
2017-2018 GRANTS & FUNDING RESOURCE

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Legal Requirements

In the US alone, 2 to 3 kids out of every 1,000 are born completely deaf, or with a type of hearing disability. There is a 1 in 5 chance that those born with perfectly good hearing will suffer severe hearing loss as a teenager, partly in thanks to listening to loud music with ear buds. How can educational institutes ensure those students are receiving the same quality learning as those who don't suffer from hearing loss? That is where the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 and 508 of the Rehabilitation Act come in.

[These federal laws](#) prohibit disability discrimination and require schools to make their programs accessible to students with disabilities.

Any audio or video content used by a school or university, whether for communication or course instruction, must be accompanied by closed captions to ensure accessibility for hard of hearing individuals.

Section 504 applies to any school that receives federal funding, the ADA applies to both public and private universities through Title II and Title III, and Section 508 applies indirectly to many universities.

Section 508 is the only law that has been updated to reflect WCAG 2.0, the current international accessibility standards. Section 508 applies to Federal departments and agencies. It does not apply to recipients of Federal funds, and does not regulate the private sector. However, states which receive Federal funds under the [Assistive Technology Act](#) are required to comply with Section 508.

Additionally, some states have adopted Section 508 into their own laws for government and education and many universities have adopted the standards into their accessibility policies.

While updates for the ADA guidelines are in the works, the Department of Justice is holding universities to WCAG 2.0 Level AA conformance. You can learn more about WCAG 2.0 by downloading our ebook: [Updated WCAG 2.0 for Video Accessibility.](#)



**See our article outlining [Grants and Funding for Providing Captions in Education](#) for a list and links to accessibility laws for more information.*

Proven Benefit

In today's educational system, there is a wide variety of online learning at teacher's disposal: digital audio, video, animation, text, and even virtual reality. These tools add more to the classroom when used, and even more when used with closed captions.

Many studies have shown that students with hearing loss are not the only ones who benefit from closed captioned media. Closed captioning boosts [focus, comprehension, literacy, and test scores](#).

A professor at San Francisco State University tested the effects of closed captions on his classes over a 2-year period and saw his students' grades increase by a full grade level.

Captioning is also a positive tool for those with learning disabilities and those learning English as a second language. Studies show that closed captioning greatly increases reading fluency and language acquisition in young children who watch programs using captions.

Budgeting, Grants & Funding

Recently, there have been lawsuits brought against educational giants [MIT and Harvard](#) that have increased the pressure to comply with accessibility laws. Institutions are beginning to realize the need to set aside a budget for accessibility programs.

How can your department or school get the grants and funding needed for a captioned education? Fortunately, there are many sources for funding within local communities, corporations, foundations and even individual donors. Grants are also available through different levels of your government: local, state, federal, and national.

Private funding and crowdfunding are great options that tend to produce community support. Offering captioning for employees can qualify the employer for Work Opportunity Tax Credit, Barrier Removal Tax Deduction and Disabled Access Credit as well. There are also a growing number of government associations offering grants and other financial aid.

Grant Basics

A grant is a way to fund your ideas and projects that provide public services, stimulate the economy, and benefit the community in a positive way.

“Grants support critical recovery initiatives, innovative research, and many other programs.” – www.grants.gov

Writing a grant can be challenging, time consuming, and sometimes complicated. It can be a long process with a lot of competition to get the one best suited for your project. Luckily, we are here to help! We have compiled not only a list of currently open grants but have also put together some tips and tricks to help you along the way.

Getting Started Checklist

- ✓ Familiarize yourself with the overall grants lifecycle
- ✓ Determine your eligibility for funding opportunities
- ✓ Identify the right types of funding opportunities for you
- ✓ Learn about the reporting requirements you will need to comply with if awarded funding
- ✓ Apply for the grant

The most important step is to familiarize yourself with the grants lifecycle. The lifecycle consists of three phases:

- Pre-award phase
- Award phase
- Post-award phase

Pre-Award Phase

In this phase, grants and funding opportunities are announced and researched, the application process is completed, and the application is reviewed.

