

Sources of Grant Funding

Public Funds which include federal, state and local monies.

Private Funds which come from corporations, foundations, and individuals. Funding sources may be national, regional, or local and may range from large international corporations to the local supermarket, Kiwanis Club or PTA.

Government Funds

Chapter I was originally designed to fund supplementary programs for children who were educationally disadvantaged. Because recent rulings have expanded the flexibility of Chapter I, educators working with Chapter I students should find the February 1992 US DOE document called Chapter I Flexibility: A guide to Opportunities in Local Projects helpful (see reference section).

Chapter 2 provides funds for innovation and educational improvement for library and instructional materials. (These funds are usually much less than Chapter I funds.)

Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Act of 1990 has funds allocated for vocational technology and tech prep.

Eisenhower Funds have monies available for the improvement of math and science instruction in K-12 schools. The funds are earmarked for training and while money for materials is restricted, it is permissible to charge participants a fee for attending a workshop. The attendees can then leave with "workshop materials."

National Science Foundation (NSF) is a very competitive source of grant money for science and technology projects in schools.

Other Sources of federal funds can be found in the *Guide to U.S. Department of Education Programs* (DOE) and funding programs are published as they become available throughout the year in the daily *Federal Register*.

State Funding

State funding will vary from state to state. Approximately 15 states now offer comprehensive directories describing state grant programs. The best place to start is with a phone call to your own state department of education.

Corporate and Foundation Gifts and Grants

Many corporations and foundations give money to education (see source section). Securing a grant from a national organization is usually a competitive process. Your project must be well thought out and presented.

Individual and Local Grants

Local organizations are usually the most active sources of mini grant funds. Different local organizations you may want to investigate include: local businesses, industries, corporations, chambers of commerce, utility companies, civic groups, benevolent organizations, family and community foundations, professional educational organizations, alumni associations, and superintendent's funds.

School and Community Fund-raisers

Your school may want to consider launching its own fundraising drive. These can be on a small scale within a classroom or on a larger scale to involve the community.