

U.S. Department of Education Office of Elementary and Secondary Education

Application for State Grants under the Enhancing Education Through Technology (Ed Tech) Program

Part D of Title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act

Background

President Bush and Congress have declared their commitment to transforming the Federal role in education so that "No Child is Left Behind." At the heart of this effort is a commitment to focus on students, equip teachers, empower parents, and inform decision makers to ensure every child receives a quality education. The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 advances this commitment by providing a number of exciting reforms, tools and programs, many of which are reliant on the appropriate and effective use of technology.

Experts and practitioners have all agreed on the importance of not just increasing technology capacity within schools, but integrating it with the curriculum. The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 reflects this commitment in several exciting ways:

- Education programs as technology opportunities: Along with targeted funding for technology, many of the education programs, such as Reading First, allow recipients to purchase technology resources to accomplish the program's goals.
- **Commitment to professional development:** A myriad of programs offer funds for professional development to ensure teachers understand how to integrate appropriate technology tools effectively with their curriculum. Additional resources are made available for teacher preparation initiatives.
- **Expanded uses of funds:** Grant recipients may also use funds for distance learning, data decision support systems, and even forming public-private partnerships that support activities such as interest-free loans.
- Evidenced Based Education: Throughout No Child Left Behind is a commitment to funding strategies that have been proven to work based on scientifically based research. A commitment to researching what works along with measuring the impact technology has on instruction and learning is evidenced by the focus placed on state evaluations along with a national longitudinal study.

Information on all of the programs provided by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 can be found at [http://www.ed.gov/nclb/]

Purpose

The Enhancing Education Through Technology program consolidates the current Technology Literacy Challenge Fund (TLCF) and Technology Innovation Challenge Grant programs into a single State formula grant program. The purposes of the Enhancing Education Through Technology program is:

- 1. To provide assistance to States and localities for the implementation and support of a comprehensive system that effectively uses technology in elementary schools and secondary schools to improve student academic achievement.
- 2. To encourage the establishment or expansion of initiatives, including initiatives involving public-private partnerships, designed to increase access to technology, particularly in schools served by high-need local educational agencies.
- 3. To assist States and localities in the acquisition, development, interconnection, implementation, improvement, and maintenance of an effective educational technology infrastructure in a manner that expands access to technology for students (particularly for disadvantaged students) and teachers.
- 4. To promote initiatives that provide school teachers, principals, and administrators with the capacity to integrate technology effectively into curricula and instruction that are aligned with challenging State academic content and student academic achievement standards, through such means as high-quality professional development programs.
- 5. To enhance the ongoing professional development of teachers, principals, and administrators by providing constant access to training and updated research in teaching and learning through electronic means.
- 6. To support the development and utilization of electronic networks and other innovative methods, such as distance learning, of delivering specialized or rigorous academic courses and curricula for students in areas that would not otherwise have access to such courses and curricula, particularly in geographically isolated regions.
- 7. To support the rigorous evaluation of programs funded under this part, particularly regarding the impact of such programs on student academic achievement, and ensure that timely information on the results of such evaluations is widely accessible through electronic means.
- 8. To support local efforts using technology to promote parent and family involvement in education and communication among students, parents, teachers, principals, and administrators.

Goals

- To improve student academic achievement through the use of technology in elementary schools and secondary schools.
- To assist every student in crossing the digital divide by ensuring that every student is technologically literate by the time the student finishes the eighth grade, regardless of the student's race, ethnicity, gender, family income, geographic location, or disability
- To encourage the effective integration of technology resources and systems with teacher training and curriculum development to establish research-based instructional methods that can be widely implemented as best practices by State educational agencies and local educational agencies.

Introduction

Part D of Title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (Pub. L. 107-110), establishes the Enhancing Education Through Technology (Ed Tech) program. The primary goal of the Ed Tech program is to improve student academic achievement through the use of technology in schools. It is also designed to assist every student in crossing the digital divide by ensuring that every student is technologically literate by the end of eighth grade, and to encourage the effective integration of technology with teacher training and curriculum development to establish successful research-based instructional methods.

Under the Ed Tech program, the U.S. Department of Education provides grants to State educational agencies (SEAs) on the basis of their proportionate share of funding under Part A of Title I. States may retain up to 5 percent of their allocations for State-level activities, and must distribute one-half of the remainder by formula to eligible local educational agencies and the other one-half competitively to eligible local entities.

This individual Ed Tech State Grant application is to be completed and submitted by SEAs that are not including the Ed Tech program as part of their consolidated State application.

General Instructions

An SEA that seeks Ed Tech funds through an individual Ed Tech State Grant application, as opposed to a consolidated State application, must submit the following information:

- 1. Information on the application cover sheet, including the signature of the authorized SEA representative.
- 2. A narrative addressing the application and plan requirements detailed in this application.
- 3. The signature of the authorized SEA representative on the application assurances and certifications sheet.

