

# Bridging the Digital Divide

# **School Funding Opportunities**

August 2014

Technology funding continues to be one of the biggest challenges facing districts and schools today. Currently, there are more than 900 federal technology funding programs available that can be used to purchase and develop new or existing technologies, enhance students' computer skills, provide teacher training, increase parent involvement in schools, and compile critical data to improve a schools' overall academic achievement. This document highlights 15 such funding opportunities.

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# **School Funding Opportunities to Bridge the Digital Divide**

It is no longer a question of whether we need access to technology in schools. It's a question

Page | 3 of how we can best integrate technology into the school curriculum so we can help prepare students for a rapidly changing and increasingly competitive global economy. With that in mind, across-the-board state testing like Common Core, Smarter Balanced and PARCC are steadily moving schools to computer-assisted assignments and research.



As more and more school districts implement

digital and web-based learning programs requiring students to work on assignments outside the classroom, a large number of disadvantaged students are finding themselves caught in a widening digital divide struggling to keep up. In an ideal world, access to technology is at the foundation of serving the educational needs of not only mainstream classrooms, but also those of students with learning, physical disabilities or truancies, home-school and virtual teaching, migratory programs, and a host of other scenarios.

Technology requires funding and funding continues to be one of the biggest challenges facing our schools. The good news is that currently there are 26 federal grant-making agencies and more than 900 federal technology funding programs available that can be used to purchase and develop new or existing technologies, enhance students' computer skills, provide teacher training, increase parent involvement in schools, and compile critical data to improve a schools' overall academic achievement.

Kajeet is committed to ensuring that states, districts and schools are made aware of these opportunities, and can leverage them to help narrow the digital divide. This document provides a brief overview of the 15 top federal funding programs that can be utilized for connectivity solutions like the Kajeet SmartSpot™ and Kajeet Sentinel®.

# **Kajeet Education Broadband Solution**

The **Kajeet Education Broadband Solution** supports the entire gamut of mobile learning initiatives including 1-to-1, BYOD, or library/media center checkout programs for off-campus assignments, summer school programs, special education, pre-K readiness, hospital and home-bound students, migratory and student pregnancy programs, and inclement weather continuity programs.

Because the Kajeet SmartSpot is compatible with any Wi-Fi capable device, it's easy to integrate into a school's curriculum and technology program. It allows teachers and administrators to manage Internet access times and filter content. Schools can better plan and minimize costs by only paying for the data used, and rolling over any unused data, allowing them to plan and stick to their technology budget. This gives educators flexibility in implementing innovative teaching strategies and takes the burden of connectivity off parents' shoulders creating equity of technology access, improving academic performance and engagement, and facilitating parent participation.

# **Funding Opportunities**

# Title I, Part A, College and Career Ready - Formula

Page | 4 Title I is the section of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act that is specifically targeted toward children in poverty. It is the largest federal program supporting elementary and secondary education. The U.S. Department of Education allocates funds to states to serve these children based on the number of eligible students. States then send these funds to local school districts, who in turn allocate the monies to individual schools with high poverty rates to improve their students' academic achievement and close achievement gaps. The amount of funds is based on a formula that counts the number of families living in poverty in a school attendance area. That formula provides funding to schools with high poverty rates in the school district, based on the number of low-income children in the school. Schools that receive Title I funding are called Title I schools. School districts have some discretion in how they distribute Title I funds among schools within the district, but the law requires them to prioritize the highest-poverty schools.



Federal funds must be combined with local and state money and not replace them. In some schools where the number of children living in poverty is 40 percent or greater, a school can make use of what is called a Schoolwide model, where funds are used across the entire school's population. Other schools with smaller incidences of poverty can use a Targeted Assistance model that focuses on eligible children (those that are the lowest achieving students regardless of income status).

