

Grant Funding Leads

Detours, not dead ends

There is a song, a real golden oldie, called “Detour.” A chorus from that song goes, “Detour, there’s a muddy road ahead; detour, paid no mind to what it said; detour, oh these bitter things I find, should have read that detour sign!”

Researchers have found that students graduating from high school might be detoured from plans to enter the workforce because they will need the same math skills as college freshmen. This investigation reviewed occupations that don’t require a college degree but still pay family wages. Researchers found that math skill levels required to work as an electrician, plumber, or upholsterer were comparable to those needed to succeed in college.

Basic algebra is the first in a sequence of higher-level math classes in which students need to succeed. Because many students fail to get a solid math foundation, an alarming number of them are graduating from high school unprepared for either college or work. Many are detoured into taking remedial math in college as a result of inadequate performance in earlier math courses.

Someone – a parent, a teacher, the student – may have ignored “those detour signs.” It is time in the midst of the current financial morass to read some funding signs that point to the acquisition of Pitsco Education Algebra curriculum. Read on . . .

Toyota U.S.A. Foundation

Toyota gives on a national basis to support organizations involved with K-12 math and science education. Grants range from \$500 to \$500,000.

More information: <http://www.toyota.com/foundation>

American Honda Foundation

Honda focuses on youth education, specifically in the areas of science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and the environment.

More information: <http://corporate.honda.com/america/philanthropy.aspx?id=ahf>

Best Buy Children's Foundation

Best Buy contributes to a variety of organizations and programs that foster engaging, fun learning experiences for children through the use of interactive technology.

More information: http://communications.bestbuy.com/communityrelations/our_foundation.asp

Heineman Foundation

Heineman supports programs that enable youth to think, create, and communicate effectively. They provide seed money to start-up projects and new projects within existing organizations for a maximum of three to five years. Preference is given to organizations that have not previously been funded. The average range of donations is \$20,000 to \$50,000 per year.

More information: http://www.heinemanfoundation.org/application_process

Lindbergh Foundation

Lindbergh presents grants to those whose proposed research or education projects will make important contributions toward improving the quality of life by balancing technological advancements.

More information: <http://www.lindberghfoundation.org/>

Siemens Foundation

Discovery Education and the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) announce that the 2009 Siemens We Can Change the World Challenge is now accepting entries. It encourages students in kindergarten through eighth grade to team up with their classmates to create replicable solutions to mathematical and environmental issues in their classroom (Grades K-2), school (Grades 3-5), and community (Grades 6-8).

More information: <http://wecanchange.com/>

Teacher's Pet

(grant tip geared specifically toward teachers' smaller projects)

Pay It Forward Foundation

Pay It Forward mini-grants are designed to fund one-time-only service-oriented projects identified by youth as activities they would like to perform to benefit their school, neighborhood, or greater community. Those received by **February 15** will be considered for March 1 funding.

More information: <http://www.payitforwardfoundation.org/educators/mini-grant.html>