



# WHAT IS REALLY CHANGING IN FEDERAL CHARTER SCHOOL POLICY?

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# TODAY

- CSP Grows Up: Growth **AND** Accountability
- Right Here, Right Now: Breaking Down the Dear Colleague Letter
- Take it Home
- Discussion and Questions

# CHARTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

*Growth and Accountability*



# HIGHLIGHTS FROM ED

- CSP programs support the planning and implementation of new high-quality charter schools and are all funded from the same budgetary line item.
  - SEA (84.282A),
  - Non-SEA (84.282B/C),
  - Replication and Expansion (84.282M)
- Since it's inception, the CSP program has supported charter schools in 43 of the 44 states that have a charter school law.
- 36 states currently have active CSP support for charter schools in their state.
- Quality oversight of charter schools and the State's role in ensuring that authorizers are providing this oversight is key to the success of the charter school sector.

# WHAT DID I LEARN?

AUTHORIZING  
MATTERS

BE GOOD  
PARTNERS

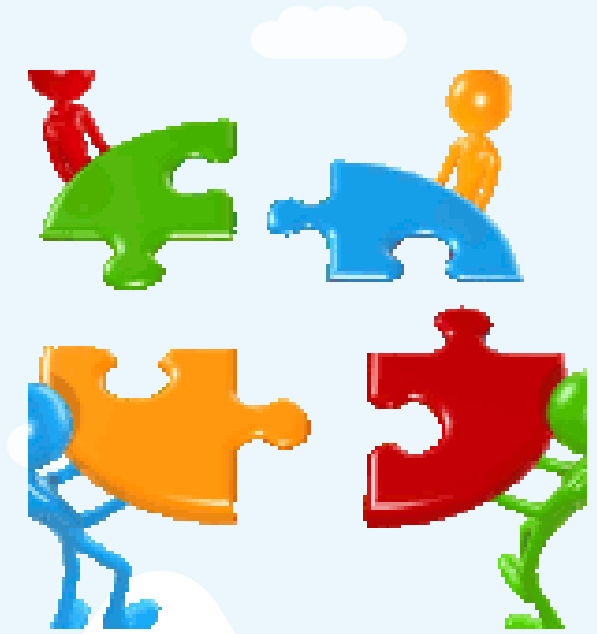
QUALITY >  
QUANTITY

**F**orward **L**ooking **I**ntegrated **P**lans  
for Quality Charter Schools



# WHAT GOT ME THINKING?

- Who does what? Authorizer, SEA, charter school...?
- Did it balance other sector goals?
- What role could (or should) the state have in determining what is a “high quality school”?
- The sector reacts



“The CSP juggles competing and conflicting goals and constituencies, and it does so with the admittedly imprecise and awkward tools of federal grant making and authority.”

