

Guidance on the Title II, Part D Enhancing Education through Technology (Ed Tech) Program

U.S. Department of Education

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(Pages 14-15)

G. Local Application Requirements

G-1. To receive Ed Tech Funds, does an LEA or eligible local entity need an educational technology plan?

Yes. Before receiving Ed Tech Funds, an eligible applicant must have a new or updated long-range strategic educational technology plan that is consistent with the objectives of the statewide technology plan and that addresses the statutory local plan requirements. (See G-2.) The applicant does not have to develop a new plan for the program, but may use its current technology plan, modified as necessary to comply with the requirements of the Ed Tech legislation. As appropriate, an LEA may seek a waiver of this requirement in order to receive funds to develop the plan. (See G-3.)

G-2. What information must be included in a local application for Ed Tech Funds?

An individual local technology application (i.e., an Ed Tech program application that is not part of the consolidated local application described below) must include the following:

- **Strategies for improving academic achievement and teacher effectiveness** – a description of how the applicant will use funds to improve academic achievement, including technology literacy, of all students and to improve capacity of teachers to integrate technology effectively into curriculum and instruction.
- **Goals** – a description of the applicant's specific goals, aligned with challenging State standards, for using advanced technology to improve academic achievement.
- **Steps to increase accessibility** – a description of the steps to be taken to ensure all students and teachers have increased access to technology. The description must include how applicant will use funds to help students in high-poverty and high-need schools, or school identified for improvement or corrective action under section 1116 of Title I, and to help ensure teachers are prepared to integrate technology effectively into curriculum and instruction.
- **Promotion of curricula and teaching strategies that integrate technology** – a description of how the applicant will identify and promote curricula and teaching strategies that integrate technology effectively, based on a review of relevant research and leading to improvements in student academic achievement.
- **Professional development** – a description of how the applicant will provide ongoing, sustained professional development for teachers, principals, administrators, and school library media personnel to further the effective use of technology in the classroom or library media center.

- **Technology type and costs** – a description of the type and costs of technology to be acquired with funds, including provisions for interoperability of components.
- **Coordination with other resources** – a description of how the applicant will coordinate funded activities with technology-related activities supported with other funding sources.
- **Integration of technology with curricula and instruction** – a description of how the applicant will integrate technology (including software and electronically delivered learning materials) into curricula and instruction, and a timeline for this integration.
- **Innovative delivery strategies** – a description of how the applicant will encourage development and use of innovative strategies for the delivery of specialized or rigorous courses and curricula through the use of technology, including distance learning technologies, particularly in areas that would not otherwise have access to such courses or curricula due to geographical distances or insufficient resources.
- **Parental involvement** – a description of how the applicant will use technology effectively to promote parental involvement and increase communication with parents, including a description of how parents will be informed of the technology used.
- **Collaboration with adult literacy service providers** – a description of how the program will be developed, where applicable, in collaboration with adult literacy providers.
- **Accountability measures** – a description of the process and accountability measures the applicant will use to evaluate the extent to which activities funded by program are effective in integrating technology into curricula and instruction, increasing the ability of teachers to teach, and enabling students to reach challenging State academic standards.
- **Supporting resources** – a description of the supporting resources, such as services, software, other electronically delivered learning materials, and print resources, that will be acquired to ensure successful and effective uses of technology.

An LEA that seeks funds as part of a consolidated local application needs to include “Descriptions, information, assurances, and other material that are absolutely necessary for the consideration of the local educational agency plan or application.” (ESEA Section 9305(d)) Once the Department makes the consolidated State application available, States may develop consolidated local application guidelines that are consistent with the consolidated State application requirements.

Applying for funds through a consolidated local application does *not* relieve an LEA of its obligation to have a local technology plan that meets all of the statutory requirements.

G–3. May an LEA that does not have a local technology plan seek a waiver of the local application requirements in order to receive funds to develop the plan?

Yes. LEAs may seek a waiver of the local application requirements in order to receive Ed Tech funds for planning purposes.