, the National Association of Charter School Authorizers (NACSA), the largest authorizer association, and representatives from the Tri-State Dissemination Grant, Colorado Association of Charter School Authorizers and Florida Association of Charter School Authorizers, attended convenings as invited guests. Inviting these members allowed the A-GAME to broaden its reach in Year 2. And continued partnerships with these organizations will also help to expand the reach of both grantees' dissemination efforts.

The A-GAME Project Team asked the Regional Network attendees to complete a session evaluation. Thirty-eight out of the 48 attendees responded to the survey (79% response rate). The respondents rated the usefulness of the convening for providing information about authorizing charter AECs an average of 4.5 on a scale from 1 to 5. Among the respondents, 97.4% indicated that they learned something new, 92.1% made a new connection, and 89.5% provided an example of a concrete way in which they planned to use the information about authorizing AEC charter schools in their work.

The remaining eight Regional Capacity Building Network meetings (two sets for all four regions) will take place by the end of Year 2. 75% of the participants asked that the second meeting be in person. However, given the current request for social distancing, the second set of meetings for the four regions will likely be done virtually in late April 2020. The third set of meetings for the four regions are currently planned to be done in-person in June 2020 at the National Charter Schools Conference in Orlando, Florida. However, if the conference is canceled or there remains a ban on in-person meetings, these convenings will likely be postponed or be held virtually.

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3. Project Objective **[X] Check if this is a status update for the previous budget period.**

Disseminate and encourage strategies and practices that support the art and science of authorizing, facilitate the replication and expansion of high-quality charter schools, improve the performance measures found in charter contracts, and share models of excellence with new and small authorizers, along with those that have a significant number of low performing schools. (Application, p 25)

Performance Measure	Measure Type	Quantitative Data					
		Target			Actual Performance Data		
		Raw Number	Ratio	%	Raw Number	Ratio	%
3.a. In Year 1, the A-GAME Project Directors develop a website that will be used to provide information and access to best practices resources from the project.	PROJECT	1			1		
3.b. In each year, the A-GAME Project Team disseminates information about updated Epicenter data and document management systems that incorporates best practices resources for AEC charter school authorizing.	PROJECT	3			2		
3.c. In Year 1, the A-GAME Project Team attends national conferences relevant to charter school authorizers and state charter school conferences to network and outreach with authorizers of AEC charter schools about the project.	PROJECT	1			1		
3.d. In Years 2 and 3, the A-GAME Project Team disseminates best practice resources at a minimum of three national conferences relevant to charter school authorizers.	PROJECT	3			2		
3.e. In Years 2 and 3, the A-GAME Project Team disseminates best practice resources at a minimum of five state charter school conferences.	PROJECT	5			5		
3.f. In Year 2, the A-GAME Project Team disseminates best practice resources and tools through 4 webinar presentations.	PROJECT	4			1		
3.g.	PROJECT	1			N/A		

Performance Measure	Measure Type	Quantitative Data					
		Target			Actual Performance Data		
		Raw Number	Ratio	%	Raw Number	Ratio	%
In Year 3, the A-GAME Project Directors develop a widespread dissemination plan to reach 95% of authorizers with AEC charter schools.							
3.h. In Year 3, the A-GAME Project Team engages in concentrated outreach strategies for district authorizers with one to two AEC charter schools.	PROJECT	1			N/A		
3.i. In Year 3, the A-GAME Project Team verifies NCES school contact information for mailing best practices resources from the project.	PROJECT	1			1		
3.j. In Year 3, the A-GAME Project Team develops a plan for sustainability and ongoing dissemination of project resources to authorizers with AEC charter schools.	PROJECT	1			N/A		
3.k. By Year 3, the A-GAME Project Team disseminates best practice resources to 95% of authorizers with AEC charter schools through email, web content, Epicenter information, webinars, conference presentations, social media, and external partner networks.	PROJECT		177 / 188	95%		50 / 188	27%
3.l. By Year 3, 50% of AEC charter authorizers to whom A-GAME disseminated resources on best practices in authorizing AEC charter schools access the resources.	PROJECT		89 / 177	50%		50 / 177	28%
3.m. By Year 3, 80% of AEC charter authorizers that access resources on best practices in authorizing AEC charter schools agree that the resources are important and relevant to their work.	PROJECT		71 / 89	80%		N/A	N/A
3.n. By Year 3, 60% of AEC charter school authorizers that access resources on best practices in authorizing AEC charter schools demonstrate knowledge of how to implement resources.	PROJECT		53 / 89	60%		N/A	N/A
3.o. By Year 3, 80% of authorizers participating in the National Authorizer Leadership Team implement at least two of the AEC charter school resources or tools developed through the A-GAME project.	PROJECT		9 / 11	80%		N/A	N/A
3.p. By Year 3, 80% of authorizers participating in the Regional Capacity Building Teams implement at least two of the AEC charter school resources or tools developed through the A-GAME project.	PROJECT		24 / 30	80%		N/A	N/A

Explanation of Progress (Include Qualitative Data and Data Collection Information)

The A-GAME Project Team has made significant progress towards achieving the performance measures in Objective 3 in Years 1 and 2.

