



Technology Funding Alert!

OCTOBER 4, 2007



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



From the Director . . .

This is CTAP Region IV's ninth year publishing the *Technology Funding Alert!* You'll be receiving five issues this year to keep you informed about opportunities for grants, awards and product donations that will support the use of technology in teaching and learning. The *Alert!* will also be available on our website at: <http://www.ctap4.org>.

A key step for many districts in applying for funds to support educational technology is the development of a district technology plan. CTAP works hand-in-hand with districts to support the development of these plans, which then can be approved at the state level, to enable districts to receive technology funding from the state. In addition, plans submitted for approval prior to January of 2008, will enable districts to be compliant with E-rate technology plan requirements. This year, we anticipate a few districts will submit plans in early October, while most will be submitted in the cycle that ends December 7, 2007. Districts that do not need an approved plan for e-rate purposes, can submit their plans up until April 4, 2008. All the details and the criteria for the technology plan may be found at the CDE website: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/et/ft/eettformula.asp> and at the CTAP Region IV technology planning page: <http://www.ctap4.org/grants/planning.htm>.

This year, funds continue to be available to districts, applying on behalf of their qualifying schools (in which at least 40% of attending students were eligible for free and reduced price meals in FY 2005-06) through the K-12 Voucher Program. State-approved technology plans are required for districts to apply for these vouchers, which resulted from a lawsuit between California consumers and Microsoft Corporation. These vouchers enable qualifying schools to purchase hardware, software, professional development and technical support. Last year, more than \$400 million became available to districts through the K-12 Voucher program. It is anticipated that even more is available, and districts will have an opportunity to apply for additional funds in the next round. Further information and the Voucher Program RFA are available at: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/et/st/etv.asp>.

For further information about grants and a listing of CTAP staff to contact, visit the Region IV Web page at: <http://www.ctap4.org> or phone us at (510) 670-4223. We look forward to supporting your success in grant acquisition this year!

Bonnie Marks

GRANTS

2007 AT&T Foundation Wireless Competitive Grant Program

This program is focused on helping education-related 501(c)(3) public charities and government instrumentalities integrate wireless technology into their ongoing educational programs and outreach. See eligibility criteria below.

Contact—800-591-9663

Deadline—October 19, 2007 (Received by)

Web Site—www.att.com/gen/corporate-citizenship?pid=10582

Eligibility—School district/system foundations (but not individual schools or school districts without a foundation), private and charter school foundations, colleges and universities, and other nonprofits that work on-site with public and private education institutions.

Awards—From a total of \$1.5M, one-time, education-focused, wireless technology grants ranging from \$2,500 to \$25,000 are offered to offset the cost of wireless service or to support the purchase of wireless hardware, including mobile phones, routers, or handsets.

Target Field Trip Grants

The Target Field Trip Grants program is an innovative, non-restrictive grant initiative designed to fund field trips for students. This year, Target has doubled its field trips grant program so that more students can have more opportunities to learn outside of the classroom.

Contact—targetfieldtripgrants@scholarshipamerica.org, 1-800-537-4180

Web Site—<http://sites.target.com/site/en/corporate/page.jsp?contentId=PRD03-002537>

Deadline—November 1, 2007

Eligibility—K-12 public, private or charter schools

Awards—Up to 1,600 grants of \$1,000 each

American Honda Foundation

The American Honda Foundation makes grants for programs in the fields of youth education and scientific education.

Contact—310-781-4090

Web Site—<http://corporate.honda.com/america/philanthropy.aspx?id=ahf>

Deadline—November 1, 2007; February 1, May 1, and August 1, 2008

Eligibility—K-12 schools, districts and other youth-focused nonprofits

Awards—Average grant range is \$40,000-\$80,000

Mathematics Education Grant Programs

The Mathematics Education Trust offers a variety of grant programs supporting the improvement of mathematics teaching and learning at the classroom level.

Contact—exec@nctm.org; 703-620-9840, ext. 2112

Web Site—www.nctm.org/met.aspx

Deadline—November 2, 2007

Eligibility—Please see web site: eligibility varies by grant program.