In the pre-award phase, you must first determine if you are eligible. You can waste a lot of time and money completing an application only to find out that you are not allowed to accept the grant. Each grant can have different eligibility requirements, so it is imperative to read through the application instructions and determine whether you are eligible or not.

You also want to do your due diligence in identifying the funding opportunities that will be most beneficial to your project. There are many grants out there, all with differing requirements. It is an essential step in determining which ones will be the right fit. As you're researching grant opportunities, it is also a good idea to learn about the reporting requirements you will need to follow if awarded.

Completion

Next is to complete the application. Grant requests that receive funding demonstrate thoughtfulness and comprehensiveness in a grant application. They clearly articulate the challenge, barriers, and your plan to address the barrier and promote a program.

Here are a few tips on how best to complete grant applications:

1. READ

Read the full grant application, including the grant guidelines, and eligibility requirements, to ensure that all required qualifications are fulfilled. Research and understand the priorities and strategy of the granting organization and for the grant. If you have further questions or need guidance on what might be best to apply for, reach out to the granting organization and ask about what they are looking for in each grant application.

2. GATHER DATA

Gather data, plans, and budget details that are requested before diving in. Data and number-related questions should be accurate. While some granting organizations give applicants a chance to

correct their mistakes, others will dismiss applications with inaccurate information and will not allow a further follow up. Make sure you get this task correct.

3. ANSWER

Answer all parts of all questions. Some questions are multi-pronged so make sure that you answer all elements of the question. Be direct with your answer and avoid giving too much extraneous information that could make your answer seem unclear.

Supply as much information as is relevant to questions about program plans and barriers to show how you developed the plan, and how it will address the barriers you are encountering.

Answers about your program plan should always be comprehensive and give the grant evaluator a full picture of how you will execute your program.

4. BUDGET

Give the budget request proper attention. The budget is one of the most important components of a grant application. In your budget request for a grant, make sure that:

1. Your budget is in line with the budget requirements outlined by the organization.
2. The request does not exceed the maximum amount of the grant.
3. The request is in line with your program plan outlined in the grant.

4. Provide as much as possible, request items that are sustainable investments. Sustainable investments are items that will sustain themselves for years to come and will not have to be purchased again the following year, like equipment. It's important not to over or under value your request. If for example, the equipment you are requesting in a grant application will be used to benefit another program, allude to it so that the granting organization understands that the benefit will extend to other areas of your program. If your request is unsustainable, give an explanation as to how it will be funded in future years.

5. REVIEW

Review the requirements, your questions, and your answers. Ask colleagues to read and edit the application before you submit it. If you can clearly articulate the problem and barriers and how your program plan will address these, you are ready to submit your application.

Submission

Once your grant is submitted, the awarding agencies perform an initial screening where they check each proposal to ensure it includes all the required information. If your grant does not include all of the required elements, it will be rejected!

The review board will then perform a thorough assessment which includes an in-depth look at the proposed plan and the budget analysis. Make sure your grant application includes EVERYTHING that is asked for. It is also a good idea to ensure the budget analysis is as accurate as possible.

Award Phase

Just as it sounds, this phase is when the review board has made a final decision. If applying for a federal grant, the final award decisions are determined by the federal agency staff with fiduciary responsibility and with the legal authority to enter binding legal agreements. If you are applying for grants from a private organization, be sure to become familiar with their specific award policies and procedures.

Post Award Phase

The post award phase is probably the most challenging. In this phase you have to implement everything you proposed in your grant.

You will also be responsible for reporting progress and completing close-out requirements. Usually you are assigned a grant manager officer who will be your main point of contact and will work with you on accountability. Again, each grant will have varying arrangements and will differ with their procedures. It is important to become very familiar with all the phases and steps for each grant you are applying for.

Now, that you are familiarized with the grant lifecycle, you are ready to search for the right grant for you!