Many types of activities can be paid for with Title I dollars, as long as they support the learning of eligible children and are allowable within the Targeted Assistance or Schoolwide programs operating in a specific school. Types of services that may be funded by Title I include: afterschool programs, professional development, anti-bullying programs, ELL student support, academic coaching, pre-K, and technology if it is supporting teaching and learning activities for Title I students. One example is section 1114 of Title I, Part A, which allows schools to use funds to purchase devices (tablets, laptops, etc.) in addition to curriculum and professional development as part of a comprehensive plan in a Title I Schoolwide program school.

**Kajeet solutions** may be purchased with Title I funds based on the requirements above. A district or school may also use Kajeet Sentinel to create policies and rules to govern the use of the technology and bandwidth. A great resource on leveraging Title I funds is a CoSN (the Consortium for School Networking) report.

#### Who to contact for more information

- Your district Title I Director
- Your district Federal Programs Director
- Your district Assistant Superintendent of Instruction
- http://www2.ed.gov/programs/titleiparta/index.html

#### Title I, Part A, College & Career Ready

	ELIGIBILTY	K-12
	TYPE	Formula
Page   5	DEADLINE	Districts receive the funds parsed over the course of the school year: July 1 to support summer school budgets, October-November (the new federal budget begins October 1) after the number of Title I students is confirmed in each school, and in March-April after Congress has confirmed the year's budget.
	ELIGIBLE KAJEET SOLUTIONS	Kajeet SmartSpot Kajeet Sentinel
	NOTES	A great resource on Title I funding is a report by CoSN (the Consortium for School Networking) found at: http://www.cosn.org/sites/default/files/pdf/Rethinking%20Educational%20Equity%20in%20a%20 Digital%20Era,%20June%202014.pdf

# **Race to the Top - Competitive**

Race to the Top (RTT) is a competitive K-12 federal funding program established in 2009 that has so far dispensed around \$3.5 billion worth of grants to 12 states over a five-year period. Most of the states that received the grants in 2010 will need to use them up by 2015. Even though this award was a four-year grant, most states received an extension to complete their programs in the 2014-15 school year. The RTT is designed to help states and local districts advance reforms around four specific areas:

- Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy
- Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction
- Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most
- Turning around our lowest-achieving schools

There are three types of RTT awards:

- RTT State Awards are evaluated on the extent to which they lead the way to effective reform with an emphasis on turning around the lowest-achieving schools, adopting a common set of standards, developing great teachers and leaders, and establishing "ongoing mechanisms for family and community engagement."
- RTT District Awards: School district
   applicants need to demonstrate a personalized learning environment using collaborative, data based strategies and 21st-century tools such as online learning platforms, computers, mobile
   devices, and learning algorithms to deliver customized instruction to each student. The aim is to



enable all students to graduate college- and career-ready levels. Among other selection criteria, RTT district grants are evaluated upon the level to which the district ensures all stakeholders like educators, students and parents, "regardless of income, have access to necessary content, tools, and other learning resources both in and out of school to support the implementation of the applicant's proposal."

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• Race to the Top Phase 3 Early Learning Challenge prioritizes outreach to and support of families of children with high needs in order to promote school readiness for them.

The **Kajeet Sentinel** platform can be a key component in the multi-faceted approach for a personalized learning environment that addresses the individual and collective needs of students, educators, and families. They can provide an avenue for parent and caregivers to be involved in the student's progress and participate in their academic success through access to content, tools, and other learning resources.

