

Mini-Grant Guidelines 2016-17 School Year

Deadline for Submission: Friday, November 4, 2016

The Autism Society Acadiana offers mini-grants to area educators and professionals to provide supplemental funding to schools using innovative and creative methods for teaching children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD).

1. Mini-grants are available to educators and professionals in the seven parishes served by Autism Society Acadiana (Acadia, Evangeline, Lafayette, New Iberia, St. Landry, St. Martin, and Vermilion). Eligible applicants must teach or provide services to at least one student diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder. Paraprofessionals are not eligible for this grant.
2. Eligible applicants must be members of the Autism Society Acadiana. If not a member, a completed membership form must be included with your application.
3. Proposed projects should be designed to benefit your student(s) with autism; however your project may serve all students in your class. Evidenced-based interventions are preferred.
4. Your proposal must show what outcomes you expect from the proposed project and what measures will be used to evaluate how well it met those outcomes.
5. Autism Society Acadiana will not fund the following types of projects, items, or activities:
 - a. Rehabilitation supplies
 - b. Payment for medical testing or rehabilitation services
 - c. Continuing education or training for teachers or professionals
6. Autism Society Acadiana will accept funding requests for consideration of not more than \$1,000; however grants awarded generally fall in the range of \$100 to \$500. Autism Society Acadiana reserves the right to reduce the funding amount based on available funds. You must include a budget to show how you anticipate funds will be spent.
7. Your school principal or district supervisor (for professionals working at more than one school) must sign the application cover sheet to confirm that he/she supports your project and will expend the funds as allocated in your proposal. Applications received without this signature will not be reviewed and will not be eligible for funding.
8. Completed proposals must be emailed to President@AcadianaAutism.org and copy Contact@AcadianaAutism.org **no later than 11:59pm on November 4, 2016** to be eligible. Please submit the application and all attachments in MS Word or Google format. If you are

unable to submit by email, you may mail your application to Autism Society Acadiana, Mini-Grants Committee, 3108 W. Pinhook Road, Ste. 101, Lafayette, LA 70508. Your proposal **must be postmarked no later than November 4, 2016**. Because of the large number of submissions received yearly, proposals that are not sent by the deadline will not be reviewed or eligible for funding.

9. All eligible proposals will be reviewed by a committee consisting of Autism Society Acadiana members who are parents of children with autism and/or professionals. Final grant awards will be determined by November 19th and checks will be presented at the December 6th Lafayette Support Meeting at Deano's Pizza located at 305 Bertrand Drive in Lafayette. Awardees will be asked to discuss their projects at the December Lafayette Support Group Meeting.
10. Grant award checks will be made out to the school where the project will be implemented or to the school system, if the project will involve multiple schools. All materials, supplies, and/or equipment purchased with Autism Society Acadiana funds for the funded project will remain with that school or school system if the person responsible for implementation is no longer employed at the school or school district for any reason.
11. All grant awardees will be required to submit to Autism Society Acadiana a final report on the funded project. In the report, you will be asked to discuss how you implemented the project, any challenges you encountered, and the outcomes you and your students experienced. Photos or videos of the project may also be included. Your school or school district will be responsible for ensuring that the report and any supporting items are sent to the Autism Society Acadiana by June 15, 2017. Failure to comply may make your school or school district ineligible to apply for another grant from the Autism Society Acadiana during the 2017-18 grant cycle.
12. If you have questions regarding the mini-grant program guidelines, please contact Rhonda Allen @ 337-235-4425.