Open Grants from the Department of Education

The following grants are provided by the U.S. Department of Education. Seven different offices are providing funding opportunities for fiscal year 2017. The opportunities relating to education, technology, and disability programs are listed below.

Office of Special Education Programs (OSERS/OSEP)

OSERS/OSEP CFDA No. and Name	Application Notice	Link to Notice	Deadline	Value/Number of Awards	Contact Person
84.323A State Personnel Development Grants (SPDGs)	2/13/2017 (82 FR 1047)	PDF TXT	4/14/2017	\$24,350,000 (Total) 25 awards	Jennifer Coffey Jennifer.Coffey@ed.gov Fax (202) 245-7617 Telephone (202) 245-6673
84.325A National Center for Improving Teacher and Leader Professions to Better Serve Children with Disabilities	TBD		TBD	\$4,250,000 (Total) 1 award	Bonnie Jones Bonnie.Jones@ed.gov Fax (202) 245-7617 Telephone (202) 245-7395 David Guardino David.Guardino@ed.gov Fax (202) 245-7617 Telephone (202) 245-6209
84.325B Early Childhood Personnel Center (ECPC)	TBD		TBD	\$2,000,000 (Total) 1 award	Tracie Dickson Tracie.Dickson@ed.gov Fax (202) 245-7617 Telephone (202) 245-7844
84.325D Preparation of Special Education, Early Intervention and Related Services Leadership Personnel	12/7/2016 (81 FR 88218)	PDF TXT	2/6/2017	\$3,250,000 (Total) \$250,000 (Each) 13 awards	Celia Rosenquist Celia.Rosenquist@ed.gov Fax (202) 245-7617 Telephone (202) 245-7373
84.326B Technical Assistance Center on Positive social, Emotional, and Behavioral Outcomes for Young Children with Disabilities	TBD		TBD	\$1,100,000 1 award	Jennifer Tschantz Jennifer.Tschantz@ed.gov Fax (202) 245-7617 Telephone (202) 245-6272
84.325E National Center for the Development and Dissemination of Digital Learning products to Enhance Personnel Preparation and Professional Development for Educators: building capacity off Educators to Use Practices Supported by Evidence and Improve Results for Students with Disabilities	TBD		TBD	\$1,200,000 (Total) 1 award	Sarah Allen Sarah.Allen@ed.gov Fax (202) 245-7617 Telephone (202) 245-7875

OSERS/OSEP CFDA No. and Name	Application Notice	Link to Notice	Deadline	Value/Number of Awards	Contact Person
84.325K - Interdisciplinary Preparation in Special Education, Early Intervention, and Related Services for Personnel Serving Children with Disabilities who have High-Intensity Needs	1/3/2017	PDF	3/6/2017	\$9,000,000 (Total) \$250,000 (Each) 36 awards	Maryann McDermott Maryann.McDermott@ed.gov Fax (202) 245-7617 Telephone (202) 245-7439
	(82 FR 105)	TXT			
84.326K - National center to Build State Education Systems' Infrastructure to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities (State Implementaion and Scaling-Up)	TBD		TBD	\$1,100,000 (Total) 1 award	Jennifer Coffey Jennifer.Coffey@ed.gov Fax (202) 245-7617 Telephone (202) 245-6673
84.326M: Model Demonstration Projects to Improve Algebraic Reasoning for Students with Disabilities in Middle and High School	TBD		TBD	\$1,200,000 (Total) \$400,000 (Each) 3 awards	Polly Maccini Polly.Maccini@ed.gov Fax (202) 245-8012 Telephone (202) 245-6462
84.326P Early Childhood Systems Technical Assistance Center	TBD		TBD	Years 1-2 \$3,400,000 Annually Years 3-5 \$5,400,000 Annually 1 awards	Julia Martin Eile Julia.Martin.Eile@ed.gov Fax (202) 245-7617 Telephone (202) 245-7431
84.326Y: National Technical Assistance Center for Inclusive Policies and Practices	TBD		TBD	\$2,000,000 (Total) 1 award	Tina Diamond Tina.Diamond@ed.gov Fax (202) 245-7617 Telephone (202) 245-6674
84.327A Research and Development Center on Improving Results for Children with Disabilities through Enhanced Access to Learning Content Online and digital Learning Environments	TBD		TBD	\$1,000,000 (Total) 1 award	Tara Courchaine Tara.Courchaine@ed.gov Fax (202) 245-7617 Telephone (202) 245-6462
84.327D - Education Materials in Accessible Formats for Students with Visual Impairments and Other Print Disabilities	TBD		TBD	\$8,500,000 (Total) 1 award	Greg Knollman Gregory.Knollman@ed.gov Fax (202) 245-7617 Telephone (202) 245-6425 or Tara Courchaine Tara.Courchaine@ed.gov Fax (202) 245-7617 Telephone (202) 245-6462
84.327G Center on Early Science Technology, Engineering and Math Learning for young Children with Disabilities	TBD		TBD	\$1,600,000 (Total) 1 award	Dawn Ellis Dawn.Ellis@ed.gov Fax (202) 245-7617 Telephone (202) 245-6417
84.327S Stepping-Up Technology Implementation	TBD		TBD	\$2,500,000 (Total) 5 awards	Terry Jackson Terry.Jackson@ed.gov Fax (202) 245-7617 Telephone (202) 245-6039
84.328C Community Parent Resource Centers (CPRCs)	12/7/2016 (81 FR 88226)	PDF TXT	2/6/2017	\$700,000 (Total) \$100,000(Each) 7 awards	Carmen Sanchez Carmen.Sanchez@ed.gov Fax (202) 245-7617 Telephone (202) 245-6039