#### Who to contact for more information

- Race to the Top Director
- Federal Programs Director
- Assistant Superintendent of Instruction
- http://www2.ed.gov/programs/racetothetop/phase2-resources.html
- http://www2.ed.gov/programs/racetothetop-district/2013-executive-summary.pdf

#### Race to the Top

ELIGIBILTY	K-12
DISTRICT	The RTT District award
STATE	The RTT State and RTT Early Learning Challenge awards
ТҮРЕ	Competitive. Three awards: state, district and early learning challenge
	Estimated available funds Phase 2: \$3.4 billion.
TOTAL ALLOCATION	Estimated Range of Awards: \$75 million-\$700 million (State), \$10million - \$40 million
	(District), and \$35 million - \$52 million (Early Learning Challenge).
DEADLINE	N/A
ELIGIBLE KAJEET	Kajeet SmartSpot™
SOLUTIONS	Kajeet Sentinel®
	Phase 2 allocated in 2010. Possible allocation end of 2014.
	Noteworthy article:
NOTES	http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2014/07/24/37rtt-cash.h33.html?cmp=ENL-EU-
	NEWS1

# **Invest in Innovation (i3) - Competitive**

The Invest in Innovation Fund (i3) provides funding to support LEAs and nonprofit organizations that partner with one or more LEAs or a consortium of schools. The purpose of this program is to provide competitive grants to applicants with a record of improving achievement of high-need K-12 student with the effective use of technology. The goal is to expand the implementation of and investment in innovative practices demonstrated to improve student achievement and growth, closing achievement gaps, decreasing dropout rates, increasing high school graduation rates, college enrollment and completion rates, and also to help students with disabilities meet academic standards. The estimated

available funds are the total available for all three types of grants under the i3 program – Scale-up, Validation and Development.

Grantees are encouraged to develop best practice programs by partnering with the private sector, which may include philanthropic organizations. The private sector organization must provide matching funds or in-kind donations equal to at least 15 percent of its federal grant award in order to help bring results to scale. Special education instruction needs to be designed and provided by qualified teachers at no cost to the parent and meet the unique needs of a child with a verified disability (includes classroom and home-bound instruction, and instruction in hospitals and institutions). Applicants are encouraged to think creatively about the different ways schools can be organized to support improved performance and enhance student engagement in learning. Project periods range from 36 to 60 months.

Lease purchases of equipment are also authorized within this program. However, such purchases must benefit eligible students receiving special education services. **Kajeet SmartSpot** and **Kajeet Sentinel** products may be purchased as part of a multi-tiered initiative for high-need students and/or students with disabilities by providing 24/7 access to school personnel, the school intranet, academic supports and other resources from off-campus locations. Kajeet may also be a potential fit for grantees who have selected Absolute Priority 7 (AP 7—Effective Use of Technology, Subpart B).

#### Who to contact for more information

- Federal Programs Director
- Assistant Superintendent of Instruction
- i3 Grant Coordinator
- http://www2.ed.gov/programs/innovation/index.html

#### Invest in Innovation (i3)

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ELIGIBILTY	K-12
FUND ALLOCATION	Funds distributed to the district.
ТҮРЕ	Competitive.
TOTAL ALLOCATION	FY 2014 Scale-up grants: Up to \$20,000,000. Validation grants: Up to \$12,000,000. Development grants: Up to \$3,000,000.
DEADLINE	Development Application: August 11, 2014, for 118 pre-approved applicants Validation and Scale-Up Applications: CLOSED
ELIGIBLE KAJEET SOLUTIONS	Kajeet SmartSpot Kajeet Sentinel
NOTES	Phase 2 allocated in 2010. Possible allocation end of 2014 Noteworthy article: http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2014/06/04/33georgiaside.h33.html?cmp=ENL-EU-NEWS1

# **Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) 611 – Formula**

Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) funds are used to provide education in the "least restrictive environment" for children with disabilities. IDEA 611 funds support school-aged children, ages 5 to 21. Special education instruction is provided by qualified teachers at no cost to the parent to meet the unique needs of a child with a verified disability and includes classroom instruction, home-bound instruction, instruction in hospitals and institutions and early intervention.



