

XYZ Grant Application

Contact Person:

Natalie E. Snyders, MS, CCC-SLP
Speech-Language Pathologist
SCHOOL ADDRESS AND CONTACT INFO HERE

Description of Applicant's Background:

I have been a speech-language pathologist (SLP) working in the school setting since 2009, and have experience working with students from preschool through high school. I graduated from Eastern Illinois University with both my B.S. and M.S. in Communication Disorders and Sciences. My husband (who is a first grade teacher) and I live in TOWN, Illinois.

I am an active member of the national association for SLPs (American Speech-Language-Hearing Association), and had the honor of presenting at their national convention twice (Denver in 2015 and Philadelphia in 2016).

For the first three years of my career, I worked in XY & YZ Counties, providing speech-language services to students in private and parochial schools. I have worked for NAME OF DISTRICT since 2012. I am the only speech-language pathologist employed by the district, and provide therapy services to students with a broad range of disabilities, ranging from mild articulation disorders to severe language disorders. My students currently range in age from kindergarten to sixth grade.

Amount Requested:

\$ AMOUNT

How the funds will be spent:

\$ AMOUNT Comprehensive Assessment of Spoken Language, 2nd Edition (CASL-2)
\$ AMOUNT 5 sets of CASL-2 Comprehensive Forms
\$ AMOUNT Apple app card

Objective:

I am requesting the CASL-2 complete kit, CASL-2 record forms, and an Apple gift card to use for iPad apps to help assist me meet the needs of my students that receive speech-

language therapy. These will be able to be utilized by all of the NUMBER OF students on my caseload each year.

As a speech-language pathologist, it is my job to help students with communication disorders navigate the academic environment and provide them with whatever skills and strategies that I can to be successful in school. **Communication** is defined as “the process by which information, thoughts, feelings, and ideas are exchanged between individuals.” Different skill areas involved in the process of communication are generally divided into either **speech** or **language**, but the process is much more complex than it seems. To be an effective communicator, a person must be able to listen, comprehend, process information, formulate thoughts, plan how to respond, provide an appropriate expressive response, and utilize appropriate social interaction.

Part of my job entails providing comprehensive speech and language evaluations for each of my students at least every three years. This is required by both the state of Illinois and federal law, and helps me pinpoint exact strengths and weaknesses in all areas of communication, which in turn helps me be more effective and efficient in therapy.

Standardized tests become outdated every ten years or so, and the district’s available language tests have become too old and irrelevant to use for reliable data. The CASL-2 was published this year with very good reviews, and will allow me to ensure I have the most up to date and comprehensive language test for the next decade. Unfortunately, all standardized tests and record forms are very expensive, and the district does not have funds to purchase the CASL-2 at this time.

Another part of my job is taking the information gained from the comprehensive evaluations, creating functional IEP goals, and providing meaningful therapy activities to target those goals on a weekly basis. As I have NUMBER OF students every year, each one with individual goals, it can be difficult to find and afford materials to target each goal. I have found a variety of apps (including Articulate It and Language Empires) that would be perfect to target a wide variety of goals; however, the district does not have additional funding at this time to purchase them. The Apple gift card would allow me to purchase apps that would be helpful for every student on my caseload for the next several years.

Other funding sources:

DISTRICT does not currently have other options for funding sources for this project.

Other information:

Funds will be handled by the DISTRICT business office. Materials will be maintained by Natalie Snyders.

It is my hope that you will consider awarding this grant, as I feel it can make a significant impact in the academic lives of my students with special communication needs. Please feel free to contact me with any questions, and thank you for your consideration!

Sincerely,

Natalie Snyders, MS, CCC-SLP
Speech-Language Pathologist
ASHA #NUMBER HERE