



RIMS CTAP Technology Funding Alert!

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A publication of the Region 10 California Technology Assistance Project (RIMS CTAP)
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Demystifying Grant Seeking

Grants are among the most important sources of funding available today to teachers, schools and education-oriented programs. A truly amazing variety of financial resources are available to fit the special needs of educators, ranging from small mini-grants offered by local community groups to major grants funded by government agencies and large philanthropic foundations. Yet, many individuals and organizations find the grant seeking process mystifying, confusing, and even intimidating. Frequently asked questions include: "Is there a grant program to meet *my* special needs?" and "Where do I even start to look?" Happily, finding the grant resource that is right for you need not be nearly so mystifying or confusing when you have the necessary information to point you in the right direction and get you started. Here are some of the funding sources you may want to consider.

Funding Information Libraries: Many community libraries contain information on private and public sector funding agencies. Some of these libraries house special collections of funding directories and grant databases (online and CD) such as The Foundation Center's 21 Cooperating Collection Libraries <<http://tinyurl.com/FindGrants>>.

Local Education Foundations (LEF): Many school districts and some individual schools have established foundations that support public education and serve as a link between

communities and schools. To locate LEFs in your area, check your school district's web page or call the district superintendent's office and/or the school board. Not all districts are supported by education foundations. To start an education foundation, please visit the California Consortium of Education Foundations at <<http://www.cceflink.org>>.

Community Foundations: Community foundations offer grants in a specific community or region and may provide support to public education programs. To locate the foundation that serves your area, go to <<http://tinyurl.com/CACommunityFoundations>>.

State Government: Find current requests for applications, contracts, apportionments and data at the California Department of Education's web page <<http://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/fo>>. To receive email notification, join the Funding Mailing List: <<http://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/fo/af/joinlist.asp>>.

Federal Government: All discretionary grants offered by the 26 federal grant-making agencies can be found on Grants.gov <<http://www.grants.gov>>. You do not have to register to find grant opportunities, though you will need to register once you are ready to apply for a grant. This process takes 3-5 business days, but you may need several weeks in advance to gather the required documentation. To receive email notification, sign up at: <<http://tinyurl.com/SubscribeEmail>>.

E-newsletters & Other Resources:

- eSchool News Online
<<http://www.eschoolnews.com/funding/>>
- Education World Grants Newsletter
<<http://tinyurl.com/GrantNewsletter>>
- GrantsAlert.com
<<http://www.grantsalert.com/>>
- Grant Wrangler
<<http://www.grantwrangler.com>>
- SchoolGrants Biweekly
<<http://tinyurl.com/cyfp7n>>
- Technology Grant & Resource News
<<http://tinyurl.com/TechGrantNews>>
- The Foundation Center
<<http://foundationcenter.org/>>
- The Grantsmanship Center
<<http://www.tgci.com>>

These are but a few of the funding sources available. Somewhere among them may be the program that will meet your specific need. The key is to identify the type of grant you are seeking, and then to explore sites and sources to determine which funding programs are a good match for you. Take the time to research the grant guidelines and follow the directions precisely. With a modest investment of time, you will find that the process of grant seeking is much less mystifying and confusing than you imagined.

By the way, spring is a great time of year to find and apply for those summer grants while you still have time. Don't miss out on these opportunities for funding just because the school year is ending soon. Look for the box in this newsletter to learn about upcoming grants.

GRANTS

Foreign Language Assistance Program—Local Educational Agencies

This federal program provides grants to local educational agencies (LEAs) for innovative model programs providing for the establish-

ment, improvement, or expansion of foreign language study for elementary and secondary school students.

Contact—trinidad.torrescarrion@ed.gov, 202-401-1445

Website—<http://tinyurl.com/FLAPLEA>

Deadline—May 11, 2009 (Intent to Apply); May 27, 2009 (Application)

Eligibility—LEAs & charter schools that are LEAs

Awards—43 awards ranging from \$100,000-\$200,000

Microsoft Offers Free Tools for High School Students

DreamSpark High School provides professional level development and design tools to students enrolled in accredited, secondary educational institutions at no charge. Register now and give your students access to software and training DreamSpark offers, such as Visual Studio, and XNA Game Studio, among others. To learn more and/or sign-up for the program, go to <<https://www.dreamspark.com/Default.aspx>>.