Awards—Please see web site: awards vary by grant program.

Specialized Secondary Programs

CDE Funding

Specialized Secondary Programs (SSP) grant funds may be used for programs that provide students with advanced learning opportunities in a variety of subjects. The acquisition of technology skills and their use as a tool for instruction and learning is also emphasized. Funding is available for planning new programs, implementing programs and also supports and showcases successful fully developed SSP programs.

Contact—Barbara Weiss, 916-319-0481, bweiss@cde.ca.gov

Web Site—www.cde.ca.gov/fg/fo/profile.asp?id=1102

Deadline—November 15, 2007

Eligibility—Grades 9-12 school districts may submit one SSP application for a comprehensive high school that is not currently receiving SSP funds. The proposed program must be new to the school and serve students in at least two consecutive grades 9-12. For high schools that currently receive SSP funds, continued funding is contingent upon progress toward full implementation, or a legislated apportionment.

Awards—From funds totaling \$6.1M, grants will range from \$185,000 to \$285,000 for program planning and implementation over four years.

Technical Support Mini-Grants

MOUSE Squad of California (MSCA) Student Tech Leadership and Volunteer Tech Support programs can help provide technical support for schools:

MSCA, a program of *AspiraNet*, is for upper elementary, middle, and high school students, has an online curriculum, hands-on activities, Student Help Desk, and volunteers.

Volunteer Tech Support provides volunteers for computer troubleshooting, training, Web-site design, and other technical assistance to elementary schools.

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

Web Site—www.ca.mousesquad.org

Deadline—Ongoing

Eligibility—K-12 public schools in California
Awards—\$500 for first year of Student Tech Support Program (cost of program is \$2500 per site) for licensing, training, volunteers, program management; Mini-Grants of \$500 towards Volunteer Tech Support fee of \$500 for volunteer recruitment, orientation, and coordination.

East Bay Community Foundation Education Mini-Grant Program

This mini-grant program responds to teachers' needs for small grants that can be accessed quickly and easily for specific educational and enrichment activities.

Contact—510-836-3223,
communityinvestment@eastbaycf.org
Web Site—www.eastbaycf.org

Deadline—Ongoing

Eligibility—K-12 public or private school teachers serving Alameda and Contra Costa counties

Awards—Up to \$800

ALZA Corporation

Within the education area of focus, the following programs are supported: K-12 after school programs, professional development for teachers, and nonprofit educational outreach programs.

Contact—650-564-5000

Web Site—www.alza.com/alza/contributions

Deadline—Ongoing

Eligibility—K-12 public schools serving San Mateo and Solano counties

Awards—Grant range: \$1,000-\$5,000

6th Annual Team America Rocketry Challenge

Registration for the 6th Annual Team America Rocketry Challenge will close on **Friday, November 30**. This year's Challenge is to design, build, and fly a model rocket carrying 2 raw eggs and return them safely to the ground while staying aloft for exactly 45 seconds and reaching an altitude of 750 feet. Teams whose score is one of the 100 best will be invited to compete for a share of the \$60,000 prize package at the 2008 National Finals at Great Meadow, in The Plains, Virginia, on May 17, 2008. For more information, visit their web site at: <<http://www.aia-aerospace.org/tarc/>>.

PRODUCT DONATIONS

PG&E Solar Schools Program

Donation and free installation of a new 1 kilowatt photovoltaic system that converts sunlight into electric power.

Contact—Glen Kizer at glen@learnenergy.org

Web Site—www.need.org/pgesolarschools/si.htm

Deadline—Ongoing

Eligibility—K-12 public schools within the PG&E service territory, which is currently getting its electricity from PG&E.

Awards—Up to 40 schools

DonorsChoose Website Connects Teachers' Requests with Donors' Interests

Public school teachers propose project ideas by completing an online application, then

donors from across the country, choose a project to fund. Requests generally fall into one of three categories: student/classroom materials, field trips, or visitors/speakers. Technology projects are included.

Contact—Please direct questions by using the "Contact Form for Teachers" on the Web site.

Web Site—www.donorschoose.org

Deadline—Ongoing

Eligibility—Public school teachers in the counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano and Sonoma.

