



STATE OF VERMONT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
120 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05620-2501

Title II, Part D: Enhancing Education Through Technology
COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM – 2008-09 SCHOOL YEAR

GENERAL INFORMATION

The purpose of the Title II, Part D (Enhancing Education Through Technology) competitive grant program is to provide modest financial assistance to schools with high poverty and the greatest need for technology support and/or schools identified for improvement.

TIMELINE FOR TITLE IID GRANT APPLICATIONS	
Application Release	March 13, 2008
Submission Deadline (Received in VT DOE)	April 4, 2008 4:00PM
Award Announcements	April 30, 2008
Project Implementation	May 1, 2008 – Sept. 30, 2008

GRANT PROGRAM AREAS: SEE DETAILED DESCRIPTION ON PAGE 3:

EDUCATION DATA WAREHOUSE UTILIZATION GRANT:

- The focus of this grant is to promote data driven decision making by providing access and training to the Education Data Warehouse. This service is to be provided to school district staff across the state. Training should focus on cultivating meaningful data-driven decision making that impacts student learning and school district administration. One \$50,000 award will be made under this program.

Eligibility:

One grant award will be made to an eligible Vermont school district or supervisory union that partners (see “eligible local partnership” below) with another organization or group of organizations to accomplish the goals of this program.

For purposes of this competition, a “high-need local educational agency” is an LEA that:

- Includes one or more schools with the highest numbers or percentages in the state of children from low-income families *or*
- Serves one or more schools identified for improvement or corrective action under NCLB (§1116), *or*
- Has a substantial need for assistance in acquiring and using technology.

An “eligible local partnership” is a partnership that includes at least one high-need LEA *and* at least one of the following –

- An LEA that can demonstrate that teachers in its schools are effectively integrating technology and proven teaching practices into instruction, based on a review of relevant research, and that the integration results in improvement in classroom instruction and in helping students meet challenging academic standards.
- An institution of higher education that is in full compliance with the reporting requirements of section 207(f) of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, and that has not been identified by the State as low-performing under that act.
- A for-profit business or organization that develops, designs, manufactures, or produces technology products or services or has substantial expertise in the application of technology in instruction.
- A public or private nonprofit organization with demonstrated expertise in the application of educational technology in instruction.

REQUIREMENTS: For an LEA to receive funding under this program:

- All schools in the LEA *must* have a current “Educational Technology Plan” approved by the Department of Education through June 30, 2009.
- Must participate in the annual “Technology Indicators Data Collection” conducted by the Department of Education.
- Must certify that all “high-needs” schools in the LEA meet requirements under the Children’s Internet Protection Act.
- Must use a minimum of twenty-five percent (25%) of these funds for ongoing, sustained, intensive, high-quality professional development in integrating and using advanced technologies in instruction and in new learning environments to:
 - a. Access data & resources to develop programmatic improvements, curricula, or instructional materials
 - b. Let teachers use the Internet & other technology to communicate with parents, other teachers, principals, & administrators, and to retrieve internet-based learning resources
 - c. Lead to improvements in classroom instruction in the core academic subjects
- Private School Participation - LEAs or partnerships must engage private school officials with whom they consult for Title I purposes during the development and implementation of competitive Title II-D programs. Therefore, for the Education Technology competitive awards, the consultation should begin during the development of the local grant proposals and, preferably, as part of the LEA consolidated application process. Expenditures for educational services and other benefits for private school children, teachers, and other educational personnel must be proportionate, taking into account the number and educational needs of the children to be served, to the expenditures for participating public school children.

GRANT PROGRAM AREAS

NOTE: APPLICATIONS MUST FOLLOW THE FORMAT AND CONTENT REQUIREMENTS AS FOUND ON PAGE 4.