Target Store Grants

Target offers program support in the following areas: arts, early childhood reading and family violence prevention. Apply online.

Contact—Community.Relations@target.com

Website—<http://tinyurl.com/LocalTarget>

Deadline—May 31, 2009

Eligibility—Public schools, libraries and non-profit agencies in Target store communities

Awards—\$1,000-\$3,000

Learning in the Arts for Children and Youth

Sponsored by the NEA, this school-based program offers funding for projects that help children and youth acquire knowledge and understanding of and skills in the arts.

Contact—See Website for contact information.

Website—<http://tinyurl.com/bx23d5>

Deadline—June 11, 2009

Eligibility—LEAs, including charter schools

Awards—\$5,000-\$150,000 with a 1:1 match requirement

Comerica Charitable Foundation

The foundation's education program area supports K-12 financial literacy programs.

Contact—Western Market, Corporate Contributions Manager, MC 4805, 333 West Santa Clara Street, San Jose, CA 95113

Website—<http://tinyurl.com/FinancialLiteracy>

Deadline—June 15, 2009

Eligibility—Public K-12 schools and districts

Awards—Undisclosed

Sol Hirsch Education Fund Grants

Sponsored by the National Weather Association, this grant program is designed to help improve the education of students in meteorology.

Contact—exdir@nwas.org, 919-845-1546

Website—<http://tinyurl.com/SolHirsch>

Deadline—June 15, 2009

Eligibility—K-12 teachers and program managers responsible for teaching meteorology

Awards—Seven or more grants of \$500 each

Captain Planet Foundation

The Captain Planet Foundation supports hands-on, innovative environmental education programs.

Contact—Taryn Murphy, 404-522-4270

tarynm@captainplanetfdn.org

Website—<http://tinyurl.com/bbnkr6>

Deadline—June 30, 2009

Eligibility—K-12 teachers

Awards—Grant Range: \$250-\$2,500

Toshiba America Foundation

The Foundation contributes to the quality of science and mathematics education by investing in projects designed by classroom teachers to improve instruction for students in grades K-12.

Contact—foundation@tai.toshiba.com,

212-596-0620

Website—<http://tinyurl.com/ToshibaFdn>

Deadline—Ongoing (\$5,000 or less);

August 3, 2009 (larger than \$5,000)

Eligibility—Public and private K-12 schools

Awards—Small grants of \$5,000 or less and grants larger than \$5,000

Wells Fargo

Wells Fargo supports educational programs promoting academic achievement by low- to moderate-income students in PreK-12th grade in the key areas of math and science, literacy, and history of the American West.

Contact—Varies by region

(Go to: <http://tinyurl.com/CARegions>)

Website—<http://tinyurl.com/WellsFargoGrants>

Deadline—Varies by region (see contact info)

Eligibility—Public PreK-12 schools

Awards—In 2007, contributions of \$9.4M were awarded in the area of education.

Stuart Foundation

Currently, the work of the Foundation focuses on effective teaching. Priority will be given to schools and districts serving the neediest student populations.

Contact—Use the online form or call

415-393-1551

Enhancing Education Through Technology—Competitive (EETT-C)

This grant program provides funding for grades 4-8 to assist eligible LEAs in using technology to enhance teaching and learning. Districts and direct-funded charter schools are required to have a state-approved technology plan to be eligible for these funds. Guidelines for the Round 8 EETT-C grant cycle and the list of eligible districts and schools can be found at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/fo/r5/eettc09rfa.asp>. The deadline to apply is June 30, 2009.

Website—<http://tinyurl.com/StuartFdn>

Deadline—None

(Letters of Intent accepted on a rolling basis.)

Eligibility—School districts located in California

Awards—Unrestricted maximum grant amount (see Website FAQs for additional information).