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Under IDEA, federal special education funds are distributed through three state grant programs and several discretionary grant programs. Part B of the law, the main program, authorizes grants to state and local education agencies to offset part of the costs of the K-12 education needs of children with disabilities; it also authorizes preschool state grants. Part B, section 611 authorizes funding to students ages 3 to 21, while section 619 is targeted specifically at children ages 3 to 5. The funding formulas to distribute to states are

nearly identical, but Congress allocates total funds for each section separately. The greatest share of annual IDEA funding comes from Part B Section 611 grants to states. In fiscal year 2014, which covers the school year 2014-15, total IDEA funding was \$12.5 billion, of which \$11.47 billion is dedicated to IDEA Part B Section 611 state grants.

IDEA Part B Sections 611 funds may be used to purchase computers and specialized equipment or devices; however, such purchases must benefit eligible students who are receiving special education services. **Kajeet SmartSpot** and **Kajeet Sentinel** products may be purchased through IDEA Part B Sections 611 funds to facilitate the instruction of special needs students who are home-bound or receiving instruction off campus. Lease purchases of equipment are also authorized within this program. Before a district enters into a lease agreement, they will likely be required to justify the need for a lease agreement as opposed to a direct purchase.

#### Who to contact for more information

- Special Education Director
- IDEA Coordinator
- Federal Programs Director
- Assistant Superintendent of Instruction
- http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osers/osep/programs.html

#### Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) 611

ELIGIBILTY	K-12
FUND ALLOCATION	Funds distributed to the state and district.
ТҮРЕ	Formula
TOTAL ALLOCATION	http://www2.ed.gov/fund/grant/find/edlite-forecast.html
DEADLINE	Formula dependent
ELIGIBLE KAJEET	Kajeet SmartSpot™
SOLUTIONS	Kajeet Sentinel®

# **School Turnaround Grants (School Improvement Grants) - Competitive**

School Turnaround Grants (also called School Improvement Grants or SIG) are competitive funds designed to raise achievement in schools that have been identified under Title I as failing to meet academic achievement goals. SIG grants are awarded to SEAs to make competitive subgrants to LEAs demonstrating the greatest need for the funds and the strongest commitment to use the funds for resources and to improve student achievement in their lowest-performing schools. Family and community engagement programs may be supported with SIG funds.

There are six models of improvement: closure, restart, turnaround, transformation, whole-school transformation (involves a partner organization), and a model proposed by a state that receives the approval of the Secretary of Education. All models (except closure) require new curriculum, assessment, and professional development activities. Instructional materials purchased with SIG funds must be research-based and have data-based evidence of raising student achievement. Under the Obama

Page | 9 Administration, the SIG program has invested up to \$2 million per school at more than 1,500 of the country's lowest-performing schools. Findings show that many schools receiving SIG grants are improving, and some of the greatest gains have been in small towns and rural communities.

Kajeet products may be purchased with SIG funds to enable family involvement by providing parents and care givers access to academic support and resources and stay informed about their student's academic progress. **Kajeet Sentinel** may be used to set policies to govern access to district or school resources via **Kajeet SmartSpot**. Purchases may be coordinated by the district, but the purchasing decision is made by the school receiving the SIG fund.

#### Who to contact for more information

- School Principal
- CMO/EMO Director
- SIG Coordinator
- Federal Programs Director
- http://www2.ed.gov/programs/sif/index.html

#### **School Turnaround Grants/School Improvement Grants**

ELIGIBILTY	K-12
FUND ALLOCATION	Funds distributed to the district.
STATE	State to District
ТҮРЕ	Formula to SEAs, Competitive to LEAs. Award period - 5 years
TOTAL ALLOCATION	Estimate for 2014-15: \$505,756,000
DEADLINE	Awards will be made as funds become available from U.S. Department of Education
ELIGIBLE KAJEET	Kajeet SmartSpot
SOLUTIONS	Kajeet Sentinel

# Title I, Part C, Migrant Education Program - Formula

Migrant Education Program (MEP) funds support high quality education programs that meet the special needs of migratory children to help them succeed academically in a regular school program, meet the same academic and content standards as all students, and graduate from high school. MEP funds may be combined with other federal program funds, including Title I, Part A, Title III, Part A (ELL), Title IV, Part B (21st CCLC), Title VI, Part B (Rural Education), IDEA, and McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance. The goal of the MEP is to ensure that all migrant students reach challenging academic standards and graduate with a high school diploma (or complete a GED) that prepares them for responsible citizenship, further learning, and productive employment.

