

eTech Ohio Update April 2009

APPROACHING DEADLINES:

April 2009	District Professional Development (PD) Grants – FY09 Online Final Reports Available
April 2009	E-Rate form 486 deadlines: Wave 31–4/9/09, Wave 32–4/17/09
April 30, 2009	Recommended submission of technology plan draft for districts with plans expiring June 30, 2009
June 12, 2009	PD Grants – Expenditure deadline for FY09 PD funds
June 19, 2009	PD Grants – Online reporting deadline for Final Reports
June 30, 2009	PD Grants – Signed (paper) Final Expenditure Report (FER) to eTech Ohio

Technology Plan – Expires June 30, 2009

If you are one of the many districts whose Technology Plan expires on **June 30, 2009**, please submit your Tech Plan by **April 30, 2009** for review by your eTech Ohio educational technology consultant (ETC). eTech Ohio advises districts to work closely with your ETC as your tech team is developing your plan. Go to www.etech.ohio.gov/go/etc/ to locate the ETC assigned to your organization. Remember, regardless of when your district's technology plan expires, it should be updated as needed to reflect new buildings, infrastructure projects, telecommunications upgrades, etc. To locate your technology plan on our new website, use the following link, www.etech.ohio.gov/technology-planning/index.dot, click on the "Access my Technology Plan(s)" link and follow the directions.

Hall Pass – If Your Account is Disabled

Hall Pass accounts are disabled after two years of inactivity. If your account has been disabled, contact customerservice@etech.ohio.gov. If you've forgotten your password, click on "Log in" then on the "Forgot your Password?" link and you'll be sent a temporary password immediately. Hall Pass is needed to access online resources such as the Technology Planning Tool, certificates of participation for the Educational Technology Conference and other continuing education offered by eTech Ohio. Please make sure your Hall Pass profile is up-to-date. You'll find the login link at the top of our website.

District Professional Development Grant Reporting

Reporting to finalize districts' FY09 Professional Development Grant cycle is scheduled to be made available online on **April 7, 2009**. Online components of the PD reporting are due **June 19, 2009**. Signed FERs (final expenditure reports) are due at eTech Ohio by **June 30, 2009**. Please be sure you've expended (cut a check) any remaining PD grant funds by **June 12, 2009**. Unexpended funds over \$100 are required to be returned, so be sure to contact your ETC if you have questions about eligible options for utilizing these funds before June 12.

What Ohio on iTunes U Can Do for Your Teachers and Students

We plan to regularly highlight content from *Ohio on iTunes U* providing ideas on how teachers may want to integrate this content into their instruction. This month, foreign language teachers may find "Conversations in Russian" from The Five Colleges of Ohio useful in exposing students to authentic speech. There are also "Conversations in..." Spanish, Chinese, Arabic, French, German and Swahili on the site. You will find these tracks in the World Languages Subject Area of Ohio on iTunes U.

Ohio on iTunes U – News

Content Update - Since its launch in February 2009, there have been over 168,000 downloads at *Ohio on iTunes U* from 27 content providers who have supplied over 1,500 resources. Look for highlighted tracks at the bottom of each eTech Ohio Update in the coming months.

Site Navigation - To access *Ohio on iTunes U*, go to the iTunes store, select *iTunes U* and scroll down to the *Educational Provider* container on the left-hand side of the page and click *Beyond Campus*. This will open an alphabetic search where you will find *Ohio*. Creating links directly to content on *Ohio on iTunes U* is easy; simply right click on an icon to copy the URL. Ask your ETC for more details.

Become a Content Provider - It's easy! If you are interested in highlighting best technology practices and your district would like to join the current content providers, please contact your ETC and visit www.etech.ohio.gov/go/OhioiTunesU for further information.

Enhancement from Apple for iTunes U Gives You Greater Control - Apple iTunes version 8.1 was released recently and it has a new parental control feature. This control allows network administrators (as well as parents) to “turn off” access to the iTunes Store and only gives access to iTunes U. This is available for schools who want to allow access to iTunes U. Under Parental Controls, when a user disables access to the iTunes Store, there is now a new UI element that lets the user still allow access to iTunes U.

The Ohio School Facilities Collaboration Project

The Ohio School Facilities Collaboration (OSFC) Project would like to assist your district with vital technology decisions throughout their school facility process. The project is looking for districts that need assistance with technology assessment, technology planning, E-Rate alignment with their construction project, and other considerations relevant to preparing technology spaces. eTech Ohio will facilitate a consultation meeting with district personnel and stakeholders such as educational service centers, educational technology centers, and information technology centers. Further information is available at <http://www.etech.ohio.gov/ohio-school-facilities-collaboration-project/index.dot>. If your district leadership is interested in taking advantage of this *free* service, contact your eTech Ohio educational technology consultant for assistance.

eTech Ohio Connections

Please visit <http://www.etech.ohio.gov/about-us/news-and-events.dot> to access eTech Ohio's latest newsletter. *Connections* features up-to-date information about eTech Ohio's programs, products and services, as well as unique articles about our affiliates and partners.

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