



General Information

Kate's Voice is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization that provides music therapy classes to students with special needs. Music therapy sessions offer students with special needs opportunities to develop a wide range of skills in the social, self-expression, communication, and gross and fine motor areas.

For the 2016-2017 school year, Kate's Voice is offering between 5-8 music therapy grants. Each grant will provide a music therapist to come to the classroom once every other week and provide music therapy for the students. Deadline for grant application submission and winner notification is posted online.

Teachers or administrators (in Massachusetts schools or other facilities that provide learning) of children with special needs can apply for the grant. The class should have between 5-15 students. It is possible to group together two or more special needs classes to fulfill the class size and/or to use the grant to its fullest potential (i.e. if there are two or three smaller classes in one space, you can combine them for the music sessions).

Classrooms that received Kate's Voice grants in the past are encouraged to apply again.

Grant guidelines

The following information details the specifics behind each grant:

1. Grants will range from \$200.00 to \$2,200, depending on funding needs for the class (for example, is there other money available to supplement the grant? Does the school want to participate in cost-sharing?).
2. Typically, music therapy classes are held once every other week at the same location within your school. Teacher/s, teacher aides, and/or therapists must be present at class as appropriate for managing students.
3. A full year grant offers about 22 sessions or approximately one session every other week. A half year grant offers about 11 sessions and these can take place every week or however they fit into the half year. Each music therapy session typically runs for approximately 45 minutes.
4. School/teacher is responsible for hiring a music therapist (with the approval of Kate's Voice -- see below). Kate's Voice can also provide the name/s of musicians who provide music therapy.
5. Teacher and music therapist arrange the schedule with final approval by Kate's Voice.
6. Contract for music therapist to be supplied by school.
7. Music therapy sessions should begin in February 2016.
8. Kate's Voice issues grant payment directly to your school. Your school will need to use this money to pay therapist directly.
9. You are eligible to apply for a Kate's Voice grant if you have received one in the past. Please note Kate's Voice provides a different application for this situation.

Selection criteria

Ideally we like to approve applications that meet the following criteria:

1. Overall thoughtfulness in answering questions -- specifically, do the applicants understand how and have a passion for how music can benefit their students?
2. The quality of the applicants plans for integrating music into curriculum.
3. The student body of the class – for example, would music therapy benefit the particular students in a way that would complement their education?
4. The general need for the students to have music therapy in their curriculum. In other words, do they attend music classes already? Do they have a chance to participate in school “specials,” such as art, library, physical education, and so on.