Funds support high quality education programs to help ensure that migratory children who move among states are not penalized in any manner by disparities in curriculum, graduation requirements, or state academic content and student academic achievement standards. They are also available for areas where migrant workers come for seasonal tourism, like ski resorts, etc.

Funds are allocated by formula to SEAs, based on each state's per pupil expenditure for education and number of eligible migratory children, ages 3 through 21, residing within the state. States use program funds to identify eligible children and provide education and support services. These services include: academic, remedial, compensatory, bilingual, multicultural, and vocational instruction; career education services; special guidance; counseling, testing, health, and preschool services.

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**Kajeet SmartSpot** and **Kajeet Sentinel** can be purchased with these funds as long as the expenditure adheres to the guidelines of the federal program(s) with which Migrant Education funds are combined.

#### Who to contact for more information

- Special Education Director
- IDEA Coordinator
- Federal Programs Director
- Assistant Superintendent of Instruction
- http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osers/osep/programs.html

#### Title I, Part C, Migrant Education Program

ELIGIBILTY	K-12
FUND ALLOCATION	Funds distributed to the state and district.
ТҮРЕ	Formula
TOTAL ALLOCATION	http://www2.ed.gov/fund/grant/find/edlite-forecast.html
DEADLINE	Formula dependent
ELIGIBLE KAJEET	Kajeet SmartSpot
SOLUTIONS	Kajeet Sentinel

# Title III, ELL (English Language Learner) – Formula

Title III funds are used to help children attain English proficiency and meet a state's academic content and student academic achievement standards by:

- Promoting systemic improvement, reform, and developing accountability systems for educational programs serving limited English proficient children
- Developing language skills and multicultural understanding
- Developing the English proficiency of limited English proficient children and, to the extent possible, the native language skills of such children
- Providing similar assistance to Native Americans with certain modifications relative to the unique status of Native American languages under Federal law
- Developing data collection and dissemination, research, materials, and technical assistance that are focused on school improvement for limited English proficient children
- Developing programs that strengthen and improve the professional training of educational personnel who work with limited English proficient children

Districts receive allocations from the state based on the number of English Language Learners (ELLs) they serve. LEAs may use a portion of the funds to provide community participation programs, family literacy services, and parent outreach and training activities to limited English proficient children and their families, and to help parents become active participants in the children's education.

Kajeet products may be purchased to support an LEA's community outreach activities by creating a home-school connection through technology. **Kajeet SmartSpot** and **Kajeet Sentinel** can provide parents of ELLs access to content, tools and resources that can help them become active participants in

the academic success of their children. The Sentinel platform can be configured to permit or deny access to specific URL destinations, if the district desires. The SmartSpot and Sentinel platforms may also be purchased to enable truant, suspended, or expelled students access curriculum and other resources to improve their academic achievement.

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#### Who to contact for more information

- Federal Programs Director
- Assistant Superintendent of Instruction
- Director of Bilingual/English as Second Language/ELL Programs
- http://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/esea02/pg45.html

#### Title III, ELL (English Language Learner)

ELIGIBILTY	K-12
FUND ALLOCATION	State to District
ТҮРЕ	Formula
TOTAL ALLOCATION	http://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/esea02/pg40.html
DEADLINE	Based on the number of eligible students reported at the end of September. Funds are allocated to states and districts in October-November
ELIGIBLE KAJEET SOLUTIONS	Kajeet SmartSpot Kajeet Sentinel
NOTES	ELL is one of the federal programs subject to "supplement, not supplant" restrictions, meaning, that the funds cannot be used to pay for services that, in the absence of Title III funds, would be expended using other federal, state, or local funds to pay for programs for LEP and immigrant children and youth.

