

# Really want to attend conference, but finances are tight?



## Why not Build-Your-Own Scholarship?

The **PTN Build-Your-Own Scholarship** is a great option used by many members to raise money for the PTN Scholarship Fund and their own conference expenses. Raising money for the organization (instead of asking for personal donations) can help relieve some of the hesitation families may feel towards “asking for money” to attend the conference. In addition to things like hosting fundraisers (i.e., pancake breakfasts, raffles, etc.) or making direct appeals (i.e., Facebook wishes, GoFundMe requests), asking organizations to be conference sponsors or advertisers is a great option! Every sponsorship or advertisement you secure is applied first to your conference costs, and then can help other families, too!

**Secure program advertisements or exhibitors** Your doctor’s office may want to advertise (or even say GOOD LUCK in an ad for your child). You may know a company who would be willing to be a sponsor. Selling program advertisements and securing exhibitors can contribute directly to your Build-Your-Own Scholarship.

**Secure conference sponsors.** Do you know someone who may be willing to be a conference sponsor? If so, you can not only fund your scholarship, but help with other scholarships or conference costs!

**Many civic organizations provide support** to local families for activities relating to an illness. Are you a member of such an organization? Approach them about providing assistance, or hosting a fundraiser to help with your expenses.

**Online fundraising** has become more popular recently. Things like Facebook birthday wishes, GoFundMe, and others may be an option for you.

**Assistance from your child’s school** may be an option if your child has an Individualized Education Plan (IEP). You can include parent training as a related service that the school provides to support your child’s special education needs. The ease of getting parent training included in an IEP will vary from district to district and each child’s special education needs, but is certainly allowable. Check with your state’s Parent Training and Information Center for advice on how to best go about asking for parent training as part of your child’s IEP. The following website has links to each state’s center: <http://www.taalliance.org/centers/centerlist.htm>