

# Grant Proposal Writing



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# A grant

- **What is a grant?**

*Fund given for a specific purpose linked to public benefit*

- **Who gives the fund ?**

*A public body (NIH, ARES, DFG) charitable foundations (eg Bill gates, TWAS, ARNTD) specialised grant-making institutions and Cooperations (Microsoft, Boeing, Banks etc)*

- **Who receives the grant?**

*An individual or another entity capable of generating returns (service to the community)*

# Why apply for a grant?

- To advance scientific knowledge in your field AND advance your professional career
- To create new opportunities for your research assistants
- To valorise your idea as important and worthy of public or private support
- To enhance the prestige of your institution
- To alleviate the financial burden of your institution and thus contribute to the financial health of your department, institution or agency

# **A grant proposal**

**A written document submitted to a funder to be considered for a grant**

# The project must reflect the mission of your institution

Mission of UB: Continuous quest for:

- Excellence in research
  - Support the development, promotion and dissemination of research for development
- Promotion of moral and human values (ethical committee approval)
- Service to the community
  - Prevention, management, and awareness building about disease management
  - Etc

# Become familiar with all the Mission of the funding institution

**Funding = your interest + the interests of the funding agency**

‘You may have a very good idea

You may have a well-written your proposal

If the funding agency to which you are applying is not interested in your project, you will not be funded!’



## **Mission:**

Ex1: Supports basic and applied research to understand, treat, and prevent infectious, immunologic, and allergic diseases

Ex2: Strengthen the skills of disabled or underprivileged persons

# Project should address a community need

## Statement of need in the context of a community

Orchard School has 276 students, of which 59 have been identified to be at risk in their reading performance for a variety of reasons including learning disabilities, such as:

- Attention deficit disorder
- Dyslexia (disorder that involves difficulty reading)
- Other economic and language-based difficulties

**Eligibility:** Orchard School is eligible for Title 1 funds

**Importance of the funds:** These funds will be an opportunity to improve their reading skills

# **Project should address a compelling issue**

**Explain why these needs are critical in the context of the community?**

*If these students are not given an opportunity to improve their reading skills they are, as studies show, more likely to be truants and will drop out of school.*



# **What are the issues that the project will address?**

***The project intends to create a Read to***

***Succeed! Program that will:***

*Provide students with access to assistive reading systems*

*Provide training sessions for classroom teachers and reading specialists*

# What are your goals

Goal:

The Orchard Read to Succeed! project will enable at-risk students to improve their reading skills through utilization of five computers equipped with scanners and assistive reading software

# Objectives

1. To induce students to double their reading speed by the end of the school year
2. To increase the number of poor readers that access the general curriculum through the use of assistive reading technology to scan and read their textbooks and other classroom materials.
3. To increase the reading skills of disabled students with a multi-sensory reading alternative that will help them increase their reading speed to the point they can read on their own

# Activity

## How will the project be implemented?

Student will have access to textbooks and classroom materials displayed as an exact image on the computer screen

The text is then read aloud using the highest quality, most human sounding synthetic speech while highlighting words and sentences visually on screen

Audible tools from the package will be used to assist with word decoding (syllabification and spelling)

# Activity

**Who are the stakeholders you will work with and how will they be involved?**

**Joan Tambe**, Public health scientist holds a PhD degree from Colby College. He will be responsible for parental and community involvement.

**Sue Tala**, Speech and Language Pathologist, holds an MSc from the University of Vermont and a Masters degree from Boston University. She is working with the students with severe learning disabilities and will be responsible for coordinating participation with classroom teachers.

# Activity

**Who are the stakeholders you will work with and how will they be involved?**

**Jennifer Shey, Special Education Coordinator**, holds a Bachelor's Degree in Special Education from Lesley College.

**Jennifer** has extensive **experience working with students with severe reading difficulties** and was responsible for implementing the successful pilot test program in 2020

She is **proficient** with learning technology, including **computer hardware and software**.

# Feasibility of the activity

## *Has the approach been attempted elsewhere?*

Assistive reading technology has been shown (e.g., Heckler, L., Burns, L., Katz, L., Elkind, J., and Elkind, K. 2020 ; Elkind 2022) to help poor readers increase reading speed and comprehension, as well as increase attention.

## *Other Questions:*

- Is the proposed approach practical?
- Has the organization succeeded in similar endeavors of equal size, scale, and focus?

# Feasibility: Institutional Credibility

- What is the institution's relationship with the community?

*Joint research and technology transfer activities with Industry, academia or government cooperation: Carry out research CDC, SONARA etc*

- What kind of reputation does the institution have beyond its community?

*The institution receives and host annually, visiting scholars, exchange staff, and experts from industries who deliver lectures, carry out and facilitate research*

- Who are the partners of the institution?

*MoUs signed*



# How will you monitor and evaluate the project?

- Provide information on the **metrics that will be used to determine the effectiveness** of the project
- **Standardized reading tests** will be conducted at the start of the program and again at the end of the school year to determine increases in reading speed and comprehension
- **The number of correct words read is counted** and this total equals a student's oral reading fluency rate

# Expected results and impact

- What will happen as a result of the project?
- How will it make a difference in the community?
  - At risk students will improve their reading speed and comprehension, which will help them obtain classroom subject proficiency
  - Students will be able to utilize all their classroom materials, including textbooks, thereby, providing them the access to the general curriculum

# What is the timeline

Activity (Chronological order)	Realistic Time line
Submit Grant Proposal	October, 2022
Expected Grant Notification	December, 2022
Obtain Hardware and Software	January, 2022
Set up Kurzweil 3000	January, 2023
Training Session for Teachers	February, 2023
Student Introduction	February, 2023
Test Initial Reading Speed	February, 2023
Begin First 12-week Phase	March-May, 2023
Test Reading Improvement	June, 2023
Prepare Results Report	June, 2023

# Budget

ITEM	Unit Price (FCFA)	Qty	Total (FCFA)	Total (USD)
Kurzweil Scan/Read Lab Pack (Color) 5-Pack	26,000	5	280,000	
Software	34,000	5	170,000	
Epson 300 Scanner	423,000	2	846,000	
Dell PC with Monitor	850,000	2	1,700,000	
Training	400,000	10 days	4,000,000	
			<b>Tot:</b> <b>6,996,000</b>	

# Budget

- Is the budget commensurate with anticipated outcomes?
- Does the budget include income, expenses, and contributions (in-kind, financial)? Note: some funders require a specific percentage of in-kind contributions.
- Are the budget items reasonable and justifiable?
- There is a service for internal control and evaluation
- How are funds expensed, what kind of tracking system is in place, how are decisions made?
  - The research service of the University monitors research activities to ensure compliance and appropriate grant management

# How will the project continue after the grant?

- The project has prospectives and may require equipment purchase and maintenance
- It should describe a plan for continuation beyond the grant period
  - Future plans for applying for additional grants
  - Are there key partnerships with other organizations that will help sustain the project?
  - Are there lasting benefits after the intervention that can be commercialized?

**Thank you for your kind attention**

## Additional criteria

- *Did you read, understand, and follow the guidelines of the funder?* Eligibility
- Did you follow the instructions for proposal submission?
- Some funders will not receive unsolicited proposals
- Others require letter of inquiry before submission of full proposa
- *Did you answer all the questions clearly?*
- *Is your proposal format clean and easy to read?*
- Avoid using jargon and acronyms.