**Big Funding Opportunities for PT, PTA Education Programs**

APTA's continuous advocacy with the U.S. Department of Education has resulted in a significant opportunity for PT and PTA education programs: The availability of grant awards to enhance training and support for future PTs and PTAs working with children with disabilities. Three funding sources are available: one aimed at [historically black colleges and universities, American Indian tribally controlled colleges and universities, and minority-serving institutions](https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2023/05/05/2023-09615/applications-for-new-awards-personnel-development-to-improve-services-and-results-for-children-with) (July 14 application deadline); and two open to all institutions of higher learning: one [for increasing the number of service related personnel](https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2023/05/10/2023-09954/applications-for-new-awards-personnel-development-to-improve-services-and-results-for-children-with) (June 29 application deadline), and another to [prepare personnel for leadership roles](https://www.federalregister.gov/d/2023-09688?utm_source=federalregister.gov&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=pi+subscription+mailing+list) (July 7 application deadline). APTA's efforts were guided by input from pediatric physical therapists, who cited a need for trained therapy personnel in schools across the county. See below for some basic information and refer to the individual grant program pages for the full request, including webinars that provide insights on the application process.

**Grant Information:**

[**Personnel Development to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities--Personnel Preparation of Special Education, Early Intervention, etc. at Minority Serving Institutions:**](https://www.federalregister.gov/d/2023-09615?utm_campaign=pi+subscription+mailing+list&utm_source=federalregister.gov&utm_medium=email)

* **Funding:** Up to 29 discretionary grants are available to HBCUs, TCCUs, MSIs, and private nonprofit organizations with awards ranging from $200,000–$250,000 per year.
  + Estimated Available Funds: $7,250,000.
  + Project Period: Up to 60 months.
* **Priority:** Prepare and increase the number of personnel, including personnel from racially and ethnically diverse backgrounds and personnel who are multilingual, who are fully credentialed to serve children with disabilities by funding projects within Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities (TCCUs), and other Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) that prepare special education, early intervention, and related services personnel at the bachelor’s degree, certification, master’s degree, educational specialist degree, or clinical doctoral degree levels to serve in a variety of settings.

[**Personnel Development to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities--Preparation of Related Services Personnel Serving Children with Disabilities who have High-Intensity Needs:**](https://www.federalregister.gov/d/2023-09954?utm_source=federalregister.gov&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=pi+subscription+mailing+list)

* **Funding:** Up to 27 discretionary grants will be awarded to IHEs and private nonprofit organizations with each individual award ranging from $200,000-$250,000 per year.
  + Estimated Available Funds: $6,750,000.
  + Project Period: Up to 60 months.
* **Priority:** Fund high quality projects that prepare scholars in related services who are fully credentialed and licensed (at the bachelor’s degree, certification, master’s degree, or clinical doctoral degree levels for professional practice in a variety of education settings) to serve children, including infants, toddlers, and youth, with disabilities (children with disabilities) who have high intensity needs (including multilingual scholars, scholars with disabilities, and scholars from racially and ethnically diverse backgrounds).

[**Applications for New Awards; Personnel Development To Improve Services and Results for Children With Disabilities—Preparation of Special Education, Early Intervention, and Related Services Leadership Personnel**](https://www.federalregister.gov/d/2023-09688?utm_source=federalregister.gov&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=pi+subscription+mailing+list)

* **Funding:** Up to 39 discretionary grants will be awarded to OHEs and nonprofit organizations, with the average range of awards from $225,000–$250,000 per year for an individual IHE; $450,000–$500,000 per year for a two-IHE partnership application; and $675,000–$750,000 for a three-IHE partnership application.
  + Estimated Available Funds: $9,750,000.
  + Project Period: Up to 60 months.
* **Priority:** Support doctoral degree programs to prepare and increase the number of personnel who are well-qualified for, and can act effectively in, leadership positions as researchers and special education/early intervention/related services personnel preparers in IHEs, or as leaders in SEAs, LAs under Part C of IDEA, LEAs, or EIS programs, by funding projects that prepare graduates to be well-qualified for, and act effectively in, leadership positions as researchers and special education/early intervention/related services personnel preparers in IHEs, or as leaders in SEAs, LAs, LEAs, or EIS programs. Projects must support a program that culminates in a doctoral degree (Ph.D. or Ed.D.).