Office of Innovation and Improvement (OII)

OII CDFA No. and Name	Application Notice	Link to Notice	Deadline	Value/Number of Awards	Contact Person
84.367D – Supporting Effective Educator Development (SEED) Grant Program	12/21/2016 (81 FR 93671)	PDF TXT	3/7/2017	\$8,000,000 - \$15,000,000 3-4 awards	Margarita Melendez SEED@ed.gov Telephone (202) 260-3548
84.374A – Teacher and School Leader (TSL) Incentive Fund Program	12/20/2016 (81 FR 92793)	PDF TXT	3/24/2017	\$1,000,000 - \$7,500,000 15-20 awards	Orman Feres TIF5@ed.gov (202) 453-6921 FAX: TBD
84.411A – Education Innovation and Research Program (Expansion Grants)	12/15/2016		4/13/2017	\$14,500,000 3-5 awards	EIR@ed.gov Fax (202) 205-5631
84.411B – Education Innovation and Research Program (Mid-phase Grants)	12/15/2016		4/13/2017	\$7,750,000 15-20 awards	EIR@ed.gov Fax (202) 205-5631
84.411C – Education Innovation and Research Program (Early-phase Grants)	12/15/2016		4/13/2017	\$3,750,000 24-38 awards	EIR@ed.gov Fax (202) 205-5631

For more information on applying for these opportunities, [click here](#).



Open Grants & Scholarships from Private Organizations

The following grants and scholarships are available to universities and individuals students from a variety of organizations.

Click the links to visit the application pages and find out if you are eligible for funding.