- *Alex Medler, Education Post 10/13/15*



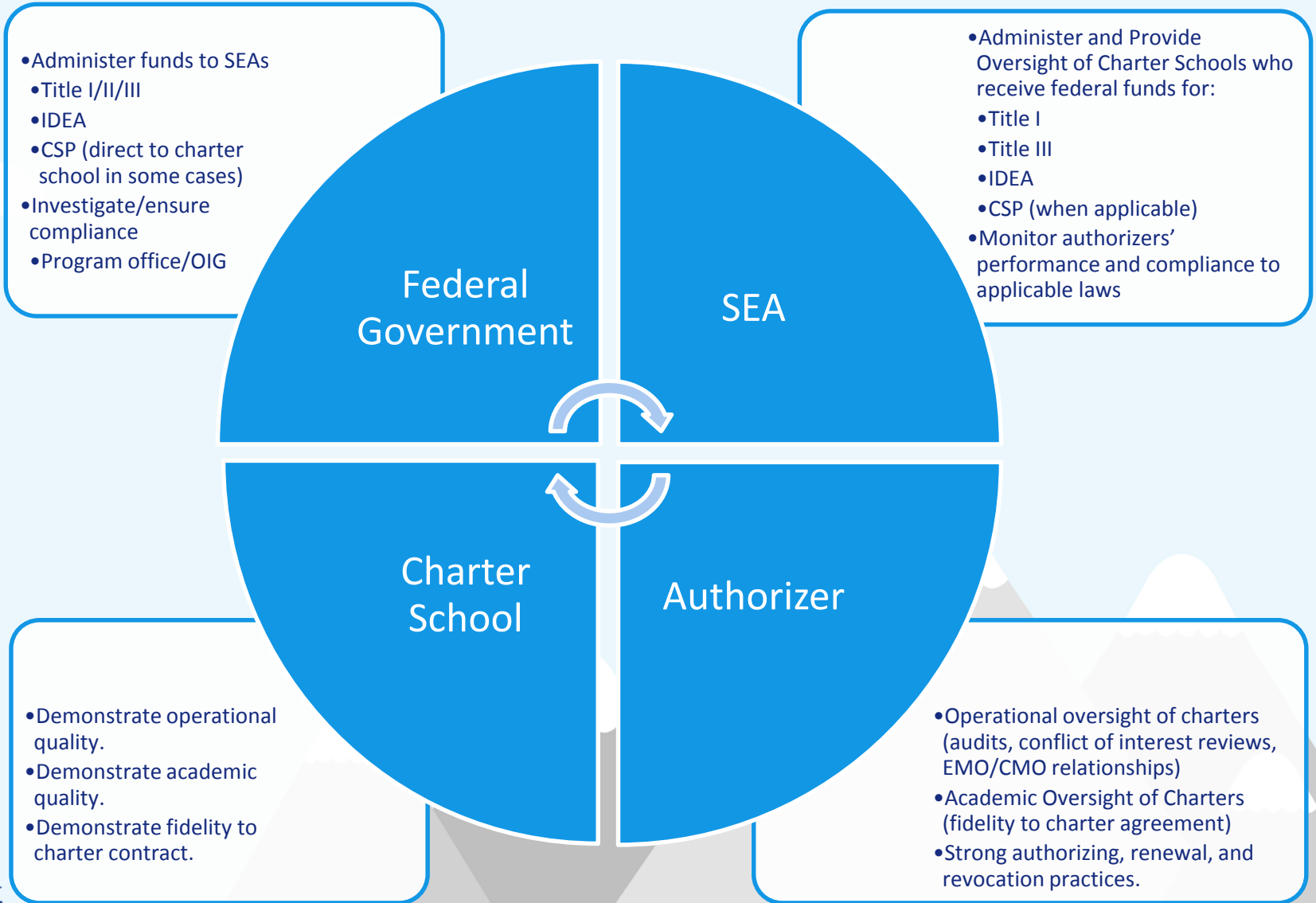
# DEAR COLLEAGUE LETTER

*September 28, 2015*



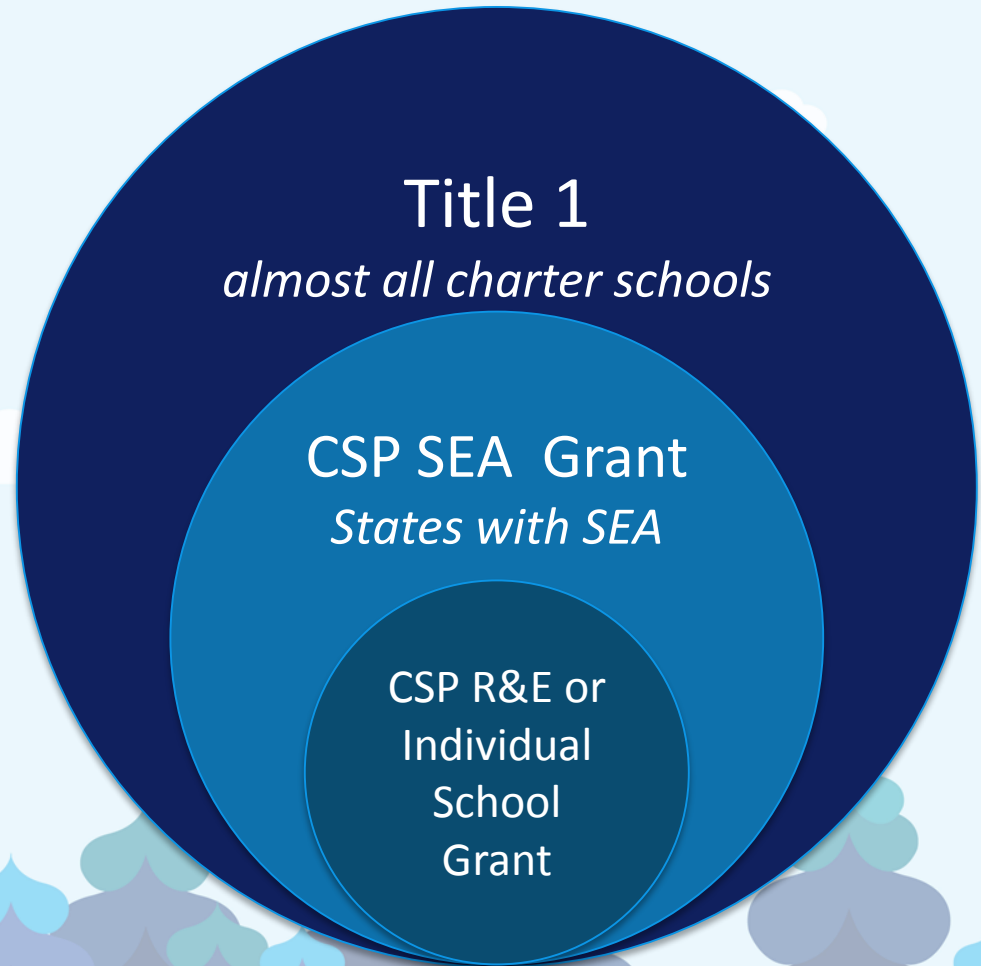


# RESPONSIBILITIES



Are federal funds being used:

- 1) At the right school?
- 2) For the right purpose?
- 3) Distributed in the right amount?



**Charter School, SEA, and Authorizer each have responsibilities to answer this question**

# WHAT YOU CAN DO NOW

- Explore resources available.
- Talk with your SEA, your CSO, your multi-site operators, other authorizers.
- Review your practices. Encourage your schools to do the same. If needed, make a plan.

***Expect  
more of  
this  
oversight,  
not less.***

# Questions and Discussion