To date, we have completed the following dissemination activities:

- An A-GAME website that went live in the fall of 2019
- The A-GAME members presented conferences about the work:
 - NACSA Annual Leadership Conference, October 2018
 - Alternative Accountability Policy Forum, November 2018
 - EdChoice National Alternative Measures of Success Conference, 2018 (SUNY)
 - CACS Performance Assessment webinar, April 2019 (Audubon)
 - National Charter Schools Conference, July 2019
 - Florida Association of Charter School Authorizers Board Retreat, July 2019 (Hillsborough County)
 - National Campaign for High Needs Students Index meeting at NYC Teacher Central, 2019 (SUNY)
 - Alternative Accountability “Town Hall” with NYS Board of Regents authorized charter schools, 2019 (NYSED)
 - Alternative school leader meeting to discuss A-GAME draft recommendations, August 2019 (DCPCSB)
 - Ohio Association of Charter School Authorizers meeting, 2019 (Buckeye)
 - NACSA Annual Leadership Conference, October 2019
 - Alternative Accountability Policy Forum, November 2019 (NYSED)
 - CARsNet Annual Charter School Authorizers Conference, September 2019
 - Florida Association of Charter School Authorizers, October 2019
 - Minnesota Association of Charter Schools, November 2019
 - Michigan Charter Authorizer Association, February 2020
 - Colorado League of Charter Schools Conference, March 2020 [note: this conference was cancelled due to COVID-19]
- Webinars
 - How will COVID-19 Impact How You Authorize Your Alternative Charters, March 2020

The table below provides a detailed view of the authorizers that have accessed A-GAME materials, by dissemination activity. The table includes authorizers that do not currently have AEC charter schools (19), as well as several authorizers that the A-GAME Project Team found out have AEC charter schools after the target performance measures had been set (10).

Authorizer Information			Dissemination Activity to Access A-GAME Related Materials						
Authorizer	State	Number of AEC Charter Schools, 2018-19	NALT Member	Advisory Committee Member	Regional Network Member	Attended a Conf. / Mtg. Presentation	Opened Email Comm.	Downloaded Resource(s)	Viewed Data Page
Arizona State Board for Charter Schools	AZ	92			Y	Y	Y		Y
Acton Agua-Dulce Unified School District	CA	3			Y	Y	Y		Y
Alameda County Office of Education	CA	1	Y		Y	Y	Y		Y
Butte County Office of Education	CA	1				Y			
California Department of Education	CA	2			Y	Y	Y		Y
Chino Valley Unified School District	CA	1				Y			
Contra Costa County Office of Education	CA	1				Y		Y	
East Side Union High School District	CA	2			Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
El Dorado Unified School District	CA	2			Y	Y	Y		Y
Fresno Unified School District	CA	2			Y	Y	Y		Y

