

21st Century Learning: Transforming Teaching and Learning with the 21st Century Learning Environments Technology Program

Professional Development: *Training That Changes Practice and Instruction*

The 21st century classroom not only has modern tools, equipment and content but it includes a teacher trained to use the tools effectively with innovative teaching approaches that integrates the interactivity and engaging content technology brings to curriculum. Ongoing professional development supports the life-long growth of a teacher and helps maximize the potential of each teacher and ultimately each student. Ongoing professional development should not only train teachers how to use technology but also how to integrate technology into the curriculum. Teachers can engage in sustained and job embedded professional development through access to online courses, professional learning communities, and education portals with resources.

Student Learning: *Learning that is engaging and relevant*

The vision for the transformed school is one in which students are engaged in authentic and relevant work using the appropriate tools that enable them to accomplish the work. They are creating, discussing and learning. Students are accessing the web, researching, and addressing real problems and working towards solutions by collaborating with others experiencing similar problems. They are utilizing technology tools to access and analyze information, contact experts, collaborate in spite of physical boundaries, create presentations to inform real audiences. The work is interesting and meaningful and it involves the learning of content in the context of themes like global awareness, economic, financial and civic literacy. Through their work, students are developing a deeper understanding of the content while they are acquiring communication skills, critical thinking skills, information and media literacies and technology skills. These students are preparing to live and work in the 21st century.

21st Century Learning Environments Technology Program (ARRA Title II-D Competitive Grant)

This grant focuses on Professional Development and Student Learning. It will assist schools that are ready and willing to embrace a change that is required in today's classroom. Through sustained, collaborative, job-embedded professional development and the use of research-based methods, teachers will experience new models and strategies for teaching and learning. Teachers will become facilitators and co-learners and create technology-enabled learning environments in which students will meet or exceed the state academic content standards and develop 21st century skills.

Introduction

Program Overview/Background

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) (Public Law 111-5) provides \$10 billion nationally in new funding for programs under Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). The ARRA will provide states \$650 million for Education Technology State grants, which fall under the statutes of the Title II-D Enhancing Education Through Technology Program. Ohio is to receive approximately \$23.9 million under the ARRA Title II-D grant.

ARRA Title II-D funding will be allocated to two grants – formula and competitive. In Ohio, approximately \$11.4 million will be awarded through formula grants to local school districts (LEAs) based upon their percentages of Title I students they serve. The balance of approximately \$11.4 million will be awarded through a competitive application process to eligible Ohio LEAs. Ohio anticipates releasing awarded funds to the selected projects in September 2009. These funds will be used to provide assistance to LEAs and schools that have high concentrations of students from families that live in poverty in order to help improve teaching and learning for students most at risk of failing to meet State standards.

Under this program, the Ohio Department of Education (ODE), in consultation with the eTech Ohio Commission, will award federally funded grants to school districts/buildings that meet certain eligibility criteria identified in this document.

NOTE: Funding is not guaranteed. This Request for Proposal, which will focus on the competitive side of the ARRA Title II-D grant, is contingent upon receipt of the ARRA Title II-D Grant from the US DOE.

ARRA Title II-D Competitive Grant

The ARRA Title II-D Competitive Grant will involve two (2) phases. In the first phase, the team from awarded buildings will participate in intensive, high quality, focused, sustainable professional development. During this phase of the grant the team will learn about 21st Century teaching techniques and tools, which will prepare them to determine criteria for Phase Two. At the conclusion of Phase One, the team will develop action plans for further implementation of the grant. Phase Two will involve additional professional development and the implementation of the new technology-enabled strategies with guidance from the technology integration coaches. This phase will go through the 2010-2011 school year.