An original and two copies of the application should be submitted to:

Mr. Charles Lovett Office of School Support and Technology Programs U.S. Department of Education 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W. Room 3E241 Washington, D.C. 20202

If you have any questions concerning this application, please contact Mr. Lovett at (202) 401-0039 or at <u>StateTechGrant@ed.gov</u>

Enhancing Education Through Technology (Ed Tech) Program

The State of ______ pledges its support for implementing a statewide, longrange, strategic educational technology plan under Part D of Title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and submits this application for first-year funding under the Ed Tech program.

1.	Legal Name of Applicant Agency (State Educational Agency):	D.U.N.S. number:Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN):	
Ap	plicant Address (include Zip):	3. Contact Person Name: Position: Telephone: Fax: E-mail:	
4.	Status With Respect to Executive Order 12372:	5. Is the applicant delinquent on any Federal debt?	
	Application was made available for review Program was not selected for review	NoYes, explanation attached	
6.	To the best of my knowledge and belief, all data in this application are true and correct. The document has been duly authorized by the governing body of the applicant and the applicant will comply with the attached assurances if the assistance is awarded.		
a.	Typed Name and Title of Authorized Representative:	b. Telephone Number: Fax: E-mail:	
C.	Signature of Authorized Representative	d. Date	

(No. 84.318 in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance)

Form Instructions

- 1. Legal Name and Address. Enter the legal name of applicant and the name of the primary organizational unit which will undertake the assistance activity.
- D-U-N-S Number. Enter the applicant's D-U-N-S Number. If your organization does not have a D-U-N-S Number, you can obtain the number by calling 1-800-333-0505 or by completing a D-U-N-S Number Request Form. The form can be obtained via the Internet at the following URL: <u>http://www.dnb.com/</u> Taxpayer Identification Number. Enter the taxpayer's identification number as assigned by the Internal Revenue Service.
- 3. **Program Contact.** Name, address, telephone and fax numbers, and email address of the person to be contacted on matters involving this application.
- 4. Executive Order 12372. The purpose of Executive Order 12372, which may be viewed on the web at <u>http://12.46.245.173/cfda/cfda.html</u>, is to foster an intergovernmental partnership and strengthen federalism by relying on State and local processes for the coordination and review of proposed Federal financial assistance and direct Federal development.

Applicants should contact their appropriate State Single Point of Contact (SPOC) to find out about, and to comply with, the State's process under Executive Order 12372. If you want to know the name and address of your State SPOC, you may view the latest SPOC list on the OMB Web site at <u>http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants/</u> under the heading "Intergovernmental Review (SPOC) list".

In States that have not established a process or chosen a program for review, State, area wide, regional, and local entities may submit Intergovernmental Review comments directly to the Department.

- 5. **Federal Debt Delinquency.** Check "Yes" if the SEA is delinquent on any Federal debt. (This question refers to the applicant's organization and not to the person who signs as the authorized representative. Categories of debt include delinquent audit disallowances, loans and taxes.) Otherwise, check "No."
- 6. **Certification.** To be signed by the authorized representative of the applicant. A copy of the governing body's authorization for you to sign this application as official representative must be on file in the applicant's office.

Narrative Instructions

Part D of Title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, requires you to submit the information identified below to receive funding under the Ed Tech State Grant program.

In organizing this portion of your application, please use the same headings and numbering that we have provided so that reviewers can quickly and accurately locate your response to each item.

For each item, please provide a brief narrative response *or* identify and indicate the specific portion(s) of your State Educational Technology Plan in which the required information may be found. You may submit a hard copy of your State Educational Technology Plan or provide the web address for the plan. In either case, all references to the plan should identify the specific sections of the plan that address a given component and provide a heading or other information to assist reviewers.

Website Address for State plan:

Application and Plan Requirements:

1. Goals and Strategies

1.1. Identify and describe the State educational agency's **goals for using advanced technology to improve student academic achievement**, and how those goals are aligned with challenging State academic content and student academic achievement standards.

Note: To be effective, goals generally require indicators of progress and one or more means of measuring progress. To the extent possible, please provide information on indicators and measures of progress. (See also **Accountability** below).

- 1.2. Outline the State educational agency's **long-term strategies for improving student academic achievement**, including technology literacy, through the effective use of technology in classrooms throughout the State, and improving the capacity of teachers to integrate technology effectively into curricula and instruction.
- 1.3. Describe how the State educational agency will ensure **ongoing integration of technology into school curricula and instructional strategies** in all schools in the State, so that technology will be fully integrated into the curricula and instruction of the schools by December 31, 2006.

- 1.4. Describe **how public and private entities will participate** in the implementation and support of the plan.
- 1.5. Describe how the plan addresses teacher preparation, professional development, and curriculum development to **ensure that teachers and principals in the State are technologically literate**.