Authorizer Information			Dissemination Activity to Access A-GAME Related Materials						
Authorizer	State	Number of AEC Charter Schools, 2018-19	NALT Member	Advisory Committee Member	Regional Network Member	Attended a Conf. / Mtg. Presentation	Opened Email Comm.	Downloaded Resource(s)	Viewed Data Page
Glendale Unified School District	CA	0				Y			
Inyo County Office of Education	CA	3			Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Los Angeles County Office of Education	CA	2			Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Maricopa Unified School District	CA	1					Y		Y
Monterey County Office of Education	CA	0				Y			
Orange County Department of Education	CA	1				Y			
Placer County Office of Education	CA	1				Y			
Riverside County Office of Education	CA	2		Y	Y	Y	Y		Y
Sacramento County Office of Education	CA	0				Y			
San Diego Unified School District	CA	3						Y	
San Jacinto Unified School District	CA	0				Y			
Stanislaus County Office of Education	CA	1					Y		
Tulare County Office of Education	CA	2					Y		
Twin Rivers Unified School District	CA	3				Y			
Ventura County Office of Education	CA	1				Y			
Colorado Charter School Institute	CO	3			Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
District of Columbia Public Charter School Board	DC	8	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Delaware Department of Education	DE	1			Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Broward County Public Schools	FL	5			Y	Y	Y		Y
Charlotte County Public Schools	FL	1						Y	
Clay County Public Schools	FL	0				Y			
Duval County Public Schools	FL	4				Y			
Hillsborough County Public Schools	FL	2	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Indian River County School District	FL	0				Y			
Lake County Schools	FL	1				Y			
Leon County Public Schools	FL	0				Y			
Manatee County Public Schools	FL	0				Y		Y	
Martin County School District	FL	0						Y	
Miami Dade County Public Schools	FL	0				Y			
Orange County Public Schools	FL	7				Y		Y	
Pasco County School District	FL	0				Y			
Pinellas County Schools	FL	2						Y	
Polk County Public Schools	FL	1				Y			
Sarasota County School District	FL	0				Y			
St. Johns County Public Schools	FL	0				Y			
School District of Osceola County	FL	1				Y		Y	
Volusia County Schools	FL	2				Y			
Atlanta Public Schools	GA	0			Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
DeKalb County School District	GA	0			Y		Y	Y	Y
Hawaii State Public Charter School Commission	HI	0			Y	Y	Y		Y
Idaho Public Charter School Commission	ID	4			Y	Y	Y		Y
Chicago Public Schools	IL	16	Y		Y	Y	Y		Y
Ball State University Office of Charter Schools	IN	3			Y	Y	Y		Y
Indianapolis Office of Education Innovation	IN	1			Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Massachusetts Department of Elem. & Second. Education	MA	7			Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

Authorizer Information			Dissemination Activity to Access A-GAME Related Materials						
Authorizer	State	Number of AEC Charter Schools, 2018-19	NALT Member	Advisory Committee Member	Regional Network Member	Attended a Conf. / Mtg. Presentation	Opened Email Comm.	Downloaded Resource(s)	Viewed Data Page
Maine Charter School Commission	ME	1			Y	Y	Y		Y
Central Michigan University	MI	6	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Ferris State University	MI	7	Y		Y	Y	Y		Y
Grand Valley State University	MI	6		Y	Y	Y	Y		Y
Lake Superior State University	MI	4						Y	
School District of the City of Highland Park	MI	0					Y		
Osprey Audubon Center of the North Woods	MN	6	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Pillsbury United Communities	MN	1			Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Missouri Charter Public School Commission	MO	1			Y	Y	Y		Y
University of Missouri – Columbia	MO	2			Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Albuquerque Public Schools	NM	6			Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Nevada State Public Charter School Authority	NV	1	Y		Y	Y	Y		Y
New York State Education Department	NY	6	Y		Y	Y	Y		Y
State University of New York Charter School Institute	NY	3	Y		Y	Y	Y		Y
Buckeye Community Hope Foundation	OH	7	Y		Y	Y	Y		Y
Ohio Council of Community Schools	OH	4		Y	Y	Y	Y		Y
Thomas B. Fordham Foundation	OH	0			Y	Y	Y		Y
Portland Public Schools	OR	0				Y			
Philadelphia School District	PA	3			Y	Y	Y		Y
South Carolina Public Charter School District	SC	3			Y	Y	Y		Y
Texas Education Agency	TX	138			Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Utah State Charter School Board	UT	2			Y	Y	Y		Y
Washington State Charter School Commission	WA	0			Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Total Authorizers		78							
Total AECs Authorized by Authorizers		260							

The next table provides a detailed view of the other organizations that are not authorizers that have accessed A-GAME resources by February 2020. The final result is that over 300 authorizers, organizations, and schools have accessed the A-GAME materials since the first were made available in September 2019.

Organization Information			Dissemination Activity to Access A-GAME Related Materials						
Organization Name	State	Type of Organization	NALT Member	Advisory Committee Member	Regional Network Member	Attended a Conf. / Mtg. Presentation	Opened Email Comm.	Downloaded Resource(s)	Viewed Data Page
New Schools for Alabama	AL	Non-Profit					Y		
Pima Partnership Schools	AZ	Charter School				Y			
California Association of Charter School Authorizers	CA	Authorizer Support Association				Y			
California Charter Schools Association	CA	Charter School Association				Y			
CARsNet	CA	Authorizer Support Association				Y			
Charter School of San Diego	CA	Charter School						Y	
Colorado Association of Charter School Authorizers	CA	Authorizer Support Association				Y	Y	Y	Y

