



Technology Funding Alert!

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



It's Time for the 2006 State Technology Survey

With the new year comes the time to complete the 2006 California School Technology Survey. A collaborative effort of the California Technology Assistance Project (CTAP) regions and the California Department of Education (CDE), the survey collects data annually to measure progress of integrating technology into California classrooms. The window for completing the 2006 California School Technology Survey is **January 4 through March 17, 2006**.

It's important to note that completion of the California School Technology Survey is a requirement for education technology grants administered by the CDE, including the Enhancing Education Through Technology (EETT) Formula and Competitive funds. Failure to complete both the district level and school level surveys on time may put grant funding at risk.

Because some grants use the California School Technology Survey data for calculating grant awards, it is very important that the survey data are accurate and complete. Districts are urged to assign a coordinator to help ensure the accurate and timely completion of the survey. School staff should work closely with the district coordinator. A letter from the CDE announcing the 2006 survey and including the required PIN and passwords has been sent to district superintendents and principals of direct-funded charter schools. If you have questions about the survey, please contact your county-level CTAP specialist, or e-mail Jim Freese at <jfreese@acoec.k12.ca.us>. For more information, visit the CDE web site at <<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/et/rs/techsurvey.asp>>.

GRANTS

Starbucks Foundation Grants

The Starbucks Foundation invites letters of inquiry from organizations that work with youth (ages 6-18) in the field of arts and literacy and/or environmental literacy. Projects involving creative uses of technology will be considered. Complete the grant qualifications questionnaire on the website, and then download and

complete the letter of inquiry and email it to <foundationgrants@starbucks.com>.

Contact—foundationgrants@starbucks.com

Web Site—www.starbucks.com/aboutus/grantinfo.asp

Deadline—February 1-March 1, 2006

Eligibility—K-12 schools and nonprofit agencies serving youth (see website for grant qualifications questionnaire)

Awards—Grants range from \$5,000-\$20,000 (\$10,000 average)

EcoPhones Fundraiser (www.ecophones.com)

The EcoPhones Fundraiser is a cellular phone fund-raising and recycling program that pays up to \$200 for used digital cell phones. No buying or selling is required to participate, just recycling. EcoPhones provides a free marketing kit to help launch community phone drives. Once you have collected a full box of cell phones, EcoPhones will pick them up for free. Within 60 days you'll receive a check. For full program guidelines, visit their web site.

HP Technology for Teaching Grant Initiative

2006 K-12 Edition

The HP Technology for Teaching Grant Initiative is designed to support innovative and effective uses of technology in classroom settings. In 2006, HP will grant awards to K-12 public schools that are using a collaborative, team-based approach to implementing technology integration projects. The activities of the project must be focused on using technology to teach, rather than on teaching students to use technology.

Contact—See FAQs on the web site or submit a question online.

Web Site—www.hp.com/go/hpteach

Deadline—February 15, 2006

Eligibility—K-12 public schools

Awards—100 grants valued at \$30,000 each. Based on the outcomes of those projects, some recipients may have the opportunity to receive additional, higher value grants in 2007.

A+ for Energy

The A+ for Energy grant program is designed to support innovative classroom, after school, extra curricular or summer activities focused on energy and/or energy conservation. The grant monies can be spent on technology without restriction.

Contact—Lynn Marlowe, 714-228-6793, lynn.marlowe@bp.com

Web Site—www.aplusforenergy.com

Deadline—April 7, 2006

Eligibility—Public and private K-12 teachers

Awards—\$5,000 and \$10,000 grant amounts from a total of \$1.5M (In 2005, 1,980 grants were awarded.)

Symbol Technologies Community Grants

Symbol funds innovative educational programs in academic institutions and community organizations with special consideration given to programs that promote math, science, engineering and technology.

Contact—comrelat@symbol.com

Web Site—www.symbol.com/category.php?category=736

Deadline—Ongoing

Eligibility—Public K-12 schools

Awards—Undisclosed

Pacific Gas & Electric Company (PG&E)

Aid to Schools

PG&E's Aid to Schools supports public schools serving PreK-12 grade students, universities, teacher training, after-school programs, and kids safety training. Prior to applying for a grant, applicants are required to contact their local PG&E Public Affairs representative.

Contact—Please see Web site (click on "Section 3") for a list of representatives serving the county in which your school is located.

Web Site—www.pge.com/about_us/community/charitable/index.html

Deadline—Ongoing

Eligibility—Public K-12 schools located in the counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo and Solano

Awards—Grant awards to schools generally range from \$350-\$5,000. However, some larger grants were awarded in 2004 (see 2004 Grants list on the Web site).

PRODUCT DONATIONS

Adobe Product Donation Program

Adobe Product Donation Program, administered by Gifts In Kind International, provides schools and nonprofits with the tools they need to provide digital technology and visual literacy to the community. Donations will be evaluated against the eligibility guidelines (see web site) and matched on a first-come-first-served basis. Apply online.