Project Goals

President Obama has consistently highlighted in his economic recovery proposal the urgent need to create 21st Century technology rich classrooms for America's students to boost the U.S. economy in the short term and prepare students for the global knowledge economy. This competitive grant will provide funding to assist eligible Ohio school buildings in helping students meet or exceed the state academic content standards and develop 21st century skills. This project should assist students in developing the following skills in a technology-rich learning environment:

- Collaboration and Communication skills,
- Flexibility and adaptability,
- Accountability and the ability to be self-directed,
- Problem solving and critical thinking skills,
- Creativity and innovation, and
- Media and information literacy and technology skills.

introduction (cont.)

To assist in the development of these skills, this project should demonstrate:

- 21st century skills as an integral part of the curriculum, instruction and assessment;
- A means of providing teachers and building-level administrators with professional development in the use of technology-rich learning environments consistent with 21st century learning; and
- A method of collecting and analyzing data to determine the effectiveness of the project.

Project Focus

This project will focus efforts in the areas of mathematics, science, English/language arts, and/or social studies. Amended House Bill 2 Section 315.20 outlines the state program goals supported by this grant:

1. To facilitate innovative teaching and learning strategies that help accelerate achievement in core academic subject areas;
2. To help students develop 21st century skills including critical thinking and problem solving, communication and collaboration, media literacy, leadership and productivity, adaptability and accountability;
3. To demonstrate ways for schools to invest in learning environments that improve academic effectiveness and efficiencies, including ways for schools to use a portion of their base funding to invest in appropriate digital environments that enable proven practices;
4. To demonstrate ways that mobile technology can extend learning time, improve academic engagement, and accelerate achievement for low-performing students;
5. To demonstrate ways in which technology can enable innovative teaching formats, including project-based learning, interdisciplinary methods, relevance, and community service learning that lead to improved academic achievement;
6. To demonstrate how teachers and students can create and access multimedia content that is shared utilizing the "Ohio on iTunes U" website and other online distribution mechanisms.

The state's priorities for academic achievement are aligned with the overarching educational goals of the No Child Left Behind Legislation and support the purposes of the Federal Title II-D competitive grant program, which are:

1. To provide assistance to local education agencies for the implementation and support of a comprehensive system that effectively uses technology in schools to improve student academic achievement.
2. To encourage the establishment or expansion of programs, including programs involving public-private partnerships, designed to increase access to technology, particularly in schools served by high-need local education agencies.
3. To promote programs 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.

introduction (cont.)

4. 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.

5. To support the rigorous evaluation of projects supported with program funds, particularly regarding the impact of such projects on student academic achievement, and ensure that timely information on the results of such evaluations is widely accessible through electronic means.

6. To support local efforts using technology to promote parent and family involvement in education and communication among students, parents, teachers, principals, and administrators.

GRANT ELIGIBILITY

Eligible LEA

The following criteria were used to define eligibility requirements for this building level grant:

- A Local Education Agency (LEA) among those in Ohio with the highest numbers or percentages of children from families with incomes below poverty line per Title I allocations (as defined by the Office of Management and Budget and indicated in the U.S. Census)
- A LEA that has been identified as being in school improvement status
- A LEA that has a substantial need for assistance in acquiring and using technology. A substantial need for assistance in acquiring and using technology (high technology need LEAs) is determined by examining data reported in the FY08-09 Biennial Educational Technology Assessment (BETA) school building level survey and focusing on the following criteria:
 - Student to computer ratio
 - Teachers' levels of technology skills
 - Local infrastructure
- School buildings eligible to apply are those serving students in any of the grades 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 or 12.
- Current state-approved District Technology Plan
- Completion of FY08-09 BETA school building level survey

NOTE: Priority will be given to those buildings that have not already participated in the Ohio Enhancing Education Through Technology (Title II-D competitive) grant.

A list of eligible buildings may be found at the 21st Century Learning Environments Technology Program (ARRA Title II-D Competitive Grant) website, <http://www.etech.ohio.gov/go/arra>.

introduction (cont.)

Project Timeline

The grant award program period will be from the date the grant is issued (September 2009) to September 2011 when the FER is due.