Grant	Agency	Contact	Website
Grants for Individuals: General			
College Scholarships			College Scholarships
Foundation for Science and Disability Science Student Grant Fund			Disability.gov www.stemd.org
Incight Go Getter Scholarship	Incight	971-244-0305	Incight Go Getter Scholarship
Lime Scholarship	Google & Lime		Lime Scholarship
NBCUniversal Tony Coelho Media Scholarship			NBCUniversal Tony Coelho Media Scholarship
Paul G. Hearne Leadership Award		800-840-8844	Paul G. Hearne Leadership Award
Proyecto Vision			Proyecto Vision
Grant for Educators	Educators of America	716-710-7300	Educators of America Grant
Grants for Individuals: Hearing Loss/Deafness			
AG Bell Financial Aid and Scholarship Program	Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing	"202-337-5220 202-337-5221 (TTY)	AG Bell Financial Aid and Scholarship Program
Graduate Fellowship Fund	Gallaudet University Alumni Association	202-250-2099 (Voice/ TTY)	Graduate Fellowship Fund
Hard of Hearing and Deaf Scholarship	Sertoma International	816-333-8300	Hard of Hearing and Deaf Scholarship
Communicative Disorders Scholarship	Sertoma International	816-333-8300	Communicative Disorders Scholarship
William C. Stokoe Scholarship	National Association of the Deaf: Stokoe	301-587-1789 (TTY) 301-587-1788 (voice)	William C. Stokoe Scholarship
Grants for Individuals: Learning Disabilities			
Ann Ford and Allegra Ford Scholarship	National Center for Learning Disabilities	888-575-7373	Ann Ford and Allegra Ford Scholarship
Anne & Matt Harbison Scholarship	P. Buckley Moss Society	540-943-5678	Anne & Matt Harbison Scholarship
Hydrocephalus Association			Hydrocephalus Association
Marion Huber Learning Through Listening Awards			Marion Huber Learning Through Listening Awards
RISE Scholarship Foundation, Inc.			RISE Scholarship Foundation, Inc.
Grants for Individuals: Mental Health			
Baer Reintegration Scholarship		800-809-8202	Baer Reintegration Scholarship
Grants for Individuals: Disabled Veterans & Military Families			
AFCEA Disabled War Veterans Scholarship			AFCEA Disabled War Veterans Scholarship
Scholarships for Disabled Veterans			Scholarships for Disabled Veterans

Grant	Agency	Contact	Website
Grants for Individuals: Physical/Mobility Impairments			
1800Wheelchair		800-320-7140	1800Wheelchair
AmeriGlide Achiever Scholarship	AmeriGlide	800-790-1635	AmeriGlide Achiever Scholarship
National Chair Scholars Scholarship	ChairScholars Foundation	813-926-0544	National Chair Scholars Scholarship
National MS Society Scholarship Program	National Multiple Sclerosis Society	800-344-4867	National MS Society Scholarship Program
SBA Scholarships	Spina Bifida Association of America	202-944-3285 ext. 23	SBA Scholarships
Grants for Individuals: Health Impairments			
HFA Educational Scholarship	Hemophilia Federation of America	800-230-9797	HFA Educational Scholarship
IDF Scholarship Program	Immune Deficiency Foundation	800-296-4433	IDF Scholarship Program
Kevin Child Scholarship	National Hemophilia Foundation	800-424-2634 ext. 3700	Kevin Child Scholarship
Scholarships for Survivors Program	Patient Advocate Foundation	800-532-5274	Scholarships for Survivors Program
Ulman Cancer Fund for Young Adults	888-393-3863 (FUND)		Ulman Cancer Fund for Young Adults
Grants for Individuals: Visual Impairments			
ACB Scholarship	American Council of the Blind	202-467-5081	ACB Scholarship
AFB Scholarships	American Foundation for the Blind	800-232-5463	AFB Scholarships
CCLVI Scholarships	Council of Citizens with Low Vision International	800-733-2258	CCLVI Scholarships
CRS Scholarship	Christian Record Services for the Blind	402-488-0981	CRS Scholarship
Ferrell Scholarship	Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired	877-492-2708	Ferrell Scholarship
Lighthouse Scholarships	Lighthouse Guild		Lighthouse Scholarships
NFB Scholarships	National Federation of the Blind	410-659-9314	NFB Scholarships
Mary P. Oenslager Scholastic Achievement Awards			Mary P. Oenslager Scholastic Achievement Awards

Additional resources for Grants & Funding opportunities

National Association of the Deaf

- The NAD works closely with colleges and universities to provide deaf students with transcribers, interpreters, and note takers by offering federal assistance.

National Institute of Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD)

- The NIDCD works to provide equal learning opportunities for those who suffer from disorders that effect hearing, speaking, stuttering, English as a second language, and issues with smell or taste.

