

WHERE SHOULD

# Schools Spend Their Stimulus Funds?



*The coronavirus has changed schools as we know it.* Americans have moved schooling to the home and back, forcing students, teachers and parents into a whole new virtual world.

To help meet the needs of this pandemic-induced challenge, the **U.S. government has set aside billions of dollars in coronavirus relief funding for public schools.** Specifically, the funding is intended to address virtual learning or learning outside the classroom, especially for those students with special education needs.

*According to the research completed by the **American Federation for the Blind (AFB)**, **85% of TVIs** who had students in a general or special education online class described having **at least one student with an accessibility issue.***

School teachers, administrators and leaders must decide how best to spend their relief funding, while adhering to the stimulus funding **guidelines.** Students with additional medical conditions may not have been able to safely return to school, further disrupting their school's ability to fulfill the child's IEP prior to the COVID-19 closures.

Through the advocacy work of organizations like AFB, policy makers have specifically identified stimulus monies must include the restoration of services for children with visual impairments. Now, in the U.S., decision makers in local education agencies are determining **how they will spend** their allocated COVID stimulus money.

# CViConnect Professional Edition Provides a Solution

One way to spend these funds is on education tools that support remote intervention for special needs students. For those learners who have [Cortical Visual Impairment \(CVI\)](#), there is an opportunity to license the CViConnect Professional Edition solution.

CViConnect is an [innovative](#), iPad-based solution that can be used in a classroom setting or in support of virtual learning.

## The CViConnect App...



- Allows a teacher to formally plan Activities for the student and deliver those Activities for use in the classroom, or while the student is at home. The system captures statistical data about the interactions of the student during a session, which can then be used by the teacher to improve their follow-on Activities and approach to working with the specific student.



The application runs on an iPad, although the [teacher dashboard](#) can be accessed through a standard web browser.

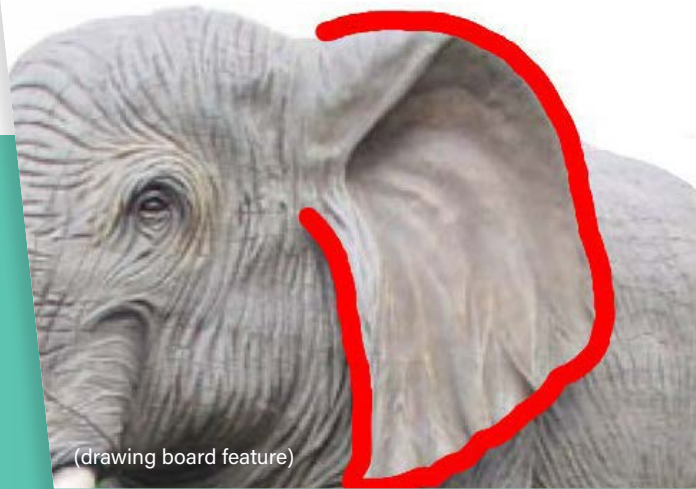
- Provides tools for monitoring and charting the progress of the student as they work towards their goals. CViConnect uses the camera inside of the iPad to detect whether the learner is looking at or away from the Activity being presented. This information is correlated with what is being displayed on the screen to help the family or teacher understand which visual targets best meet the needs of the student.
- The CViConnect Professional Edition is designed to allow a student's educational team to work collaboratively to provide a consistent approach at school and home.

**CViConnect is a community of professionals and technology** that offer hope and confidence in the form of personalized education, training and support for children with CVI. Amid the pandemic, CViConnect is reaching out to build [community support](#) and is helping mitigate learning loss experienced by students with disabilities. CViConnect PRO can be used as an instructional tool and is accessible for your student to practice improving their vision during the school day, after school, and extended learning and enrichment programs.

CViConnect offers many Activities designed to provide visual accessibility that address the child's curriculum and IEP goals. When subscribing to CViConnect PRO for your student, All IEP team members, including the [family](#), have access to CViConnect. Our multi-disciplinary approach allows for constant connections within team members and families who play an increasingly integral role in their children's day-to-day education.

Lastly, CViConnect will expand [staff development](#) as an investment recipient. With a library of training materials available, not only on CViConnect, but CVI knowledge as well, CVI educators can confidently support their learners with CVI.

# What CViConnect Subscribers are Saying



In CViConnect PRO, all of our student information is stored in one place and can easily be moved to another provider. Being that the activities are on the iPad and have backlighting, we find that our students will engage more than with real objects, books, pictures, etc. We were able to determine that **one of our students does, indeed, have some vision!**

CViConnect PRO has **provided a very useful way to help develop visual skills** in a very targeted way. Finally, we love that the app can be used for on-the-spot learning, not just as activities for the students to complete.

- Traverse Bay Area ISD



This is amazing and so relevant for the times we are in! I am really hoping I can show other districts I serve how **beneficial this would be to their students with CVI**, especially since so many of our families with medically fragile students are opting for the virtual / home bound service.

I plan to share the benefits of the program and how it has increased our ability to involve parents and **increase the amount of time that these students will be able to work on their vision goals** as a result of the program combined with the direct service of the TVI.

- Susan Fowler / Instructor for the Visually Impaired



## Support When You Need It

- ✔ Support from the CViConnect Support Team
- ✔ Growing number of support videos on our YouTube Channel
- ✔ Monthly Live events
- ✔ Weekly Support 'office hours' via Zoom
- ✔ Email support



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