



# RIMS CTAP Technology Funding Alert!

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A publication of the Region 10 California Technology Assistance Project (RIMS CTAP)  
Bill Robinson, Director • 909-386-2686

## From the Director . . .

Most districts in Region 10 have applied for and received an award from the Education Technology K-12 Voucher program on behalf of their qualifying schools. These vouchers, which resulted from a lawsuit between California consumers and Microsoft Corporation, enable qualifying schools to receive reimbursement for purchased hardware, software, professional development, and technical support. Qualifying schools are those in which at least 40% of attending students were eligible for free and reduced price meals in FY 2005-06. Requests for reimbursement will be accepted through September 2012.

The K-12 Voucher program has allocated approximately \$34 million to districts in RIMS. As of December 2008, more than \$21 million still remains for reimbursement requests. Reimbursement claims must be submitted through the district office. There are three major issues that affect processing time: 1) vendor invoices MUST have a statement regarding "standard academic pricing"; 2) claim forms must be signed by one of the people listed in the original application as an authorized signature; and 3) original invoices, or an approved exemption to the original invoice, must be submitted with the request for reimbursement.

RIMS CTAP is happy to work with districts to develop a strategy for redeeming all vouchers prior to the deadline. Districts that would like assistance in developing a more streamlined system for using Vouchers to seed a cyclical process of redemptions and purchases, should also contact RIMS CTAP for advice. Districts may visit the Settlement Claims Administrator website at: <<http://www.edtechk12vp.com/>> for district balance sheets, product eligibility questions, voucher redemption issues, and contact information.

Further information and the Voucher Program RFA are available at:  
<<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/et/st/etv.asp>>. For local assistance, contact Molly Large at:  
<[mlarge@ctap10.org](mailto:mlarge@ctap10.org)> or (909) 386-2686.

Dr. Ruth Aldrich, CTAP Program Manager

## GRANTS

### 2009 Innovation Generation Grants

Motorola has opened its call for applications for the 2009 Innovation Generation Grants. This grant program supports programs that inspire and cultivate the next generation of inventors and innovators by making science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) accessible and relatable to students at any age. In 2009, the Motorola Foundation will provide \$5 million in Innovation Generation Grants to organizations that engage Pre-K through 12 students, especially girls and underrepresented minorities, and teachers in STEM programming.

**Contact**—[giving@motorola.com](mailto:giving@motorola.com)

**Website**—<http://tinyurl.com/2009Innovation>

**Deadline**—February 15, 2009

**Eligibility**—Private and public schools, school districts and nonprofits

**Awards**—Grant range: \$5,000-\$75,000. Select organizations may be asked to apply for larger grants.

### Improving Literacy Through School Libraries

Sponsored by the USDE, the purpose of this program is to improve student reading skills and academic achievement by providing students with increased access to up-to-date school library materials; well-equipped,

technologically advanced school library media centers; and well-trained, professionally certified school library media specialists.

**Contact**—Irene Harwarth, 202-401-3751, [irene.harwarth@ed.gov](mailto:irene.harwarth@ed.gov)

**Website**—<http://tinyurl.com/SchoolLibraries>

**Deadline**—March 6, 2009

**Eligibility**—Schools, school districts, charter schools that are considered LEAs, in which at least 20% of the students served by the LEA, are from families with incomes below the poverty line (see website for poverty data)

**Awards**—80 awards, ranging: \$30,000-\$500,000 each

### Teaching American History

Sponsored by the USDE, this grant program supports projects that aim to raise student achievement by improving teachers' knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of

traditional American history through cohesive models of professional development.

**Contact**—[TeachingAmericanHistory@ed.gov](mailto:TeachingAmericanHistory@ed.gov), Alex Stein, 202-205-9085

**Website**—<http://tinyurl.com/TeachingHistory>

**Deadline**—March 9, 2009

**Eligibility**—School districts and county offices of education in partnership with higher education, nonprofit history or humanities organizations, libraries or museums

**Awards**—52 grants of up to \$2M each

### Distance Learning & Telemedicine Program

Sponsored by the USDA, this program is designed to meet the educational and health care needs of rural America through the use of advanced telecommunications technologies: primarily user equipment that functions via telecommunications systems for the purposes of connecting students and teachers or medical professionals and patients at separate sites. Grants may be used to purchase video-conferencing equipment, instructional programming and technical assistance, and instruction for using eligible equipment.

