

# The Teighlor McGee Mini Grants Program:

What are mini grants and how to apply



# Who was Teighlor McGee?

Teighlor McGee was an incredible advocate who fought for a better world. Teighlor:

- Was the founder and leader of the Black Disability Collective, a group which advocates for and champions the lives of Black disabled people.
- Coordinated information and resources during the 2020 protests against police brutality.
- Wrote essays and articles, advocated for change at her college campus, and worked in multiple advocacy positions, including at ASAN.

Teighlor passed away in 2022. Teighlor's dedication and their fierce love for their communities was apparent to anyone who knew them. During their time at ASAN, Teighlor was a crucial part of creating and planning for mini-grants and we have named the program in their honor.

Rest in Power Teighlor.



# What is a mini grant?

- Mini grants are small amounts of money given out by a group. For example, governments, schools, and nonprofit organizations like ASAN run mini grant programs.
- Mini grants can help a person or group pay for a specific project.
- ASAN's Mini Grant Program will give 4-6 people or groups \$5000. They can use this money to do an advocacy project. Advocacy projects can be local, state or national projects.

# **What mini grants are available under the Teighlor McGee Mini Grant Program**

- **Affiliates in Action Mini Grant**
- **STEP (Self-advocates Transforming Equitable Policy) Mini Grant**

# Who can apply for Affiliates in Action Grant:

- **Must be a current Affiliate.** Completed their [application process](#) and has been accepted into the Affiliate program. Groups not yet affiliated must apply to become an Affiliate and be approved before applying for the mini grant.
- **Must be actively meeting.** Active means that your group meets at least once a month, virtually or in-person.
- **Must be self-advocate led.** Run by people who identify as self-advocates with developmental disabilities (for example, autistic people or people with intellectual disabilities).
- **Open to international Affiliates.**

# Who can apply to become an Affiliate

- In order to apply to be an affiliate a group must:
  - Have a year of working experience.
  - Be active, with multiple members who meet regularly.
  - Be led at least in part by autistic self advocates.
  - Have at least a third of their work be about advocacy.
  - Have values in line with ASAN's values and mission.

## **How to become an affiliate:**

Email Program Manager Alex Grandstaff at [agrandstaff@autisticadvocacy.org](mailto:agrandstaff@autisticadvocacy.org) asking for an application



# Who can apply for the Self-advocates Transforming Equitable Policy (STEP) Mini Grant

- Does not need to be an Affiliate.
- Must be a person with a developmental disability. You do not need an official diagnosis to apply.
- Individual applicants must be a person of color. Group applicants must be led by people of color, and at least 50% of membership must be people of color.

## **Applications for both grants must:**

- All applicants must be 18 years of age or older when they apply.
- If a group applies, they can have people under 18 in the group. But the project must be led by a member who is 18 years of age or older.

## **ASAN is very interested in projects led by these groups, or that help these groups:**

- Autistic people of color
- Non-speaking autistic people (both full time and part time)
- Autistic people who are LGBTQ+. LGBTQ+ stands for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer. It also stands for other sexual orientations and gender identities that get treated unfairly by society.
- Autistic people with intellectual disabilities.

## **What kind of projects does ASAN want to fund?**

Both these mini grant categories are for projects focused on creating change for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities at the local, state, and national levels. We want to fund specific projects from either self-advocacy groups or individual self-advocates.

# Examples of projects the Teighlor McGee Grassroots Mini Grants could pay for:

- Hill day visits to talk about disability policy.
- Easy Read and plain language translations of important information. For example, writing about disability and health care, or self advocates' rights.
- Teaching people about important policy topics. For example, giving a training about the HCBS Settings rule to self-advocates.
- Coalition-building - Working with other groups to build your movement.
- Mutual aid projects - helping self-advocates in the community

## **Things these mini grants will not pay for:**

- General operating support. This means the money needed just to keep your group going.
- Regularly planned programming or events. For example, a conference that happens every year.

**How many projects with ASAN pay for at a time?**

We will give out Mini Grants for 4-6 projects at a time.

## **How much can each project get?**

Each project can get up to \$5,000.

We'll give grantees half of the funds in January 2025 when the projects start.

We'll send the other half of the funds in June 2025.



# What do grant awardees get along with the funding?

Grantees will get:

- Advice during quarterly check ins.
- Online training and support.
- Help with networking.

# What do grant awardees need to do?

Grant Awardees will be expected to:

- Give ASAN updates about how their projects are going.
- Meet with ASAN on a quarterly basis (we will work with grantees' schedules).
- Make a budget for the project.
- Update the budget each quarter to show how money got spent.

# Grant Timeline

- May 2024 — Applications LIVE!! Application walk through and office hours Webinar
- July 2024 — Application Window Closes
- August–September 2024 — Applicant interviews
- October 2024 — Awardees contacted

## Grant Timeline Continued

- January 2025 — Projects begin, first half of funds given out to grantees
- March 2025 — First check in with grantees
- June 2025 — Second grantee check in and second half of funds given out
- September 2025 — Third grantee check in
- December 2025 — Projects end, final grantee check in

**What questions do you have about  
the Teighlor McGee Grassroots  
Mini Grants Program?**

Thanks for listening! Any questions?



The Autistic Self Advocacy Network

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