# Title IV, Part B: 21st Century Community Learning Centers

Title IV, Part B supports centers that provide academic enrichment programs during non-school hours, especially those that target high-poverty families and students who attend low-performing schools. The program helps students meet state and local student standards in core academic subjects such as reading and math, offers students a broad array of enrichment activities that can complement their regular academic programs, and literacy and other educational services to the families of participating children.

Districts and community organizations, including faith-based organizations, may run the CCLC programs. Funding is distributed to states based on their proportion of Title I funding. States then conduct competitions for grant awards to districts. A 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC grantee may use the award funds to carry out a broad array of before- and after-school activities that advance student academic achievement, as well as programs that promote parental involvement and family literacy, and programs that provide assistance to students who have been truant, suspended, or expelled.

Kajeet products may be purchased to provide parents access to content, tools, and educational resources so they may support their student's academic progress. The **Kajeet SmartSpot** and **Kajeet Sentinel** platforms may also be purchased to enable truant, suspended, or expelled students to access curriculum and other resources in order to improve their academic achievement. By federal statute, a 21st CCLC grant may not be less than \$50,000 per year for a minimum of three years. Title IV, Part B funds may be combined with other federal funds to support a program if the student population served by Title IV, Part B funds also qualifies for other funds such as Title III (ELL) or IDEA.

#### Who to contact for more information

- 21st CCLC Coordinator
- Before- and After-School Coordinator
- Federal Programs Director
- http://www2.ed.gov/programs/21stcclc/index.html

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#### Title IV, Part B, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers

ELIGIBILTY	K-12
FUND ALLOCATION	State to district
TYPE	Formula to SEA, proposed to be changed to a competitive grant.
TOTAL ALLOCATION	By federal statute, a 21st CCLC grant may not be less than \$50,000 per year for a minimum of 3 years.
DEADLINE	State contact list for deadlines: http://www2.ed.gov/programs/21stcclc/contacts.html#state
ELIGIBLE KAJEET	Kajeet SmartSpot
SOLUTIONS	Kajeet Sentinel
NOTES	Title IV, Part B funds may be combined with other federal funds to support a program if the student population served by Title IV, Part B funds also qualify for other funds, such as Title III (ELL) or IDEA.

# Title VI, Rural Education Achievement Program (REAP) - Formula

The Title VI Rural Education Achievement Program (REAP) is designed to help small, rural districts use federal resources more effectively. Title VI, Part B funds two programs: the Small, Rural School Grant Program and the Rural and Low-Income School Program. REAP funds can be combined with other federal program funds like Title I for greater latitude in spending to impact student achievement.

- The Small, Rural School Grant Program: Formula grants are awarded directly to eligible LEAs
   (i.e., those LEAs eligible under the Alternative Uses of Funds program described below) to carry
   out activities authorized under other specified federal programs.
  - The Alternative Uses of Funds Authority is a flexibility provision that allows eligible LEAs
    to combine funding under certain programs to carry out local activities under other
    specified Federal programs.
- The Rural and Low-Income School Program: Designed to address the needs of rural, low-income schools grants are awarded annually to SEAs, which in turn award subgrants to eligible LEAs either competitively or on a formula basis. The funds are to be used to carry out activities specified by the statute.

The purpose of this program is to provide financial assistance to rural districts to assist them in meeting their state's definition of adequate yearly progress (AYP). Applicants do not compete but rather are entitled to funds if they meet basic eligibility requirements. Eligibility is restricted by statute. Awards are issued annually directly to eligible LEAs on a formula basis.

