2020 DTA Foundation Ignite Innovation Grant Program
Grant Guidelines and Criteria

In 2020, the DTA Foundation will fund multiple grants up to $25,000. The mission of the Dental Trade Alliance Foundation is to increase access to and utilization of oral health care by broadening literacy of oral health’s impact on overall health.

- We are focused on oral health, access to care and its connection to overall health.

- We will manage our resources to drive innovation and stimulate creative projects in a sound and fiscally responsible manner.

- We will measure the results of our projects by their long-term impact on oral health care awareness and access for those in need.

The vision of the DTA Foundation is a healthy smile for all.

In 2002, the DTA Foundation launched its grant program by funding innovative, sustainable, scalable projects designed to increase access to oral health care for those in need. As of 2019, the Foundation has provided over $2,447,000 in support of 109 different innovative projects designed to increase access to oral health care. Many of these projects have successfully expanded DTA Foundation seed money by attracting funds from other major sources enabling their projects to grow; resulting in long term impact on oral health care awareness and access for those in need.
New in 2020 – The DTA Foundation and Santa Fe Group have partnered to begin a DTA Foundation – Santa Fe Group Oral Health Innovation Scholars Program.

The DTA Foundation – Santa Fe Group collaboration will focus on innovations that will improve the health of the US population through improved access to and use of oral health services. Data from the ADA Health Policy Institute have demonstrated that adults between aged 18-64 years have decreased their use of dental services. By funding programs to broaden literacy on oral health’s impact on overall health, this collaboration has the potential to expand demand and increase access to oral health care.

To be chosen as a scholar, applicants must follow the same guidelines and eligibility criteria as any other DTA Foundation grant applicant. They will have the option in the preliminary proposal process to choose if they wish to be considered for the DTA Foundation Ignite Innovation grant or the DTA Foundation – Santa Fe Group Oral Health Innovation Scholar grant. While Applicants may choose to be considered for both grant types, they may only be awarded one $25,000 grant per project, regardless of grant type.

During the project time, the DTA Foundation -Santa Fe Group Oral Health Innovation Scholar must submit a semi-annual update on the status of the project to their DTA Foundation -Santa Fe Group mentors. Upon completion of the project, a final report will be submitted to DTA Foundation -Santa Fe Group. Scholars will also be expected to submit a manuscript for publication in a peer-reviewed journal based on their work.

**Eligibility Criteria**

In order to be invited to complete a full application for a DTA Foundation Ignite Innovation grant or the DTA Foundation – Santa Fe Group Scholars Oral Health Innovation Scholars grant, your organization will be required to submit a 2020 Preliminary Proposal Summary report in February. Preliminary proposal summaries are a requirement for all organizations. Please review other projects on [https://oralhealth.acl.gov/](https://oralhealth.acl.gov/) to assure that your project is, in fact, innovative. The DTA Foundation will not accept grant applications from any organization that has not been invited to move on in the review process. No exceptions will be made.

- All applicants who submitted a preliminary proposal will be notified of their status in late March via email. Accepted proposal summaries will be invited to complete a full grant application.
- Further details regarding the grant application, budgetary guidelines, and required attachments will be provided upon invitation to apply.

Each proposal that is accepted for funding will receive up to a maximum of $25,000 in grant funding. Applications are welcome from, but not limited to, dental
organizations, dental schools, universities, government and/or community based non-profit groups for programs located in the United States and its territories.

**We do not fund:**

- Existing dental clinics
- Ongoing projects
- Mobile dental vans
- Staff salaries (unless it is a new position that is part of a new innovative project)

**Evaluation of Proposals**

The DTA Foundation Grants Committee will take the lead in the evaluation of submitted requests for funding. The DTA Foundation receives guidance in its evaluation of programs through collaboration with the Santa Fe Group.

It is suggested that the majority of the requested project funds will be used for supplies, materials or new personnel not presently on the project staff. Grant funds are not to be used to offset current staff salaries or overhead. The DTA Foundation will look favorably upon projects that indicate budgetary contributions of their own resources to the project. A planned project evaluation of the proposed scope of work should be a component of any grant submission.

**The DTA Foundation’s priority is to award grants to projects that can leverage additional funding and expansion in other geographic areas.** Programs that are solely local in scope and do not appear to be reproducible nationally or over a greater population, thus limited to attracting additional outside funding for future years, are considered outside the scope of current funding parameters.

**Grants will be ranked and awarded based on the following areas:**

- Innovation, originality, and creativity;
- Ability of program to attract additional funding following pilot completion or build-up;
- Sustainability of the program past the funding period;
- Ability to use project as a model program for expansion in other geographic areas;
- Project should be a pilot project, not an ongoing project;
- Ability of program to address the core purpose of the DTA Foundation;
- Potential impact on target audience or goal.

**Completed Grant applications and all required attachments for those invited to submit a full application must be submitted electronically to the DTA Foundation no later than May 20, 2020.**
Only applications submitted in an electronic format utilizing the official application form will be considered. You will receive email notification that your application has been received.

Applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application no later than September 30, 2020.

**GRANT AWARD REQUIREMENTS**

- Once funded, the DTA Foundation requires the project director(s) to acknowledge the support it received from DTA Foundation in any project communications, advertising or public relations outreach.

- Grantees should be willing to present descriptions and outcomes of their projects at DTA and DTA Foundation functions.

- Grantees will be required to provide project-related program materials, photos and other media to the DTA Foundation Executive Director upon request.

- Funds will be awarded in October, 2020 for use from October, 2020 – December, 2021. DTA Foundation – Santa Fe Group Oral Health Innovation Scholars may be approved for eighteen-month project timelines. A final project progress and financial report must be submitted to the DTA Foundation by March 31, 2022.