



A to Z Fund for Teachers & Classrooms

Since 2006, the Denver Public Schools (DPS) Foundation has awarded nearly 850 A to Z Fund classroom grants totaling more than \$1 million!



The A to Z Fund provides grants to individual schools for programs and activities that go beyond schools' limited budgets. Through this program, the DPS Foundation provides grants to schools for educational materials, athletic equipment, enrichment classes, competition fees, field trip expenses and more. These grants are available to any DPS school to enhance classroom learning. The A to Z Fund provides equal opportunity to students district-wide to participate in enrichment opportunities.

What Your Support Will Do

In some schools, individual parents, PTA organizations, and neighborhood groups can provide financial support that enables students to participate in enriching activities. However, 72 percent of all DPS students qualify for the free or reduced meals program and many schools are in low-income neighborhoods where families or parent groups simply do not have the resources to help schools offer these kinds of opportunities to their students.

Oftentimes, educators report spending their own money – sometimes as much as several hundred dollars in a year – to purchase educational materials or subsidize field trips because they want their students to excel. While this is generous and demonstrates the commitment of our educators, it isn't a sustainable solution to help all students have access to these opportunities. The A to Z Fund promotes equity by offering funding to all schools, and helps lessen the burden on our educators. With your help – especially in light of tight classroom budgets – the A to Z Fund can put resources directly into the hands of teachers allowing them to create exceptional learning environments for every student.

The Need

There is an ongoing – and growing – need for private sources of funding to enhance the quality of students' school experiences.

Despite receiving hundreds of highly qualified applications each semester, the DPS Foundation only has enough funding to fulfill approximately two-thirds of all grant requests. We need your help to expand the A to Z Fund and further empower our teachers working to give their students the opportunities, resources and experiences they need and deserve throughout their education.

YOU can make more classroom grants possible by supporting the A to Z Fund. **There are three easy ways to invest in programs that go beyond schools' budgets:**

- Visit www.dpsfoundation.org and click "Donate Now"
- Mail a check to DPS Foundation, 1860 Lincoln Street, 9th Floor, Denver, CO 80203
- Call us at (720) 423-3553

“The A to Z Fund provides opportunities for my students they normally would not have. It is a wonderful program that helps teachers secure resources for their classrooms in a time-friendly and teacher-friendly way.”

– Maxwell Elementary School Teacher



Ely's story:

Ely loves music; specifically piano, guitar and singing in choir. His love for music inspired him to do something very special for other children. Last school year, 12-year-old Ely raised money through his Mitzvah Project for the A to Z Fund, specifically to support music education in DPS. “Music is a very important part of my life, and I wanted to help bring it to the lives of other kids who might not have the same opportunities.” Ely’s commitment didn’t end there. Now, he sits on the A to Z Fund grant committee, volunteering his time to review applications and help ensure the funding goes where it will be most beneficial for the students. “It makes me very happy to see music connected to kids through this process,” says Ely. “I believe it’s very important to give back, especially to something that means a lot to you, as music does to me.”