1. EDUCATION DATA WAREHOUSE UTILIZATION GRANT – GENERAL DESCRIPTION (MAX AWARD \$50,000)

- A. Purpose:** The purpose of this grant is to promote data-driven decision making by providing access and training to Vermont school districts through the Education Data Warehouse. The training will be provided to a subset* of school district staff who are in roles where data-driven decision making can have a positive impact on student learning and school district administration. Grantee should approach this proposal as a state-wide initiative.
- B. Requirements:** Applications must include the proposed groups that will be targeted for training and EDW access. The application must describe the methodology which will be used to target and sign up users for training and support. The application must describe the measures of success that will be tracked and reported. The application must describe the projected time that will be spent on proposed tasks. A detailed description of the type, quantity, focus, target audience for, and follow-up of the professional development offered under this program should be included. The application must strive to convince the reviewers that the applying district or supervisory union has the capacity to support this project and that the size and/or scope of the grant are appropriate. An outline of the grant evaluation plan that is aligned to the project goals must be included in the application. Finally, an itemized budget must be included (see Budget Page).
- C. Use of Funds:** Grant funds must be used solely to provide training and support of the designated subset of new users in EDW. .
- D. Grant Amount:** The maximum amount of funds for which a district or supervisory union may apply is limited to \$50,000.
- E. Timeline:** Award in April 2008, funds available May 1, 2008, and grant expiration Sept. 30, 2008.

* “subset” refers to specific role groups. (Example: Business managers, curriculum coordinators, etc.)

Please see the “Format and Contents” section for information on how to structure the application starting on Page 4.

Questions or clarifications needed? Contact:

Peter Drescher
Vermont Department of Education
120 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05620-2501
Peter.Drescher@state.vt.us
(802) 828-5149

APPLICATION FORMAT & CONTENT

Provide a narrative of **NO MORE THAN FIVE (5) PAGES**, single-spaced, font sizes 10-12.

- 1. Program Description** (no more than 2 pages) – Describe what this partnership) will do with the funds if received. Use the descriptions on pages 1 and 3 for guidance. In addition to a clear description of the activities to be undertaken, also include: **(50 Points)**
 - **Goals** - Clear articulation of the measurable goals of this proposal.
 - **Scope of Work** – Specific, bulleted list of the work to be performed and the products or outcomes of the project clearly articulated. Since the focus of this grant is professional development, be sure to include the number and/or percent of teachers/staff expected to participate this year, if there is a specific target population for the professional development, and what you expect the target audience to do once they are trained.
 - How this proposal supports attainment of Vermont’s Framework standards or Grade Expectations
- 2. Capacity for Success** (no more than 1 page) - Describe why this is the right kind and size of project for your partnership, and what structures, policies, and/or procedures are in place or planned that support this proposal. Include such items as: **(20 Points)**
 - Who (describe roles, not individual names please) will be responsible for conducting the work
 - What structures, resources, policies, and procedures are already in place or proposed that will support this project and/or enhance its sustainability
 - Evidence that this plan is realistic and that the partnership or organization has the capacity to achieve its objectives
- 3. Evaluation** (no more than 1 page) - Describe the process you will follow to evaluate this grant. Include such items as: **(20 Points)**
 - The critical questions you want to answer about the impact of your project
 - Who you will involve or work with (within your organization or outside) in order to complete the evaluation
 - Who within the state needs to learn about your evaluation findings and what difference the knowledge might make
 - How you will plan for and collect relevant data.
 - How you will make sense of your findings and use those finding to make improvements.
- 4. Budget Narrative (no more than 1 page.): You must also complete the ****SEPARATE BUDGET PAGE****.** The budget narrative should demonstrate a logical connection to the goals described (above), and should be specific enough to give reviewers an idea of your priorities and focus for funding. The budget does not need to identify brand names of

equipment or include “to the penny” prices. The narrative should include: **(10 Points)**

- Justification for the major expenditures proposed, especially salaries
 - Explanation of any items on the budget sheet that might not be completely clear to a reader.
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SUBMISSION PROCESS

All proposals must include an Original plus TWO (2) copies (Faxed or e-mailed applications will NOT be accepted) with:

