

# Aspiring Leaders Program

## Letter of Support

### About the Program

The National Charter Schools Institute (“Institute”) is excited to launch a new initiative to inspire, educate and equip charter school leaders to achieve their full potential and lead with excellence. The **Aspiring Leaders Program** provides a broad overview of the knowledge and skills necessary to successfully lead a charter school in Michigan. Through participation in this program, motivated individuals seeking to advance their skills and knowledge will be connected with other leaders, experts, resources, and organizations that will help advance successful outcomes.

This program is designed to meet the unique needs of each participant and to build upon the important work that is already happening in your school. All of the activities participants complete are grounded in their individual work-based needs and experiences. Additionally, as part of this program, participants will be partnered with a mentor who is an experienced school leader and will help guide your aspiring leader through their journey of professional development.

The Institute is currently accepting applications for the 2021-2022 cohort. Applications for this program are to be submitted by April 30th, and invited participants will be notified by May 19th. The Aspiring Leaders Program will commence on Monday, July 5th, 2021, and is a year-long program. Participants commit to meeting for four hours each month, completing assigned work and projects, and meeting with their mentor on a regular basis. The cost for participating in this program is \$9,000. Title II funds may be used to help offset the participation fee.

We understand that one of the factors that attribute to a candidate’s success is the support of their school leader and/or their school’s governing board. Thus, we are asking each applicant to verify that they have their organization’s full support by having the current Superintendent (as identified in Michigan’s Educational Entity Master) and Board President complete and return the letter of support.

We hope that you will support your aspiring leader as they take this exciting step and apply to participate in this program. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mark Weinberg at [MWeinberg@CharterInstitute.org](mailto:MWeinberg@CharterInstitute.org).

Thank you for supporting the important work of charter school leadership development in Michigan!

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## School Letter of Support Form

Date:	
Name of Applicant:	
School Name:	
Name of Superintendent*:	
Name of Board President:	
<p>Please read each of the commitments that participants are asked to make. Please indicate your support of your aspiring leader's commitment to each portion of the program by checking the box next to each stated commitment and signing your name below. Once you have completed and signed this letter of support, you may return it to the candidate who is required to upload it as part of the application process.</p>	
<b>Support</b> <small>(indicate by a check mark)</small>	<b>Description of Commitment</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	I support the aspiring leader's participation in the year-long program facilitated by the Institute.
<input type="checkbox"/>	I support the aspiring leader's participation in monthly meetings which are a required part of the Aspiring Leaders Program and help facilitate discussions on important topics related to charter school leadership development.
<input type="checkbox"/>	I support the use of the aspiring leader's time to complete tasks and projects.
<input type="checkbox"/>	I support the use of the aspiring leader's time to meet with their mentor on a regular basis.
<input type="checkbox"/>	I support the financial investment of the aspiring leader's participation in this program.
<b>*Superintendent's Signature:</b>	
<b>Board President's signature</b>	

\*The school will likely use a different title than Superintendent, however, Michigan requires that each charter school identify a "Superintendent" in the Educational Entity Master (EEM) on the Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI). It is that person identified in the EEM, and the Board President, who should sign this letter of support.