**Contact**—[dltinfo@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:dltinfo@wdc.usda.gov), 202-720-0413

**Website**—<http://tinyurl.com/DistanceLearning>

**Deadline**—March 24, 2009

**Eligibility**—Rural school districts with populations of 20,000 or less

**Awards**—Up to 100 grants ranging: \$50,000-\$500,000 each, with a 15% match requirement

### 2009 HP Innovations in Education—Secondary School Districts

This grant program is designed to help integrate technology into the classroom through innovative pilot initiatives. Through the program, math and science teachers share ideas and best practices in areas such as online learning, virtual worlds and simulations. Examples of previously funded projects are available. *Replaces the K-12 HP Technology for Teaching Program.*

**Contact**—[hpiie@iste.org](mailto:hpiie@iste.org)

**Website**—<http://tinyurl.com/HPInnovations>

**Deadline**—March 30, 2009

### 2009 California Student Media Festival

The Festival celebrates learning with video and multimedia projects created by students and their teacher/coach. The Festival is not intended just for the high-end, expert technology users, however. It is designed to honor the efforts of students (or teachers) of all levels of experience who are creating video or multimedia programs in the classroom. Teachers of all winning entries will receive a plaque, a subscription to Discovery Education Streaming, and a one-year membership to Computer-Using Educators (CUE). Teachers of overall winners will also be given a cash prize and one complimentary registration to the Annual CUE Conference.

**Submission date is April 7, 2009.** To learn more, go to: <<http://www.mediafestival.org>>.

**Eligibility**—Public or private secondary school districts serving middle and high school students

**Awards**—25 grants consisting of HP products, professional development and \$9,000 cash (Valued at \$270,000 each)

### **RGK Foundation**

The Foundation's primary interests within education include programs that focus on formal K-12 education (particularly mathematics, science and reading), teacher development, literacy, and higher education. All applicants must complete an electronic Letter of Inquiry from the Web site as the first step.

**Contact**—Use the "Contact Us" link on the Website.

**Website**—<http://www.rgkfoundation.org/>

**Deadline**—Ongoing

**Eligibility**—Schools, school districts, county offices of education, nonprofits

**Awards**—The average grant is \$25,000.

## **AWARDS/COMPETITIONS/ CONTESTS**

### **Intel Schools of Distinction Awards**

This program is designed to honor K-12 schools that have demonstrated excellence in math and science education.

**Contact**—<http://tinyurl.com/IntelContacts>

**Website**—<http://tinyurl.com/IntelSchools>

**Deadline**—February 17, 2009

**Eligibility**—Public K-12 schools

**Awards**—Eighteen "Finalists" schools (3 elementary, 3 middle and 3 high schools) in two categories (math and science) will each receive \$2,500 cash grants. Six "Winners" schools (same grade levels and categories) will each receive \$10,000 cash grants and \$100,000+ in products and services from sponsors. One of the six winning schools will be chosen as the Star Innovator and will receive an additional \$15,000 cash grant as well as products and services.

### **Inspired Visual Learning Awards**

This program is designed to support innovative uses of visual learning in the classroom. To win an award, educators must submit student-

### **Win a Wireless Lab Sweepstakes**

Enter this sweepstakes to win one of five grand prize packages, including a 21<sup>st</sup> century classroom (interactive whiteboard, notebook computers, wireless cart, projector, printer and document camera valued at over \$41,000) and a \$5,000 digital media grant from Discovery Education. Over 25 additional technology prizes will also be awarded. The contest is open to K-12 public school students. Schools can win only one prize. All entries are made on behalf of the entrant's school.

Random drawings will be conducted monthly through May 1, 2009. To enter, go to: <<http://tinyurl.com/WirelessLab>>.

created examples using Inspiration Software's visual learning software tools: Inspiration, Kidspiration and InspireData.

**Contact**—CustomerService@inspiration.com, 800-877-4292

**Website**—<http://cf.inspiration.com/vlawards/>

**Deadline**—February 27, 2009

**Eligibility**—Educators in K-12 schools

**Awards**—Totaling more than \$22,000, winners will receive technology and funds for professional development and/or new technology purchases that support visual learning in their classrooms (see website for details).

### **2009 NEH Summer Seminars and Institutes for School Teachers**

NEH's Division of Education Programs offers teachers opportunities to study humanities topics in a variety of Summer Seminars and Institutes. The dates and duration of each project are listed under each title on the website.