#### Eligibility requirements include:

• The total number of students in average daily attendance (ADA) at all of the schools served by the LEA is less than 600, or each county in which a school served by the LEA is located has a total population density of fewer than 10 persons per square mile; and

All of the schools served by the LEA are designated with a school locale code of 7 or 8 by the
Department's National Center for Education Statistics, or the secretary of education has
determined, based on a demonstration by the LEA and concurrence of the state education
agency (SEA), that the LEA is located in an area defined as rural by a governmental agency of the
state.

Page | 13 Kajeet products, including the **Kajeet SmartSpot** and the **Sentinel platform**, can be purchased with these funds as long as the expenditure adheres to the guidelines of the federal program(s).

#### Who to contact for more information

- REAP team leader
- Federal Programs Director
- Assistant Superintendent of Instruction

#### **Title VI, Rural Education Achievement Program**

ELIGIBILTY	Check the U.S. Department of Education's eligibility list: http://www2.ed.gov/programs/reapsrsa/eligibility.html
FUND ALLOCATION	Funds distributed to the district.
ТҮРЕ	Formula
TOTAL ALLOCATION	http://www2.ed.gov/nclb/freedom/local/reap.html
ELIGIBLE KAJEET	Kajeet SmartSpot™
SOLUTIONS	Kajeet Sentinel®
NOTES	Small Rural School Grant Program: http://www2.ed.gov/programs/reapsrsa/index.html SRSG state eligibility: http://www2.ed.gov/programs/reapsrsa/eligible14/index.html
	Rural and Low-Income School Program: http://www2.ed.gov/programs/reaprlisp/index.html

# **Title VIII: Impact Aid - Formula, Competitive**

Impact Aid provides formula and competitive grants directly to eligible school districts that serve "federally connected" children – children of members of the uniformed services, children who live on Indian lands, children who live on federal property or federally subsidized low rent housing, and children whose parents work on federal property.

Districts may use the funds in whatever manner they choose in accordance with their local and state requirements including: salaries of teachers and teacher aides; textbooks, computer, and other equipment purchase, after-school programs and remedial tutoring, advanced placement classes, and special enrichment programs. Funding is given to local educational agencies financially burdened by federal activities to provide technical assistance and support services to staff and other interested parties. Impact Aid funds can be combined with other federal funds.

A Local Education Agency may use the funds to purchase the **Kajeet SmartSpot**, the Sentinel platform or towards funding a Kajeet Education Product Manager. These solutions can be used for parent involvement and flipped classroom programs.

#### Who to contact for more information

Federal Programs Director

- Assistant Superintendent of Instruction
- http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oese/impactaid/index.html

#### Title VIII: Impact Aid

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ELIGIBILTY	K-12
FUND ALLOCATION	Funds distributed to the district.
ТҮРЕ	Formula, Competitive
TOTAL ALLOCATION	Impact Aid Basic Support \$1,151,233,000
DEADLINE	Based on the number of eligible students reported at the end of September. Funds are allocated to states and districts in October-November
ELIGIBLE KAJEET	Kajeet SmartSpot™
SOLUTIONS	Kajeet Sentinel®
NOTES	Impact Aid funds can be combined with other federal funds. Impact Aid is provided directly to school districts. Each state also has a representative in the state education agency for the program. A list of state education representatives can be found at: http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oese/impactaid/searl.html

# **Charter Schools Program (CSP) - Competitive**

The purpose of the Charter Schools Program (CSP) is to increase the understanding of the charter school model by (1) expanding the number of high-quality charter schools available to students across the nation through financial assistance for the planning, program design, and initial implementation of charter schools, and (2) by evaluating the effects of charter schools, including their effects on students, student academic achievement, staff and parents.

The CSP provides competitive funds to a SEA for planning, designing, and implementing new charter schools, and sharing best practices. A state receiving grant money makes three-year sub-grants to developers of charters who have applied for or have already received a charter. Charter schools funded under this program are expected to enroll children from high-poverty families, accelerate student achievement and improve high school graduation rates.