Organization Information			Dissemination Activity to Access A-GAME Related Materials						
Organization Name	State	Type of Organization	NALT Member	Advisory Committee Member	Regional Network Member	Attended a Conf. / Mtg. Presentation	Opened Email Comm.	Downloaded Resource(s)	Viewed Data Page
Ettie Lee Charter	CA	Charter School				Y			
La Sierra High	CA	School					Y		
La Sierra Military Charter	CA	Charter School					Y		
Leadership Military Academy	CA	Charter School					Y		
SIATech	CA	Charter School				Y			
Sierra Continuation High School	CA	School				Y			
WestEd	CA	Education Consultant					Y		
Learn 4 Life Concept Charter Schools	CA, OH, MI	AEC Operator		Y		Y			
Colorado Department of Education	CO	State Department of Education						Y	
Children's Guild	DC	Charter School						Y	
Goodwill Excel Center	DC	Charter School				Y			
Florida Association of Charter School Authorizers	FL	Authorizer Support Association				Y	Y		
SunEd High School	FL	Charter School				Y			
SunFire High School	FL	Charter School				Y			
Capstone Academy	GA	Charter School				Y			
Innovations High School (CYCCS)	IL	Charter School				Y			
Options Charter Schools	IN	Charter School				Y	Y		
Kentucky Department of Education	KY	State Department of Education				Y			
Northdale Academy	LA	School						Y	
Blended Learning Academies	MI	Charter School					Y	Y	
Great MN Schools	MN	Non-Profit						Y	
High School for the Recording Arts	MN	AEC Operator		Y					
Missouri Alternative Education Network	MO	AEC Association						Y	
Alliance for Excellence in Education	National	Policy				Y			
National Association of Alternative Education	National	AEC Association		Y					
National Association of Charter School Authorizers	National	Authorizer Support Association				Y			Y
Newark Opportunity Youth Network	NJ	AEC Support Organization						Y	
NACA Inspired Schools Network	NM	Non-Profit						Y	
Public Charter Schools of New Mexico	NM	Charter School Association						Y	
Beacon Academy Charter School of Nevada	NV	Charter School				Y			
Eskolta School Research & Design	NY	Education Consultant						Y	
Altus Public schools	OK	School District						Y	
Eola Hills Charter School	OR	Charter School				Y			
Executive Education Academy Charter School	PA	Charter School				Y			
Braination	TX	AEC Operator							
Texas Charter Schools Association	TX	Charter School Association				Y			
AIIST Charter School		Charter School				Y			
Blue Peak High School		School					Y		

Organization Information			Dissemination Activity to Access A-GAME Related Materials						
Organization Name	State	Type of Organization	NALT Member	Advisory Committee Member	Regional Network Member	Attended a Conf. / Mtg. Presentation	Opened Email Comm.	Downloaded Resource(s)	Viewed Data Page
City of Pal Charter High School		Charter School				Y			
Inspire Academy		School				Y			
Total Organizations	47								

In Year 3, the project will shift to wider dissemination of resources to all authorizers with and without AEC charter schools. The A-GAME Project team has begun to develop the dissemination plan (performance measure 3.g.) and has collected contact information for AEC charter schools (performance measure 3.i). Currently the A-GAME project has disseminated resources to 27% of authorizers with AECs (50 out of 188 authorizers with AECs in 2018-19). This includes 11 NALT member authorizers, 3 National Advisory Committee authorizers, and 29 authorizers participating in the Regional Capacity Building Networks. There have been an additional 20 authorizers with AECs and 15 authorizers without AECs that are not part of NALT or the Regional networks that have accessed A-GAME materials. The A-GAME Project Team plans to engage in a variety of dissemination strategies to reach 95% of authorizers with AEC charter schools by the end of Year 3. The strategies include emails, website information, webinars, conference and meeting presentations, and outreach through external partner networks.

In Years 2 and 3 Basis will use surveys to capture whether authorizers who access A-GAME materials and tools agree that resources are important and relevant to their work, as well as how authorizer practices have changed or been reinforced due to our work. These surveys will measure the breadth and depth of impact of the A-GAME project's resources. Once Basis begins its results, they will be captured under goals: 3.m - 3.p. A survey given to participants of the Regional Network convenings indicated that 97.4% had learned something new and 89.5% were able to give an example of how they could use the resources in their work, providing an early indication that the resources developed and disseminated through the A-GAME project are useful to authorizers with AEC charter schools and will be put into practice.