- Proposal Cover Page with superintendent’s signature
- Narrative not to exceed FIVE (5) pages (see instructions above)

Application Deadline: Original plus two (2) copies of proposals must be received by the Vermont Department of Education no later than **4:00 p.m. on April 4, 2008**. Mail to:

Title II, Part D Technology Grants - c/o Peter Drescher
Vermont State Department of Education
120 State Street
Montpelier, Vermont 05620-2501

Selection Process: All proposals will be read and reviewed by an independent review panel. This panel will rate the quality of the proposal (See Scoring Guide below) and the capacity of the applicant to successfully implement what has been proposed. Proposals will be scored in each of the five areas described above.

Scoring Rubric: Enhancing Education Through Technology

Criteria	Poor	Average	Excellent
<p>Program Description – Describe what this partnership or organization (or LEA) will do with the funds if received. In addition to a clear description of the activities to be undertaken, points will be assigned for: (50 Points)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Are goals clearly articulated?</i> • <i>Is the Scope of Work specific? Products/outcomes identified?</i> • <i>Is “Focus Area” identified?</i> • <i>Does program support Vermont’s standards or GEs?</i> • <i>Are needs & process for identifying them clearly identified?</i> 	0 – 17	18 – 35	36 – 50
Program Description – Total Score (MAX is 50):			
<p>Capacity for Success - Describe why this is the right kind and size of plan for your partnership or organization, and what structures, policies, and/or procedures are in place that support this plan. (20 Points)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Have the parties responsible for conducting the work been identified?</i> • <i>Are structures, resources, policies, and procedures in place or proposed?</i> • <i>Is the plan realistic? Does capacity exist to achieve objectives?</i> 	0 – 6	7 – 13	14 – 20
Capacity for Success – Total Score (MAX is 20):			
<p>Evaluation - Describe the process you will follow to determine if the goals described in #1 are achieved. (20 Points)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Are the primary focus areas and specific measurements identified?</i> • <i>Are the participants and their roles identified?</i> • <i>Will the evaluation plan reflect student performance gains?</i> • <i>How you will report your findings to stakeholders in your community</i> 	0 – 6	7 – 13	14 – 20
Evaluation – Total Score (MAX is 20):			

<p>Budget Narrative and Page – The budget should demonstrate a logical connection to the goals described (above), and should be specific enough to give reviewers an idea of your priorities and focus for funding. The budget does not need to identify brand names of equipment or include “to the penny” prices. (10 Points)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Is justification for major expenditures (especially salaries) reasonable?</i> • <i>Explanation of items that won't be immediately obvious to someone reading your proposal for the first time</i> 	0 – 3	4 – 7	8 – 10
Budget – Total Score (MAX is 10):			
<i>TOTAL SCORE</i> (MAX IS 100)	_____		

Budget Page

Grant Area

Data Systems

Budget (Describe as appropriate)	TOTAL
Professional Development	
Evaluation	
Salary & Wages	
Infrastructure	
Hardware	
Software	
Travel	
Consultants & Contracts	
Teacher Stipends	
Equipment	
Website development	
Other (equipment rental, printing)	
TOTAL	

- Please use Budget Narrative page to elaborate and/or describe further

Title II, Part D: Enhancing Education Through Technology Competitive Grant Program – 2008-09

PROPOSAL COVER PAGE (Use for both Grant types)

School District or SU			
Contact Person			
Phone			
Fax			
E-mail			
Grant Program Area	Data Systems Grant €		
List all schools for which this proposal applies	<u>Schools</u>	<u>Grade Spans</u>	<u>Enrollment</u> (To be completed by VT DOE)
Total Funds Requested			
CIPA Certification	Superintendent has certified CIPA compliance (Check one or more): <input type="checkbox"/> on school technology plans <input type="checkbox"/> on last E-Rate application <input type="checkbox"/> on 2004 Consolidated E-Application		
Superintendent's Signature			
Date			