The Federal Register for Educational Technology Materials

- The ETMMID provides for public charter schools, colleges, private nonprofits, for-profit, local and state educational groups.

The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance

- This grant is used to improve results for children with disabilities with development, demonstration, and use of technology for just about any educational system, including Indian tribes, public agencies, higher education institutions, and public charter schools.

Distance Education Captioning and Transcription Grant

- The DECT offers funding for community colleges in California. Guaranteed compliance is standard when the school qualifies for the grant. Standard compliances include: distance learning, hybrid classes, long-distance delivery on-campus, or providing digital repositories for digitized content.

US Department of Education

- The Department of Education provides grants for closed captioning. In 2015, they gave almost \$25 million in continued grants.

ATiA Assistive Technology Industry Association

- The ATiA is a comprehensive list of resources for grants and funding to aid in providing and locating legally correct technology for video transcription and captioning, as well as a myriad of resources for all disabilities.

Foundation Center

- The Foundation Center libraries collect funding directories useful to individuals with disabilities and the nonprofit organizations that support them. This list contains citations to print resources, as well as links to web sites and online resources from a variety of public and private organizations.

NEC Foundation of America

- Focuses on science and technology education and the application of technology to assist people with disabilities. This site outlines past recipients including museums and links to other foundations.

Mitsubishi Electric America Foundation

- Funds projects and organizations that advance the independence, productivity, and community inclusion of young people with disabilities.

Foundations interested in underserved audiences that have funded museums in the past are:

W. K. Kellogg Foundation and William Randolph Hearst Foundation

Contests and Awards

Each year the American Association of Museums and the National Organization on Disability honor one museum for its work in the accessibility field with the AAM Accessibility Award. A cash prize of \$1,000 from the J.C. Penney Company, Inc accompanies the award. For more information about the program, contact the American Association of Museums at 202/289-1818.

Helpful Links for Accessibility Resources:

- [The Americans with Disabilities Act \(ADA\) Highlights and Overview](#)
- [The Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(WCAG 2.0\)](#)
- [W3C Web Accessibility Initiative](#)
- [IDEA Overview](#)
- [Federal Regulations for Part B of IDEA](#)
- [Federal Regulations for Part C of IDEA](#)
- [Section 508 Compliance Overview](#)
- [U.S. Laws for Captioning Video](#)
- [Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act](#)
- [GSA Tutorials, Guidance and Checklists for multimedia](#)
- [ADA, Title III Regulations](#)
- [ADA, Title III Regulations](#)
- [Universal Design Initiative](#)
- [FCC Consumer Guide - Captioning of Internet Programming](#)
- [CVAA Captioning Regulations](#)
- [United States Access Board](#)
- [Information and Communication Technology \(ICT\) Final Standards and Guidelines](#)



The 99% Captioning Compliance Checklist.

Print and use this checklist to ensure that your captioning program is in compliance.

- Matches the spoken words in the dialogue in their original language to the fullest extent possible and include full lyrics when provided on the audio track.
- Contains all words in spoken order.
- Uses proper spelling, homophones, tense, punctuation, capitalization, and the proper representation of numbers.
- Does not rewrite or paraphrase dialogue.
- Does not use synonyms to replace actual dialogue.
- Represents speaker tone of voice where necessary to understand the dialogue.
- Uses slang and grammatical errors as part of the dialogue where necessary to properly represent the dialog.
- Indicates utterances and false starts where necessary to accurately mirror the hearing-person's experience.
- Includes nonverbal information that is not observable, such as who is speaking, multiple speakers, music sound tags, sound effects, audience reaction, and background noise.
- Coincides with the corresponding dialogue as closely as possible.
- Paces and synchronizes at a speed that is legible by the viewer.
- Occurs from beginning to end of the program without interruption, to the fullest extent possible. This is required for "fully accessible" status.
- Re-editing of content requires re-editing of captions.
- Has a font size appropriate for legibility.
- Placement and size provides for easy readability for both the caption content and screen content.