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# Technology Funding Alert!



A publication of the Alameda County Office of Education, Judy Echeandia, Editor, in partnership with California Technology Assistance Project (CTAP) Region IV, Bonnie Marks, Executive Director 510-670-4168



## 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 find your district's LEF, CTAP 4 has recently posted a

list on its web page by county for the region <<http://tinyurl.com/Region4LEFs>>. You can also check your school district's web page or call the district superintendent's office 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 (see: <http://tinyurl.com/CARegions>)

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

**Deadline**—Varies by region (see contact info)

## 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 on 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 1, 2009

### Verizon Foundation

<http://tinyurl.com/VerizonGrants>

Deadline—January-October 31, 2009

**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

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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>, using the code MS144.

**Contact**—Bridget Foster, Northern California grant specialist, [bridgetfoster@earthlink.net](mailto:bridgetfoster@earthlink.net), 209-606-1166

**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](mailto:jsciulli@nsta.org), 703-312-9218

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

**Deadline**—May 30, 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**—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](mailto: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

## Enhancing Education Through Technology—Competitive (EETT-C)

This grant program provides funding for grades for 4-8 to assist eligible LEAs in using technology to enhance teaching and learning. The CDE is currently preparing guidelines for the Round 8 EETT-C grant cycle, and they expect to announce the program and post the list of eligible districts and schools at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/et/ft/>. Districts and direct-funded charter schools are required to have a state-approved technology plan to be eligible for these funds. To learn more about the support provided by CTAP Region 4, go to: <http://www.ctap4.net/grantsfunding/eett-competitive.html>.