

Mini-Grant Guidelines and Application 2020-21 School Year

Deadline for Submission: Must be emailed or postmarked by Friday, October 16, 2020 11:59pm

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 ASD. 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. There is no fee for membership.
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 indicated 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 copied to Contact@AcadianaAutism.org **no later than 11:59pm Friday, October 16, 2020** to be eligible.

Please submit the application and all attachments as either PDF or in MS Word or Google Docs 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 October 16, 2019**. *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 October 28 and checks will be presented at the Lafayette Parish Support Group meeting Tuesday, November 3 at Deano's Pizza, 305 Bertrand Drive, Lafayette at 6:30p. Awardees will be asked to briefly discuss their projects at the meeting. Those unable to attend, will be receive their grant through the mail. However, awardees are strongly encouraged to attend.
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 of Acadiana by May 15, 2020. Failure to comply may make your school or school district ineligible to apply for another grant from the Autism Society Acadiana during the 2019-20 grant cycle.
12. If you have questions regarding the mini-grant program guidelines, please contact Carolyn Tate, Mini-Grant Committee Chair, at President@AcadianaAutism.org.

**Autism Society Acadiana
Mini-Grant Program Application
2020-21 School Year**

NOTE: Autism Society Acadiana reserves the right to award a smaller grant amount than what was requested, based on available funds. By submitting this application, you indicate that you have read and understood, and have agreed to the mini-grant guidelines published on the Autism Society Acadiana website (www.AcadianaAutism.org) and included with this application.

Please complete the following & include with your application:

Name of Applicant:		
Are you a member of Autism Society Acadiana?	Yes _____ If so, what year did you join? _____	No _____ <i>(A completed application must be included with your application.)</i>
Name of the school for which you are applying:		
School's Mailing Address:		
Applicant's Phone Number:	Day:	Evening:
Applicant's Email Address:		
School Principal or District Supervisor:		
School Principal's or District Supervisor's Phone Number:		
School Principal's or District Supervisor's Email Address:		

The Principal or District Supervisor must sign below to indicate that he/she supports the proposed project and agrees to allocate any awarded grant funds as outlined in this project. Applications submitted without signature will not be eligible for review or funding.

Signature

Date

Grant Application

Please answer the following questions about your proposed project as fully as possible. You may enter your answers in the electronic version of this application to complete your project proposal. If you received a paper copy of this application, please type your answers on a separate sheet(s) of letter-size paper. Please include the question number with your answer.

Your responses to these questions will be read and reviewed by the Mini-Grant committee, consisting of Autism Society Acadiana members who are parents of children with autism and/or professionals, and will be used to determine grant fund allocation. Thank you for your time and your interest!

1. **In 200 words or less**, please give a brief overview of your proposed project. What is the goal of your project? Is this a new project or have you or someone else implemented this project before? What were the results?

2. Please tell us about the students who will participate in your proposed project.

a How many students *with autism* will participate in this project?

b How many other students will also participate, if any?

3. How will your students with autism benefit from this project? What outcomes do you expect to see?

4. How will you measure and show the success of your project? Will you record data, photograph or videotape activities?

7. Please tell us about yourself.

a How long have you been in education?

b How many years of experience do you have working with students with autism and in what capacity?

c How will your experience help you successfully implement your proposed program?

8. Have you previously received a grant from the Autism Society Acadiana? If so, what was that project and in what school year was it funded?

*Completed proposals must be emailed to President@AcadianaAutism.org and copy Contact@AcadianaAutism.org **no later than 11:59pm on October 16, 2020** to be eligible. Please submit the application and all attachments as a PDF or in MS Word or Google Docs format. If you are unable to submit by email, you may mail your application to Autism Society Acadiana Mini Grants Committee, 3108 W. Pinhook Rd., Lafayette, La. 70508. Your proposal **must be postmarked no later than October 16, 2020**. **Because of the large number of submissions received yearly, proposals that are not submitted by the deadline will neither be reviewed nor be eligible for funding.** If you have any questions, please email Robyn Blackwell at contact@acadianautism.org or Carolyn Tate at president@acadianautism.org.*

Grant Application Checklist

Your complete application must contain the following:

- The completed cover page with contact information for you and your principal or district supervisor.*
- Your principal's or district supervisor's signature at the bottom of the cover page indicating that he/she supports your project and is committed to spending any awarded grant funds as allocated in your proposal. Your application will not be reviewed without this signature.*
- All questions on the application answered completely.*
- If you are not already a member, a completed Autism Society Acadiana Membership Application.*

Membership Form

Member will be added to Membership, Postal Mailing, and Email Lists

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone Number: () _____ Home, Cell, Work () _____ Home, Cell, Work

Email address: _____

Please check all that apply: You are: a person with an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD): _____

Or have a child or family member w/ ASD: _____

Or Medical Professional: _____ Educator: _____ Other: _____ (college student, etc.)

Name, age, and birth date of the individual with an autism spectrum disorder (ASD):

Diagnosed by: (Professional's Name & Contact Information - address and phone number) _____

Membership Benefits Include:

- Eligibility to attend events offered solely for Autism Society Acadiana members and their families.
- Eligibility to apply for stipends for your child to access recreational and leisure activities and programs.
- Eligibility to apply for an educational stipend to cover your registration fee to a conference or seminar that will enhance your knowledge, skills, and ability to more effectively raise your loved one with autism.
- Email and US postal notification of autism-related events, activities, workshops and conferences.
- A support system that provides comfort and information to families living with autism.
- Information and referrals to local and state resources.
- Membership in a growing organization which serves families and individuals living with autism spectrum disorders.

Please return form by mail to:

**Autism Society Acadiana, Attn: Membership List
3108 West Pinhook Road, Suite 101, Lafayette, LA, 70508**

Fax: 337-235-4427 or Email: Contact@AcadianaAutism.org

For more information call 337-235-4425 or visit our website at www.AcadianaAutism.com

For Office Use Only

Date Received: _____

Added to Membership List: _____

Added to Constant Contact: _____

Added to Send Out Cards: _____

Emailed Welcome Letter: _____