



Mimio Webinar Series | Special California Funding Webinar: How to Get the Funding You Need for the Technology You Want

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Presenter: Dr. Jenny House

Recording Link:

<https://mimio.adobeconnect.com/p7em05sr8n3/>

Questions and Answers:

Q: With regard to the funding resources discussed, does funding apply to K-12 only, or is some available for higher education?

A: For higher ed, the two resources that do apply are IDEA (Special Education) and Career and Technical Education (CTE – the Perkins Act). IDEA is only for students with disabilities who are identified for the program. CTE is available for all students participating in job-related courses in higher ed.

Q: I teach in a small for-profit school. Are there resources I can apply for as an individual educator?

A: Here are some links to funds that teachers can apply for:

- Teachers Count - <http://www.teacherscount.org/grants/>
- The NEA Foundation - <http://www.neafoundation.org/pages/grants-to-educators/>
- Grant Wrangler - <http://www.grantwrangler.com>
- The Big List of Educational Grants and Resources (a great list of vetted sites for grants that teachers can apply for from both public and private institutions) - <http://www.edutopia.org/grants-and-resources>

Q: Are the funding/grant programs discussed available to private schools? What options do I have? What about funding for nonprofit schools, like Christian schools? Which federal funds might apply to our school?

A: Of the federal grants discussed, the two most prominent are Title I – Career and College Readiness, and IDEA – Special Ed. They must target their specific populations: Title I – students living in poverty, and IDEA – students identified for the special ed programs. However, the private school must work with its local public district, because the funds will be sent to the fiscal agent there for dispersal to private schools.



Q: Are non-Title I grants available for colleges with specific demographics?

A: The Title III Part A programs help eligible institutions of higher education to become self-sufficient by providing funds for planning, faculty development, and establishing endowment funds. Other projects include joint use of instructional facilities, construction and maintenance, and student service programs designed to improve academic success. Student service programs include innovative, customized instruction courses designed to help retain students and move them rapidly into core courses and through program completion. These courses may include remedial education and English language instruction.

Q: What is the difference between Head Start and preschool?

A: Head Start is funded by the federal government (specifically, the Department of Health and Human Services) and is available free of charge to low-income families who have 3- to 5-year-old children. Kids are evaluated for speech, hearing, and educational developmental levels. Families also can access support services.

Generally speaking, preschools are privately funded, usually through tuition and fees that the parents have to pay. The costs of preschool may vary widely. Some are hosted by churches that underwrite some of the costs, while others are very exclusive and expensive. Some states offer low-cost or even free preschool programs, but those, like Head Start, are usually offered only to low-income families. State-run preschool programs are funded with state monies.

NEW: The federal government's Department of Education has targeted \$75B over 10 years to allocate to states to establish public preschools. So we may soon be seeing a significant funding source for preschools in K-12 schools in all states.

Q: To get grants, do I need to write a grant proposal as a teacher, or does a development director or other type of person need to do the grant writing?

A: Grant writing is done in a myriad ways across schools. Smaller grants are usually applied for by individual teachers. Larger grants (usually over \$25K) are applied for by either a district development office, a grant committee, or a grant writer designated by the district office.

Q: What is the best way to find available grants?

A: Sign up for listservs that post grants. Usually the state departments of education have these. There are also magazines that have listservs that post grants. Many grant sites have a subscription fee. Look at the lists on the Web pages given in Answer #2.

Q: Of all the programs presented, are there any in particular that might be better suited for helping with professional development?

A: The BEST source of funds for professional development is Title II – Teacher Quality (AKA Great Teachers and Leaders). The amount available is \$2.5B.



Q: What are your top tips for writing grants?

A: Some tips for writing grants include the following:

1. Have a great story about how you will use the funds.
2. Before you begin, look at each section of the application and make a list of the information you need from your school, district, partner, vendor, etc. in order to complete the proposal. Designate who is responsible for gathering this information and put together a time line for pulling it into one place.
3. After the first draft is written, have at least two people read and edit it.
4. Before you submit the application, have at least two people read it to make sure you have included EVERYTHING that is required.
5. Be sure to have the appropriate signatures!
6. Submit it early, especially if it's an e-submission; there may be glitches uploading at your end or downloading at the recipient's end.

Please feel free to contact Dr. House with any questions:

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