

IRS Form 1023: Application for Recognition for Exemption under Section 501(c)(3) of Internal Revenue Code

Attachment B: IRS Form 1023, Part IV Narrative Description of Activities

The Mission and Charter

The Quorum Outreach and Research Foundation's primary activities are scientific in nature. This includes outreach work related to science, scientific research in the broad sense, and collaboration and outreach with educational institutions. Some of the outreach work is in collaboration with organizations that serve populations of individuals with disabilities.

These activities include:

- Scientific research to develop tools and techniques to improve instructional opportunities for pre-college and college students with disabilities.
- Outreach with educators and students to assess tools, techniques and in the exploration of new topics that support student learning in an accessible and inclusive manner.
- The creation of new technologies, including computer programming language technologies, technologies for people with disabilities, technologies to assist with educational outreach, and other scientific technologies, usually under the broad banner of computer science

Past, Present, and Future Activities

The Quorum Outreach and Research Foundation was formed on September 18th, 2013. It will be commonly referred to in this document as QORF. The activities of the foundation will be focused on the coordination of research activities and associated outreach. It is anticipated that this will consume greater than 85% of the expenses and board member effort. All activities noted will be funded through the foundation's general fund.

Past: There are no prior activities to report.

Present: The present activities include:

- **Website Communication:** Site creation is in progress. A web-site designer is

being found to create the site by January 2014. The site will be used to communicate the foundation mission, to communicate the current research status, and to request donations.

- **Funding of Grants:** A grant review board currently includes the members of the QORF Board of Directors. The board members will be composed of individuals knowledgeable in the accessibility and education. The members will not be financially associated with the organizations requesting the grants or benefit financially by specific grant selections. Grants will not be provided to for-profit organizations. The process by which potential applicants will be contacted is underway. The process will be communicated on the website to applicants. Grant solicitations, especially to educational partners (e.g., teachers for outreach work, scholarships, scientific contests, travel grants) are being planned. Application solicitations need will be placed on the foundation website.
- **Research Coordination:** A meeting is being organized to plan future research and outreach activities. The meeting was held online on early November, 2013. This meeting will focus on future research required to achieve the foundation's goals. Researchers attending represented research activities at xx. The Quorum Outreach and Research Foundation will organize and support this meeting, including coordinating discussion topics.

Future: The anticipated future activities include:

- **Website Communication:** A website will be updated to include:
 - An overview of the Quorum Outreach and Research Foundation mission and charter.
 - Background information on the state of education for students with disabilities. The information will be provided at a level relevant for the general public, as well as more detailed information for educators and researchers. Links to other relevant sites will also be included.
 - An explanation of the research master plan and the status of research and outreach activities.
 - As relevant based on a current project, grant application process instructions and forms required to accompany a proposal.
 - A request for donations including mail-in and online instructions.
- **Funding of Grants:** The Quorum Outreach and Research Foundation will partially achieve its goals by making grants to other non-profit organizations or individuals such as educators or students who will be participating in specific research, scientific, or outreach activities. Individuals receiving grants need to have a reasonable connection to the outreach work being undertaken. This might

include working scientists that can provide training, teachers or students wanting to learn scientific skills, or other individuals that might assist in providing outreach activities, like scholars or professionals. The selection of grants will be made consistent with the mission and charter of the organization. A grant review board will be composed of individuals knowledgeable in accessibility or education, the research master plan, the current state of research, and the fair market value of the research funding being requested. These grants may be in the forms of:

- travel grants,
 - scientific contests, or
 - stipends to participate in outreach activities.
- **Research Coordination:** Periodic meetings, with a planned frequency of every 3 months, will be conducted with QORF board members and any funded researchers and grantees receiving grants or interested in making grants proposals. The objectives of these meetings will be to coordinate the ongoing research activities, and as necessary, update the master research plan. The location of these meeting will vary depending on the location of the attendees, with online meetings being an option. Support for the research activities will be sought from donations, government grants, and crowdfunding.
 - **Outreach and Education:** In addition to the website activities, the Quorum Outreach and Research Foundation will conduct outreach with educational institutions, as well as organizations that serve populations of individuals with disabilities in areas that support the foundation's mission. Such activities can involve directly working with students or educators in individual or sustained activities over time (e.g., annual workshops with blind children at the Washington State School for the Blind). Like with our research coordination activities, funding for the outreach activities will be sought from donations, government grants, and crowdfunding.
 - **Scientific Research:** In addition to outreach activities, the foundation may fund scientists, or professionals, to conduct scientific research. This research may include work on computer programming language technologies, technologies for people with disabilities, technologies to assist with educational outreach, or other technologies. As the expertise of the board of directors is predominantly in the areas of education and computer science, this research would primarily be related to those topics, but may include work from other disciplines if necessarily to complete research goals.