**Contact**—Please direct all questions concerning individual seminars and institutes to the appropriate director. General questions may be directed to [sem-inst@neh.gov](mailto:sem-inst@neh.gov) or 202-606-8463.

**Website**—<http://tinyurl.com/NEHSeminars>

**Deadline**—March 2, 2009

**Eligibility**—Full-time teachers in public and private K-12 schools, as well as home-schooling parents

**Awards**—Fixed stipends based on the length of the seminar or institute to help cover travel costs, books and other research expenses, and living expenses: \$2,000 (2 weeks), \$2,600 (3 weeks), \$3,200 (4 weeks), \$3,800 (5 weeks), or \$4,400 (6 weeks).

### **2010 Lemelson-MIT InvenTeams High School Innovation Grants**

By applying technological solutions to real-world problems, the InvenTeam initiative is designed to excite high school students about invention; empower students to problem solve; and encourage an inventive culture in schools and communities. Each InvenTeam chooses its own problem to solve.

**Contact**—[inventteams@mit.edu](mailto:inventteams@mit.edu), 617-452-2147

**Website**—<http://web.mit.edu/inventteams/>

**Deadline**—March 20, 2009 (Early Feedback); April 24, 2009 (Initial Application); September 11, 2009 (Final Application)

**Eligibility**—InvenTeams are teams of high school students; and science, math and technology teachers and mentors from public, private, and vocational high schools. Inter-school collaborations, like the integration of InvenTeam projects with school programs and classes, are encouraged.

**Awards**—Up to \$10,000 each

### **Listen to a Life Essay Contest**

This annual contest provides an opportunity to build closer connections between generations. Sponsored by the Legacy Project, the contest is a team effort—a young person 8-18 years interviews a grandparent or grandfriend 50 years or older about their life and writes a 300-word essay.

**Contact**—800-772-7765, [tcp@tcpnow.com](mailto:tcp@tcpnow.com)

**Website**—<http://tinyurl.com/LegacyProject>

**Deadline**—March 30, 2009

### **Digital Wish**

This site works to connect donors with educators in need of technology products. After setting up a detailed lesson plan, teachers add wish-list items, such as digital cameras, overhead projectors, and interactive whiteboards to their accounts. Then, corporate and individual donors choose projects they want to support. Once a wish is granted, Digital Wish verifies the wish by contacting the school administration. Each donated item is shipped directly to the school as soon as a payment is processed. In addition to acting as an online charity, the site offers educators ideas on independent fundraising campaigns and grant-writing efforts. To learn more, go to <<http://tinyurl.com/DigitalWish>>.

**Eligibility**—Intergenerational teams consisting of one young person 8-18 years old and one older person 50 years or over.

**Awards**—Grand prize is a Lenovo ThinkCentre computer with \$800 of Orchard Software and an iPod Classic with video from Orchard Software, plus \$25,000 of Orchard Software for the school; and twenty runner-up prizes of \$400 of Orchard Software and an iPod Shuffle from Orchard Software.

### **History Uncovered Research Competition**

This competition is a unique opportunity for teams of secondary school students, their social studies teachers, and school library-media specialists to participate in a meaningful competitive endeavor that emphasizes research skills along with historical and critical thinking. Student teams can submit entries in a variety of electronic formats, including a slide show, an essay, a video or animation, or an audio podcast.

**Contact**—[customerservice@abc-clio.com](mailto:customerservice@abc-clio.com), 800-368-6868

**Website**—<http://tinyurl.com/HistoryUncovered>

**Deadline**—March 30, 2009

**Eligibility**—Teams of students and teachers from public and private middle schools and high schools

**Awards**—See website for a listing of cash and technology prizes in two categories: middle school and high school.

### **2009 ING Unsung Heroes Awards**

This award program is designed to support K-12 educators utilizing new teaching methods and techniques that improve learning.

**Contact**—[ing@scholarshipamerica.org](mailto:ing@scholarshipamerica.org), 800-537-4180

**Website**—<http://tinyurl.com/UnsungHeroes>

**Deadline**—April 30, 2009

**Eligibility**—Public and private K-12 education professionals, including educators, teachers, principals, paraprofessionals or classified staff with effective projects that improve student learning

**Awards**—100 awards of \$2,000 each; three of those are chosen to receive top awards of an additional \$5,000, \$10,000 and \$25,000.