April 28, 2009	Request for Proposals (RFP) Release
May 12	Technical Assistance/ Q & A, Call 1-866-551-1530
May 15	Participant PIN number 1969927#, Time: 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.
May 15	Letter of Intent & Contact Info, Appendix A, received by eTech Ohio, 5 p.m. (EST)
May 15	Submit Statement of Interest on Recovery.Ohio.gov website by 5 p.m. (EST)
May 28	Technical Assistance/ Q & A, Call 1-866-551-1530
June 3	Participant PIN number 1969927#, Time: 3:30 p.m.
June 2-18	Technical Assistance/ Q & A, Call 1-866-551-1530
June 12	Participant PIN number 1969927#, Time: 3:30 p.m.
June 12	Register Grant Reviewers (* See note below)
June 12	Federal Assurances Form, Appendix B, received by eTech Ohio, 5 p.m. (EST)
June 12	Letter of Commitment and Support Signatures, Appendix C, received by eTech Ohio, 5 p.m. (EST)
June 12	Proposal Submission Deadline 5 p.m. (EST) via CCIP application at https://ccip.ode.state.oh.us/ccip (designated users only)
July 7-9	Grant Reviewer Training (Columbus)
July 7-9	Grant Review (Columbus)
On or about August 3	Award Announcement
August TBD	Signed Agreements returned to eTech Ohio
August TBD	Grant Award Orientation Meeting
September 2009	Phase One Disbursement of Funds
Sept, 2009-June 2010	Intensive Professional Development on innovative strategies and learning environments

Phase Two

Feb 1-3, 2010	State Educational Technology Conference (Columbus)
March 15, 2010	Action Plans due
Feb/April	Final Disbursement of Funds (after review/approval of Action Plans)
July 2010-June 2011	Ongoing Professional Development
Jan 31-Feb 2, 2011	State Educational Technology Conference (Columbus)
Sept 30, 2011	Deadline for funds to be expended
Sept 30, 2011	Financial Expenditure Reports (FER) due

Please note that there will be additional events and activities in which recipients will be required to participate. Some of these will include, but are not limited to: professional development offerings; eTech Ohio/ODE targeted assistance/professional development; participation in 2010 and 2011 State Educational Technology Conferences, external evaluation onsite visits and data collection request; and other necessary project components.

***Note:** All applicants are required to submit the names and email addresses of two (2) reviewers (a primary reviewer and an alternate) from the eligible building applying for ARRA Title II-D competitive grant funds. One reviewer from each building that applies for funding will participate in the reviewers training scheduled in Columbus on **July 7 or 8, 2009** and will read/score submitted applications on **July 8 or 9, 2009**.

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

Funding Overview

Ohio is projecting awarding approximately \$11.4 million in ARRA Title II-D competitive grant funds to selected eligible Ohio LEAs.

Funding Formula

The full amount of each building level grant will be \$246,793.47. The funds will be disbursed in two phases.

Please note: The actual number of grants awarded will not be known until the application scoring and awarding process is completed.

Local Use of Funds

Federal Requirements

- Supplement vs. Supplant
Under the Federal “supplement not supplant” requirement, Ohio school buildings may use Federal funds only to supplement and, to the extent practical, increase the level of funds that would, in the absence of the Federal funds, be made available from non-Federal sources for the education of participating students. In no case may a school building use Federal program funds to supplant — take the place of — funds from non-Federal sources.
- Professional Development
A recipient of America Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Title II-D competitive funds must use at least 25% of its competitive grant award to acquire and provide sustained, intensive, high-quality professional development.

State Requirements

In addition to the required use of funds articulated above, recipients of Ohio's ARRA Title II-D competitive grant shall participate in the development of 21st century learning environments beginning with intensive state-sponsored professional development. The professional development will focus on utilizing digital environments to enable new teaching methods, such as individualizing instruction, project-based learning and building professional learning communities. This professional development shall include training in the classroom.