Basis will also conduct interviews and focus groups with NALT and Regional Capacity Building Network members to assess the extent to which these authorizers have implemented A-GAME resources and tools in their work and measure barriers to implementation. Separate and apart from the work Basis will conduct, the A-GAME Project Team has received information from two authorizers that they have used A-GAME resources in their practices. Audubon Center of the North Woods, a NALT member, has adopted a definition of alternative education for their authorized charter schools and is utilizing alternative goals based on the best available data. The Idaho Public Charter School Commission, a Regional Network member, indicated that the content covered in the first regional meeting helped the authorizer complete performance framework flexibilities for alternative schools. The interviews and focus groups will allow Basis to find out more information about these examples and others to describe how authorizers in different contexts respond to and integrate the resources into their policies and practices.

The results from the surveys, interviews, and focus groups will be included in the final report deliverable at the end of Year 3.



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SECTION A - Performance Objectives Information and Related Performance Measures Data (See Instructions. Use as many pages as necessary.)

4. Project Objective [X] Check if this is a status update for the previous budget period.

Provide authorizers with better compliance and performance data that they can use to monitor and evaluate the academic, financial, operational performance of schools and strengthen their decision making related to charter renewals, expansions, and closures.

Performance Measure	Measure Type	Quantitative Data					
		Target			Actual Performance Data		
		Raw Number	Ratio	%	Raw Number	Ratio	%
4.a. In each year, the A-GAME Project Team collects and analyzes publicly available performance data for AECs, from state department of education websites, to feed into data visualization tools.	PROJECT	3			2		
4.b. In each year, the A-GAME Project Team develops new visualization tools for disseminating national and local AEC performance outcomes through Epicenter.	PROJECT	3			2		

Explanation of Progress (Include Qualitative Data and Data Collection Information)

The A-GAME Project Team is on track to complete the performance measures for Objective 4. In Years 1 and 2, the A-GAME Project Team collected and analyzed publicly available performance data for AECs and developed an online data visualization tool that can be found here: <https://nationalcharterschools.org/a-game-grant/data-visualizations/>. The tool can be filtered, and the data are intended to provide authorizers with typical results for students attending AECs. Currently the available data includes graduation rates, proficiency rates, dropout rates, attendance rates, ACT scores, SAT scores, and AP exam counts. Additionally, the A-GAME Project Team facilitated a conversation for feedback on the online data visualization tool during the first Regional Network meetings. The A-GAME Project Team will continue to update the data through the end of Year 2 and in Year 3 of the project.

In addition to the publicly available performance data that has been summarized and displayed through the online data visualization tool, the A-GAME Project Team is working with the AEC charter school leaders that are part of the portfolios of the NALT and the Regional Capacity Building Network members to collect student-level data, via Epicenter. The goal is to use this data to develop a broader range of performance measures than what are publicly available through state departments of education. Thus far, the team is working with 20 AEC charters, collecting individual student data. The A-GAME Project Team plans to develop interactive tools based on this data by the end of Year 3.





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SECTION B - Budget Information (See Instructions. Use as many pages as necessary.)

As of February 29, 2020, 40% of the Year 2 budget and all the Year 1 budget has been spent. The project team anticipates that the remaining Year 2 budget will be spent by the end of the fiscal year. The money has gone directly to the project goals of creating tools for authorizers to use when evaluating AECs, building a network of authorizers interested in changing their practice, developing content for the regional meetings, and disseminating the information through these networks and our website. Specifically, the budget covers the time spent by IEE staff and fringe benefits to support this grant implementation. Four of the twelve convenings have taken place. There is sufficient funding remaining in the budget to cover the eight planned Network Capacity Building Convenings, along with travel to conferences (state and national) to continue with dissemination efforts. Three contractors work with us on this grant—Jody Ernst and Jim Griffin from Momentum Strategy and Research and Nelson Smith. Each does substantial amount of work to meet the deliverables within this grant. Mr. Smith is building out a communication strategy which will lead to our goals in Year 3 on sustainability, and Dr. Ernst is responsible for ensuring accurate data is added to our State Data Tool. All of us meet weekly and determine next steps in development and dissemination. We also contract with Basis consulting, which will be doing extensive analysis of our success (or failure) in reaching a broad audience and impacting their performance, the ultimate goal of this grant.

SECTION C - Additional Information (See Instructions. Use as many pages as necessary.)

We anticipate keeping all partners as originally described in our application. This includes working with Momentum Strategy and Research, Basis, and Nelson Smith.