2. Accountability

2.1. Describe the **process and accountability measures** that the State educational agency will use to evaluate the extent to which activities funded under the program are effective in integrating technology into curricula and instruction.

Note: States are expressly authorized to use funds that are set aside for State-level activities to develop performance measurement systems to determine the effectiveness of educational technology programs developed with Ed Tech State Grant funds. Accountability measures should evaluate the impact of technology on student achievement.

3. Increased Access

- 3.1. Describe how the State educational agency will take steps to ensure that all students and teachers in the State, particularly students and teachers in schools served by high-need local educational agencies, have **increased access to technology**.
- 3.2. Describe the State's **long-term strategies for financing technology** to ensure that all students, teachers, and classrooms have access to technology.
- 3.3. Describe how the State educational agency will encourage the development and utilization of innovative strategies for the **delivery of specialized or rigorous academic courses and curricula through the use of technology**, including distance learning technologies, particularly for those areas of the State that would not otherwise have access to such courses and curricula due to geographical isolation or insufficient resources.

4. Incentives, Best Practices, and Parental Involvement

- 4.1. Describe how the State educational agency will encourage local educational agencies in the State to provide **incentives to teachers who are technologically literate and teaching in rural or urban areas** to remain in those areas.
- 4.2. Describe the technology resources and systems that the State will provide for the purpose of establishing **best practices that can be widely replicated** by State educational agencies and local educational agencies in the State and in other States.
- 4.3. Describe the State's strategies for using technology to increase parental involvement.

5. Strategies for Competitive Subgrants

Describe the State educational agency's **strategies for awarding competitive subgrants.** Begin with a short narrative overview of the purpose and desired outcomes of the competition(s). In particular --

- 5.1. Describe the **standards that the State educational agency will use in applying the statutory definition of "high-need local educational agency"** – specifically, the standards that the State educational agency will use to determine whether a local educational agency is "among the local educational agencies in a State with the highest numbers or percentages of children from families with incomes below the poverty line" and the standards that the State educational agency will use to determine whether a local educational agency "has a substantial need for assistance in acquiring and using technology." (See the definition of "high-need local educational agency" in section 2403(3) of the legislation.)
- 5.2. Describe how the State educational agency will provide **technical assistance to applicants**, especially to applicants serving the highest percentages or numbers of children in poverty or with the greatest need for technical assistance; and discuss the **capacity of the State educational agency** to provide such technical assistance.
- 5.3. Describe how the State educational agency will ensure that Ed Tech State Grant competitive subgrants that are of **sufficient size and duration** to carry out the purposes of the Ed Tech State Grant legislation effectively.
- 5.4. Describe how the State educational agency will determine which local educational agencies are eligible local entities for competitive subgrants and that receive Ed Tech State Grant **formula grant allocations that are of insufficient size** to be effective, and how the State educational agency will give **priority to these local educational agencies** when awarding competitive subgrants.
- 5.5. Describe how the State educational agency will ensure an **equitable distribution of competitive grant funds among urban and rural areas,** according to the demonstrated need of the local educational agencies serving the areas.
- 5.6. Describe any other priorities that the State educational agency will use in the competition, any standards it may set for the use of funds, and competition strategies, as appropriate.

Assurances and Certifications

- 1. The State educational agency (SEA) declares that it has previously filed the following assurances and certifications with the U.S. Department of Education (Department) and, as of the date of the signature below, reaffirms and incorporates by reference those assurances and certifications with respect to this grant award. The SEA certifies that no circumstances affecting the validity of these assurances have changed since their previous filing.
 - The assurances in Standard Form 424B (Assurances Non-Construction Programs).
 - The certifications in ED Form 80-0013 regarding lobbying, debarment/suspension/responsibility status, and drug-free workplace.

(A copy of these forms is available on the Department's website at http://www.ed.gov/offices/OCFO/grants/appforms.html.)

With respect to the Certification Regarding Lobbying, the SEA certifies that no Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the making or renewal of Federal grants under this program; that the SEA shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," when required (34 CFR Part 82, Appendix B); and that the SEA shall require the full certification, as set forth in 34 CFR Part 82, Appendix A, in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers.

- 2. The SEA agrees to the State plan certifications in 34 CFR 76.104.
- 3. The SEA assures that financial assistance provided under Ed Tech State Grant program will supplement, and not supplant, State and local funds.
- 4. The SEA assures that it will determine, prior to the award of any Ed Tech State Grant program subgrant, that the subgrantee has a new or updated long-range strategic educational technology plan consistent with the objectives of the State educational technology plan and that the subgrant application contains all of the elements listed in section 2414(b) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

Typed Name and Title of Authorized Representative

Signature of Authorized Representative

Date