Contact—adobeprogram@giftsinkind.org, 703-836-2121

Web Site—www.adobe.com/aboutadobe/philanthropy/software.html

Deadline—Ongoing

Eligibility—K-12 schools

Awards—Four software packages or one package of Adobe Creative Suite per year. Each package provides licensing for one computer.

Breaking Down Barriers to Assistive Technology

Sponsored by Premier Assistive Technology Inc., this grant program is designed to help meet the accessibility needs of students with learning and/or visual disabilities through a variety of software programs.

DIRECTV Goes to School Program

(www.directv.com/DTVAPP/aboutus/Schools.dsp)

The DIRECTV Goes to School program offers educators a nonviolent educational programming package and satellite equipment. The programming package, called SCHOOL CHOICE, is FREE and available to state-accredited public and private schools serving students in grades K-12. A free DIRECTV Multi-Satellite System for up to three rooms will be provided, including up to three standard receivers (or up to two standard receivers and one DIRECTV® DVR) and three remote controls. Additional receivers may be purchased at the retailer of your choice. Installation of all receivers will be at the school's expense. For more information, please visit their Web site.

Contact—815-722-5961, 517-668-8188; info@readingmadeeasy.com.

Web Site—www.premier-programming.com/grant/grantform.htm

Deadline—Ongoing

Eligibility—School districts only

Awards—The program offers a range of software that reads printed text out loud, including titles such as Scan and Read Pro, Talking Calculator, Talking Word Processor, Text to Audio, Ultimate Talking Dictionary, and more.

GeoMedia Education Grants

Sponsored by Intergraph Mapping and GIS Solutions, this grant program recognizes innovative teaching that advances the use of geographic information sciences by educators and students in the classroom. In addition to this grant program, a free full license of *GeoMedia Professional* is available for higher education students and K-12 educators (see web site for additional information).

Contact—800-345-4856; education@intergraph.com

Web Site—www.intergraph.com/education/grants.asp

Deadline—Ongoing

Eligibility—K-12 public schools

Awards—*GeoMedia Professional Classroom License* (valued at \$2,000)

AWARDS/COMPETITIONS/ VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS

MathMovesU Math Hero Awards

Sponsored by Raytheon Co., the MathMovesU program is designed to reward real-life “Math Heroes” for their dedication to improving math education and their inspiration of participation in math.

Contact—Submit a question or comment online.

Web Site—www.mathmovesu.com/grants.html

Deadline—February 15, 2006

Eligibility—Middle or high school teachers currently teaching a mathematics curriculum

Awards—Up to \$2,500 per award

Giant Step Award

Sponsored by Thomson Gale and School Library Journal, this award is designed to recognize outstanding school and public libraries that have made significant improvements or created new initiatives in programs and services that greatly impact student learning and development or enrich services both in the school and in the community.

Contact—Phyllis Levy Mandell at 1-866-436-0727.

Web Site—www.galeschools.com/grant_goldmine/giant_award/about_giant.htm

Deadline—February 15, 2006

Eligibility—School library media centers (an individual library media center or entire district's library media services programs) and the youth services departments in public libraries that partner with local schools (a single library/branch library or an entire library system).

Awards—Up to \$10,000 awarded in cash prizes.

ThinkQuest

ThinkQuest is an international web site-building competition, sponsored by the Oracle Foundation. Teams of students and teachers are challenged to build web sites on educational topics. These web sites are published in the ThinkQuest Library and top-scoring teams win valuable prizes.

Pre-enrollment is required.

Contact—Online help is available at <www.thinkquest.org/contact.shtml>.

Web Site—www.thinkquest.org/competition/index.shtml

Deadline—March 22, 2006 (preliminary web sites due)

Eligibility—Students between the ages of 9 and 19 from any country in the world are eligible to participate. Students must be a member of a team coached by a school employee.

Awards—1st, 2nd, 3rd Place awards and Honorable Mention in each of three divisions (12 and under, 15 and under, 19 and under), along with an overall Best of Category award in each of 12 topic categories, will be awarded. Each winning team member (students, primary coach, assistant coach and adult chaperone) will be eligible to attend ThinkQuest Live, a prestigious awards event (valued at \$4,000 per participant).

IBM MentorPlace

IBM MentorPlace is a structured online program connecting IBM employee-volunteers with students and teachers.

At a number of IBM MentorPlace sites, volunteers and students communicate weekly using IBM Learning Village, a Web-based tool that enables secure communications and allows teachers to monitor the online conversation.

Contact—Gwyneth Borden, 415-545-4516, gborden@us.ibm.com

Web Site—www.mentorplace.org

Deadline—Ongoing

Eligibility—K-12 schools

Awards—E-mentoring. IBM MentorPlace is now part of IBM's Community Grants program, which enables IBM employees working with students to donate a desktop PC to the classroom for use as part of the program.