The competitive grant funds disbursed to the school buildings in Phase One will be used to support a half-time technology integration coach in FY09-10 and the required professional development provided through the grant, additional professional development as deemed necessary by the grant participants and for release time, substitutes, stipends, expenses related to the professional development.

Each of the four participating teachers and the coach will purchase a laptop and an MP3 player if they do not already have one that meets the grant specifications. Projectors for the four (4) teachers' classrooms may be purchased if they do not already have one (See Appendix D). The remaining funds will be released when the action plans from Phase One have been approved.

funding requirements (cont.)

A budget for Phase Two will be developed along with the Action Plan for Phase Two early in 2010. Phase Two funds are to be used to support the half-time technology integration coach in the FY10-11, for continued professional development, release time, substitutes, stipends, expenses and the purchase or lease of technology hardware and software to enable 21st century learning and that meet the specifications developed jointly by the Department of Education and the eTech Ohio Commission.

As stated under federal requirements, recipients must use at least 25% of funds awarded to support professional development. In addition to costs for the state-sponsored and other professional development, the 25% could include costs for, but not limited to:

- Provide substitutes so teachers can leave the classroom for professional development and collaboration activities which would allow them to collectively create innovative lessons;
- Provide a half-time (.5 FTE 20 hours/week) technology integration coach to support the four participating teachers by modeling lessons, co-teaching and supporting the four teachers participating in the grant in the development of technology enabled learning opportunities;
- Attendance at the State of Ohio Educational Technology Conferences

Remaining Funds

The remaining funds are to be used to carry out other activities consistent with the goals of the ARRA Title II-D competitive grant project. These activities include other professional development opportunities for the purposes and goals aligned with the state's priorities and the LEA's technology plan.

Applicants must use funds to create and sustain a project that will through technology ultimately:

- Improve student academic achievement and 21st century skills of all students attending schools served by the LEA
- Improve the capacity of all teachers teaching in schools served by the LEA to integrate technology and 21st century learning into curricula and instruction.
- Funded projects must ensure that students and teachers in schools served by the LEA, particularly those students and teachers in schools with the greatest need, have access to technology. Funded projects must also increase communication with parents and promote parental involvement.

Expenditures that will not be allowed:

- Furniture
- Consumables (i.e. print cartridges, paper, etc.)
- Food and drink
- Payment to an out-of-district consultant of more than \$1,000 per day and no more than a total of \$10,000 per year for out-of-district consultants
- Included in this \$10,000 per year limit for out-of-district consultants will be funds grant recipients wish to spend to attend out-of-district conferences.

requirements (cont.)

Federal Assurances

Competing districts must articulate a strategy for participation on an equitable basis by private schools. The process of meeting this requirement for equitable participation of private school children begins with consultation between the building and appropriate private school officials. Specifically, consultation shall occur “during the design and development” of a building ARRA Title II-D project and prior to any building decision “that affects the opportunities” of private school children to participate in the program.

A complete explanation of this provision can be found in Appendix B. Applicants must submit the original signed form Appendix B to verify compliance with this federal provision. eTech Ohio must receive the Federal Assurances Form at the eTech Ohio Commission, Attn: ARRA Title II-D, 2323 W. Fifth Ave., Suite 100, Columbus, Ohio 43204, by 5:00 p.m. (EST), June 12, 2009.

By submitting an application for ARRA Title II-D competitive grant funds, all applicants also agree to the conditions detailed in the assurances document posted in the documents section of the Title II-D portion of the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) CCIP competitive grants funding applications. The assurances document is located at <https://ccip.ode.state.oh.us>.

School districts must have Children’s Internet Protection Act Compliance (<http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/consumerfacts/cipa.html>).

