

CEC Applauds Apple Technology Grants to Underserved Schools *ConnectED initiative will help educators use technology to transform education*

Arlington, Va., Oct. 27, 2014 – As part of President Obama’s [ConnectED](#) initiative to boost educational outcomes for students in communities that face financial challenges, Apple today announced the names of 114 underserved schools in 29 states that will receive grants providing iPads and MacBooks, learning content, curriculum support, and wireless infrastructure.

Apple’s \$100 million, multi-year program is aimed at redefining what it means to teach and learn in schools located in many of the nation’s most economically disadvantaged communities. Each school receiving a grant has at least 96 percent of its student population eligible for free or reduced-priced lunches. [A listing of the schools can be found on the Apple ConnectED website.](#)

[The Council for Exceptional Children \(CEC\)](#) was invited by **Apple** to participate in the selection of the grant recipients based on school need and the ability to create a sustainable, scalable, and replicable model for learning with the technology provided.

“I was honored to represent CEC among a small group of national education leaders in the selection of Apple’s grant recipients as part of the company’s ConnectED commitment,” said CEC Executive Director Alexander T. Graham.

“Mobile devices and the incorporation of technology in the classroom have created an unparalleled level of support for students with disabilities,” Graham said. “But for those students with disabilities whose families and schools don’t have the means to provide technology in the classroom the very tools that can enhance their education are frequently out of financial reach.”

The Apple grants will help advance equity and opportunity in public education by providing access to technology and leveling the playing field for all of our country’s students, Graham said, adding “what Apple is doing in these underprivileged schools will be transformative not only for the students, but also for the professionals who teach them and their communities who will benefit from the students’ success.”

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The Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) is a professional association of educators dedicated to advancing the success of children with exceptionalities. We accomplish our mission through advocacy, standards and professional development. Learn more at www.cec.sped.org.