Awards—Most grants range from \$250-\$500

Dreyer's Foundation Rocky Road Community Bus Program

The Rocky Road Bus is available free of charge for short field trips ranging up to 150 miles in radius; preference is given to youth-oriented groups. The Rocky Road Bus will seat a maximum of 44 adults or 66 small children and may be reserved up to two months in advance. Get your applications in early for this school year.

Contact—For more information and an application, please call the Dreyer's Rocky Road Community Bus telephone line at (925) 847-0747 or (800) 445-0444.

Web Site—www.dreyersinc.com/dreyersfoundation/rockyroad_bus_program.asp

Deadline—Ongoing

Eligibility—Schools located within a 60-mile radius of Pleasanton, California.

Awards—Free transportation for school field trips

AWARDS/COMPETITIONS

Presidential Award for Reading and Technology 2007

The Presidential Award for Reading and Technology honors educators in grades K-12 who are making an outstanding and innovative contribution to the use of technology in reading education.

Contact—exec@reading.org

Web Site—www.reading.org/association/awards/teachers_presidential.html

Deadline—November 15, 2007

Eligibility—K-12 public, private, or parochial educators who work directly with students ages 5-18 for all or part of the working day

Awards—One grand-prize winner and seven regional winners

2008 Seaworld/Busch Gardens/ Fujifilm Environmental Excellence Awards

This awards program recognizes the outstanding efforts of students and teachers who are working at the grassroots level to protect and preserve the environment.

Contact—1-877-792-4332

Web Site—www.seaworld.org/conservation-matters/eea/about.htm

Deadline—November 30, 2007

Eligibility—K-12 public, private, home schools

Awards—8 awards of \$10,000 each and an all-expenses-paid trip for three students and one adult leader to an Anheuser-Busch theme park for a special awards event, Fujifilm digital camera and other prizes

C-SPAN's StudentCam 2008

C-SPAN StudentCam invites students to

Tool Factory/Olympus Grant Programs & Contests

Education software developer Tool Factory and Olympus have teamed to offer the following grant programs and contests:

Digital Wish: Create a lesson plan and qualify to win a mobile digital camera lab plus as many as 43 different grants for hardware and software.

Podcasting: For schools looking to explore the frontiers of podcasting, this grant program is offered specifically for teachers. The program supplies mixing and recording hardware and software valued at \$3,000.

Student Photo Contest: Tool Factory and Olympus are looking for the student photographers of tomorrow. Submit your favorite photograph online and become eligible to win your share of \$4,000 in prizes.

Special Education Grants: This grant program is designed just for special education. Enter for your chance to win digital cameras and educational software.

For deadlines and application instructions, please see Web site at: <http://www.toolfactory.com/olympus_contest/>.

identify a current political topic of interest and produce a short (up to ten minute) video documentary, which creatively explores an issue while integrating C-SPAN programming.

Contact—educate@c-span.org, 202-737-3220

Web Site—www.studentcam.org/About.html

Deadline—December 31, 2007

Eligibility—Middle school students (grades 6-8) and high school students (grades 9-12) may submit entries as individuals or in teams of 3 students. Videos must be the original work of students, however, teachers may provide guidance and critiques.

Awards—A Grand Prize of \$5,000 will be awarded to the best overall entry. Multiple cash prizes of \$250, \$750, \$1,000 and \$3,000 will be awarded in both middle and high school categories. Teachers of top winners will receive money for digital media equipment for their schools.

ThinkQuest International 2008 Website Competition

Sponsored by Oracle Education Foundation, the competition inspires students to think, connect, create, and share. Students work in teams to build innovative and educational websites to share with the world.

Contact—support@thinkquest.org

Web Site—www.thinkquest.org/

Deadline—April 2, 2008

Eligibility—Student teams, ages 9-19, and their teacher coach

Awards—The top 5 teams in each age division receive laptop computers and a cash award for the coach's school. In addition, the top 3 teams in each age division travel to ThinkQuest Live, an educational extravaganza celebrating their achievements. A special award is also presented to the team best demonstrating global perspectives.