Program allocations are over a period of several years with a slightly larger percentage of the total award distributed in the first year of the grant. The average award is \$175,000 per year, and may be funded for up to 36 months. If an eligible SEA elects not to participate, or if its application for funding is not approved, individual charters can apply directly to the U.S. Department of Education for a non-SEA grant. In fiscal year 2014 Charter School SEA grants are being combined with Promoting Public School Choice grants. The new fund will be called Expanding Educational Opportunities.

Initial implementation activities for CSP may include acquiring necessary equipment and educational materials and supplies. The **Kajeet Smartspot** and **Kajeet Sentinel** products may be purchased with implementation activities funds to support the charter's planned educational program. The cost of the equipment must be included in the approved application and budget for the grant.

#### Who to contact for more information

- CMO, EMO
- Assistant Superintendent of Instruction
- School Principal

#### **Charter Schools Program**

#### **ELIGIBILTY FUND ALLOCATION** Funds distributed to the state. Page | 15 TYPE Competitive. Subgrants made to SEAs. Award periods vary from 3-5 years. State budget dependent. **TOTAL ALLOCATION** The U.S. Department of Education conducts eight Charter School Program Grants, each with their own deadlines: http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oii/csp/about-cs-**DEADLINE** competitions.html Kajeet SmartSpot™ **ELIGIBLE KAJEET SOLUTIONS** Kajeet Sentinel® The last round of new SEA grants was awarded in 2012. All other grants were continuation grants. Program allocations are over a period of several years with a slightly larger percentage of the total award distributed in the first year. Eligible applicants located in states where the SEA elects not to participate or does not **NOTES** have its application approved may apply directly to the Secretary of Education for a grant in the Non State Education Agency (Non-SEA) competition held after the SEA competition each year. To find out about eligibility for the Non State Education Agency competition, visit: http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oii/csp/funding.html

#### **Summing It All Up**

While each state and district may have its own level of digital learning need and challenge, they share a common goal: to bridge the digital divide by ensuring that students of all ages, abilities, locations and socioeconomic backgrounds can participate in a level academic field, and have the same learning opportunities. Kajeet is committed to leading the charge to close that divide with our connectivity solutions. With a wide range of federal funding options available to states and districts, schools can successfully partner with Kajeet to pave the way for a connected, engaged and productive generation of students.

# **About Kajeet**

Founded in 2003, Kajeet is focused on providing a safe and secure mobile experience for kids and those Page | 16 that care for them. For more than a decade, Kajeet has been keeping kids safely connected to the mobile world.

We believe that kids are smart; our entire corporate philosophy springs from this simple core idea. We want kids to be agile with technology. We want kids to have fun and be productive. We want to help them respond with confidence to the connected world. Most importantly, we want them to be empowered and safe.

Approximately 30 percent of U.S. students do not have adequate Internet access when they leave school; in many urban districts, that number can reach as high as 80 percent. As more and more districts and schools implement digital and web based learning programs, requiring students to work on assignments outside the classroom, a large number of disadvantaged students are finding themselves caught in a widening digital divide, struggling to keep up with their more affluent peers. We help improve student performance by bridging the Digital Divide that can be unintentionally created by 1:1 and BYOD learning initiatives.

The portable Kajeet SmartSpot featuring the Sentinel Administrative Portal is a safe, affordable, mobile broadband solution that connects disadvantaged students to the available resources needed to complete required assignments and projects outside of school. Our innovative solution enables school districts to provide CIPA-compliant, customizable filtered Internet access with insightful analytics that keeps students focused on school work and provides the connectivity without worry of data abuse.

The Kajeet Education Broadband Solution is ideal for:

- After school projects and homework requiring access to the Internet
- Summer school programs / Summer school learning labs
- Snow day and inclement weather contingency programs
- Pre-K readiness programs
- Hospital and homebound students
- Parenting student programs

The unique name "Kajeet" is an acronym of the first letters of the names of the company's founders' children.

#### **Contact Us**

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