Student Technical Support

Mini-Grants

This program enables upper elementary, middle, and high school students to provide a service to their schools, while they learn Information Technology (IT), communication, and leadership skills. It can be an after-school program or an in-school elective.

Contact—Jan Half, jhalf@ca.mousesquad.org, 650-345-6338 or 408-712-5912

Website—<http://www.ca.mousesquad.org>

Deadline—Ongoing for 2009-10 implementation

Eligibility—K-12 public schools in California

Awards—\$1,000, \$500, or \$250 for first year (cost of program is \$2,000 per site) for licensing of curriculum, training, and program management

PRODUCT DONATIONS

Samsung K-12 Grant Program for Teachers and Schools

This program is designed to help teachers upgrade the quality of technology tools in schools by awarding document cameras. Applicants simply need to complete the online application by answering (in 100 words or less) how your class would benefit from a Samsung document camera.

Contact—richardb@samsungsoa.com

Website—<http://www.samsunggrants.com/>

Deadline—June 15, 2009

Eligibility—Public or private K-12 school teachers

Awards—50 Samsung 850DX document cameras (valued at \$899 each)

Partners for Growth Matching Grants Program

Matching funds are available for educators with innovative ideas for implementing Curriculum Associates materials.

Contact—grants@CAinc.com, 800-225-0248, ext. 545

Website—<http://tinyurl.com/cu5xc8>

Deadline—June 15, 2009

Eligibility—Public PreK-12 schools

Awards—100 grants of \$300 worth of Curriculum Associates materials awarded in each quarter

Recordings for the Blind and Dyslexic Grant Program

Students with a qualified learning or print disability can sign up for 12 months of free access to RFB&D's CV Starr Learning Through Listening® Library of more than 46,000 textbooks and literature, via Internet download. Eligible students can enroll online at: <https://custhub.rfbd.org/Registration>.

Contact—Please direct questions to:

800-772-3248, or send an email to:

AudioAccessSupport@rfbd.org.

Website—<http://www.rfbd.org/promotions.htm>

Deadline—January 25, 2010

Eligibility—Public, private or home-schooled grades K-12 students and post secondary students with a certified print disability such as visual impairment, learning disability or other physical disability

Awards—12 months of 24/7 AudioAccess individual memberships

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

NSTA New Science Teacher Academy

NSTA New Science Teacher Academy is a professional development initiative created to help promote quality science teaching, enhance teacher confidence and classroom excellence, and improve teacher content knowledge.

Contact—jsciulli@nsta.org, 703-312-9218

Website—<http://tinyurl.com/NSTAAcademy>

Deadline—June 1, 2009

Eligibility—Teachers entering their 2nd or 3rd year of teaching and working a schedule with 51% of their classes in middle or high school science

Awards—185 fellowships of online mentoring, web-based professional development

Classroom Earth Professional Development Grants

This program is designed to support teachers new to the field of environmental education who want to increase their students' environmental literacy.

Contact—classroomearth@neefusa.org, 202-833-2933

Website—<http://www.classroomearth.org/>

Deadline—June 12, 2009

Eligibility—Public, private, charter and parochial school teachers from grades 9-12

Awards—20 awards of \$1,500 each to take graduate-level courses online

Upcoming Summer Grants

Best Buy Teach Grant Program

<http://tinyurl.com/TeachAwards>
(Check Website in July for more info)

Lowe's Toolbox for Education Grant

<http://www.toolboxforeducation.com/>
(Check Website in July for more info)

Kids in Need Teacher Grants

<http://www.kidsinneed.net/grants/>
(Check Website after July 15, 2009)

American Honda Foundation

<http://tinyurl.com/AmericanHonda>
Deadline—August 1, 2009

Lego Children's Fund

<http://tinyurl.com/4elrmp>
Deadline—August 1, 2009

Toshiba America Foundation

<http://tinyurl.com/ToshibaFdn>
Deadline—August 3, 2009

Verizon Foundation

<http://tinyurl.com/VerizonGrants>
Deadline—January-October 31, 2009