

## **Autism Society of Acadiana (ASAC) Mini-Grant Guidelines**

ASAC offers Mini-Grants to area educators and professionals to provide supplemental funding to schools employing innovative and creative methods for teaching children with an autism spectrum disorders (ASD).

1. Mini-Grants are available to educators and professionals in the seven parish area that have at least one student diagnosed with an ASD. The seven parishes included are Lafayette, Acadia, Evangeline, New Iberia, St. Landry, St. Martin and Vermilion.
2. Each applicant must be a member of ASAC or become a member of ASAC. In the 2010 calendar year, there is no fee for ASAC membership. To become a member, a membership application must be submitted. Membership applications are available on the ASAC website, [www.acadianautism.org](http://www.acadianautism.org).
3. Successful Mini-Grant applicants typically request \$100 to \$500 per proposal. Group submissions are acceptable. The ASAC Review Committee reserves the right to reduce the funding amount dependent on the quality of the proposal and monies available.
4. Proposal must specify one or more methods of assessing, measuring, or in some way evaluating the success of the project if funded.
5. Examples of requests that are not appropriate include but are not limited to: rehabilitation treatment supplies; continuing education/training; payments for medical testing or rehabilitation services such as ABA, speech therapy, physical, or occupational therapy.
6. An ASAC Review Committee of 5 to 7 members will review the Mini-Grant proposals.
7. There are no restrictions on the number of times an applicant (or group) may apply. However, if applicant has previously received a Mini-Grant from ASAC they must have submitted the follow up questionnaire in order to be eligible to apply for additional funding in subsequent competitions.
8. The Mini-Grant submission deadline this year is **November 1, 2010**. Approved applicants will be notified by **November 24, 2010**. Mini-Grants will be awarded at the InclusionMatters Conference which will be held on **December 8 and 9, 2010** at the Cajundome Convention Center, 444 Cajundome Blvd, Lafayette. ASAC will pay the InclusionMatters Conference registration fee for all Mini-Grant recipients.
9. Any award checks will be made payable to the school/clinic for the recipient/applicant's use. The school administrator or supervisor must submit a statement that any Mini-Grant funds awarded to the school/clinic or other agency will be provided to the grantee (applicant/recipient) for the designated purpose(s) in a timely fashion.
10. A follow-up questionnaire will accompany the Mini-Grant award. Applicants must agree to provide evidence of the effectiveness of their project if funding is received. Acceptable evidence may consist of pictures, videos, documentation logs, improved test scores, or other data showing improvements or benefits attributable to the project. Applicants agree to be available for public presentation of their findings if requested by ASAC. The follow up questionnaire and evidence of effectiveness must be returned to ASAC by **June 9, 2011** for any recipient to be eligible to apply for additional funding in subsequent years.
11. Mini-Grant recipients will be recognized via media through appropriate press releases, the ASAC Newsletter, web site, and the ASAC Facebook fan page.