



PRESS RELEASE

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Carolina Achieve Charter School

Awarded \$500,000

NC GROW Charter Schools Program Grant

Mebane, NC — July 14, 2026 — Carolina Achieve Charter School is proud to announce it has been selected as one of the first recipients of the **North Carolina GROW Charter Schools Program (NC GROW CSP)** grant, receiving **\$500,000** to strengthen educational opportunities, expand enrollment, and further develop the school's innovative entrepreneurial learning model.

Administered by the **North Carolina Association for Public Charter Schools (NCAPCS)**, the NC GROW Charter Schools Program is designed to increase access to high-quality public charter schools across North Carolina while supporting innovative educational models focused on Career and Technical Education (CTE), Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), Artificial Intelligence (AI), governance, financial sustainability, and long-term operational excellence.

Carolina Achieve was selected because of its distinctive vision for preparing students to become creative thinkers, problem-solvers, and future leaders through an educational model centered on entrepreneurship and innovation.

"We are honored to be recognized by the North Carolina Association for Public Charter Schools with this significant investment in our school's future," said Trip Cogburn, Founding Head of School at Carolina Achieve Charter School. "This grant affirms the work our teachers, students, families, and Board of Directors are doing every day to build an exceptional learning community. It allows us to strengthen our entrepreneurial model while expanding opportunities for even more students and families."

As an **Entrepreneurial Leadership School**, Carolina Achieve is committed to ensuring every student is **Safe, Connected, and Empowered**. Beginning in kindergarten, students develop critical life skills including creativity, resilience, collaboration, leadership, communication, and problem-solving—skills that prepare them for success in college, careers, and life.

The NC GROW grant will help Carolina Achieve continue expanding these opportunities by supporting enhancements in entrepreneurial, STEM, and Career and Technical Education programming while strengthening the school's long-term capacity for sustainable growth. The funding will also support initiatives designed to increase awareness of the school, expand enrollment opportunities for educationally disadvantaged students, enhance professional development, strengthen governance, and build additional operational infrastructure as Carolina Achieve continues its planned expansion toward becoming a full K-12 public charter school.

A key component of the grant will support Carolina Achieve's partnership with **Uncharted Learning**, helping students engage in authentic entrepreneurial experiences that connect classroom learning with real-world innovation and business development.

"This grant is an investment not only in Carolina Achieve, but in the future of our students and our community," Cogburn added. "We believe every child has the potential to lead, innovate, and make a meaningful impact. These resources will help us continue building an educational environment where students are encouraged to think boldly, solve meaningful problems, and discover the confidence to shape their own futures."

Carolina Achieve Charter School opened its doors in 2025 as a K-2 school, adding third grade for 2026-27 and one additional grade level each ensuing year as it grows toward becoming a

comprehensive K-12 public charter school. The school serves families throughout Alamance, Orange, Durham, Guilford, and surrounding counties by providing a tuition-free public education focused on academic excellence, leadership, entrepreneurship, and character development.

The NC GROW Charter Schools Program represents a statewide investment in expanding high-quality charter school options and preparing North Carolina students for success in an evolving economy through innovative educational programming and sustainable school growth.

For more information about Carolina Achieve Charter School or enrollment opportunities for the upcoming school year, visit the school's website or contact the admissions office.

ABOUT CAROLINA ACHIEVE:

*Carolina Achieve Charter School is a **tuition-free NC public charter school in Mebane, North Carolina**, dedicated to inspiring academic excellence, personal growth, and community engagement. Carolina Achieve began in 2025 with **grades K–2** , growing to K-3 in 2026-27 and expanding by one grade each ensuing year until reaching full K–12 enrollment.*

*With a mission to provide a **student-centered, inclusive, and academically rigorous education**, Carolina Achieve empowers young learners to reach their full potential through innovative teaching, strong character development, and a focus on lifelong learning through an entrepreneurship lens. The school fosters a safe, supportive environment where every child is encouraged to grow intellectually, socially, and emotionally, developing the Habits of Success needed for a bright, productive future as a citizen and leader.*

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