

**San Francisco Chapter  
California Council of the Blind (CCB)**

**The \$2,500 Student Education Access Grant  
(SEA Grant)  
2018 Application Instructions**

**Before completing the Application Form, please read the following:**

**I. PURPOSE OF THE GRANT:**

**As a chapter of the California Council of the Blind, we support CCB's mission to increase the independence, security, equality of opportunity and the quality of life for all Californians who are blind or have low vision.**

**In keeping with this goal, the San Francisco Chapter of the CCB will award up to \$2,500 in technology products to a student who meets the qualifications below. Is between the ages of 8-18, legally blind, lives in the counties served by this grant (see 2C) and who can best demonstrate the need for accessible equipment to enhance their educational opportunities.**

**II. QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE GRANT:**

**The applicant must:**

- A. Be a student between the ages of 8-18.**
- B. Be legally blind.**

**C. Live in the following counties:**

**Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano or Sonoma.**

**D. Demonstrate the need for up to \$2,500 to improve their educational opportunities.**

**III. When your TVI answers Question 8 on the Application Form and when you write your essay, please consider the following points about how you will use the grant money:**

**A. The San Francisco Chapter will assume responsibility for the purchase of all products requested up to a value of \$2,500.00.**

**B. If the software/hardware you are requesting will cost more than \$2,500 please include the name, email address and phone number for the provider of the additional funds. A member of the Committee will need to contact the individual or agency to make arrangements for the purchase.**

**C. The equipment may be high tech, such as a computer or CCTV, or low tech, such as a braille writer. Consider the equipment your school requires or recommends that all students use such as a PC, Mac or iPad in your request.**

#### **IV. APPLICATION PROCESS:**

**A. A completed application must be received in the body of an email or as a Microsoft Word attachment by no later than March 31, 2018.**

**B. The SEA Grant Committee will review all applications. If you are selected as a finalist, you are REQUIRED to meet with the Committee for a personal interview on Saturday, May 5, 2018.**

**C. The Committee will choose the winner no later than May 31, 2018.**

**D. The award ceremony will take place at the chapter's meeting on Saturday, September 15, 2018.**

#### **V. HOW DO YOU APPLY FOR A GRANT?**

**A complete application consists of:**

**A. The Application Form**

**B. An essay (a maximum of 250 words, typed, and double spaced) that:**

- 1. Introduces you;**
- 2. Tells us about your interests and hobbies, and any work or volunteering you have done.**
- 3. Describes your vision impairment;**

**4. Describes specifically your goals, and how the grant money will be used and how this will improve your educational opportunities;**

**5. Explains why this financial need cannot be met from other funding sources;**

**Note: Some information asked for in the essay is the same as in the Application Form. Consider the essay an opportunity to tell your story, using, the facts also listed in the Application Form.**

**D. Two letters of recommendation from adults who are not a family member. One of these letters must be from your TVI or O&M Instructor. The other letter can be from a general education teacher, counselor or someone in a foundation or agency.**

**All documents must be sent in the body of an email or as a Microsoft Word attachment to Charlie Dorris at:**

**[tyreedorris@comcast.net](mailto:tyreedorris@comcast.net)**

**IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR NEED AN APPLICATION IN BRAILLE, CONTACT either:**

**Charlie Dorris: 415-775-0487,  
[tyreedorris@comcast.net](mailto:tyreedorris@comcast.net)**

**Linda Porelle: 415-586-2622, [Imporelle@gmail.com](mailto:Imporelle@gmail.com)**