Program Requirements

A 21st century technology-rich classroom will yield significant academic gains that will be sustained beyond the end of the economic recovery package. Evidence clearly shows that states and districts that have implemented comprehensive, technology rich educational programs have made significant progress in teaching and learning. Thus schools and educators within those schools participating in the grant will be innovators and will need to be flexible and open to change. Applicants receiving awards will:

- Identify key project personnel to form the **21st century learning environment technology team** to include:
 - A team of four classroom teachers from grades 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 or 12 (from the areas of mathematics, science, English/language arts, and/or social studies). To facilitate systemic change, this group should represent some functional unit of the school’s faculty (for example: 9th grade multidisciplinary team or another example, the science department);
 - A half-time technology integration coach (.5 FTE or 20 hours/week) to support the four classroom teachers on the 21st century team by modeling lessons, co-teaching and to train teachers to use technology effectively and assist with curriculum development as it relates to educational technology. (Appendix E - Technology Integration Coach Qualifications); and
 - A building administrator.
- Provide leadership and support for the team. The superintendent, building principal, technology director/coordinator, and curriculum director/coordinator from the school must sign a letter of commitment and support, and collaborate with the 21st century team.
- Provide Internet access and technical support for the team and their classrooms. As students begin to use Web 2.0 tools, it may be necessary to address issues regarding filtering and policies around technology use;
- The school must cooperate with the Ohio Department of Education and eTech Ohio on research and evaluation by allowing on-site visits, etc.;

requirements (cont.)

- Multiple buildings from a district may apply for the grant, but it is imperative that the buildings make sure their goals are compatible and activities are coordinated across the district.
- The 21st century team of educators participating in the grant, including the four classroom teachers, a building administrator, and the technology integration coach, will:
 - Participate in the orientation;
 - Present at the 2010 and 2011 State of Ohio Educational Technology Conferences, February 1-3, 2010 and January 31-February 2, 2011;
 - Complete required reports and evaluations, including, but not limited to, pre and post assessments, reflection blog postings, surveys and collaboration with ODE and eTech Ohio on evaluation;
 - Participate in the required state-sponsored professional development; which will revolve around new teaching strategies, viewing the technology as tools for teachers to provide new and different learning opportunities and pathways for students to extend collaborative learning beyond the traditional classroom;
 - Grant awardees will participate in social networking (an online professional learning community) with the other grant awardees;
 - The professional development provided to recipients by the state throughout the project will address how individual teachers can leverage social networking + learning management applications;
 - The state-sponsored professional development will be delivered in a variety of formats such as virtually on-demand, online courses, face-to-face and blended training.

NOTE: These requirements may change depending upon federal guidelines.

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION

Grant Proposals Submitted via CCIP Application Proposals must be complete, with all narrative sections and forms in alignment, and consistent with the comprehensive program performance goals. Proposals that are not complete will not be reviewed and scored.

Specific Application Responses

1. Needs Assessment and Standards

- Identify an instructional need in one or more content areas that may be addressed by innovative 21st century strategies and technologies. Provide an explanation:
 - How did you identify this need?
 - How do you expect innovative 21st century strategies and the integration of technology to address this need?
- State the academic content standard(s) that will be addressed.
- Identify the grade levels and/or the specific courses to be involved.
- Define the need for assistance in acquiring, using and integrating technology.

2. Narrative

Read and review at least one article in each of the three categories provided in Appendix F or locate research of your own and utilize the research and resources to develop:

A brief overview of the applicant's initial hopes for the impact of this 21st century grant on teaching and learning including:

- Potential successes and challenges at the teacher and the student levels;
- Potential organizational changes;
- Anticipated changes in student learning; and
- A narrative which includes how your school might prepare for, implement and support these 21st century skills and the use of technology to support teaching and learning and student achievement.

If awarded the grant, teachers will apply new strategies, knowledge of integrating technology and 21st century skills, and develop action plans and a budget for Phase Two.

3. Integration into Continuous Improvement Plan

Applicants should address how the LEA's Comprehensive Continuous Improvement Plan (CCIP) supports their grant proposal. Describe joint planning that occurred as well as the level of commitment among all parties (district and building level). Include CIP alignment information as it relates to the overarching educational goals. It is critical that the applicant's educational goals are aligned with the project's educational needs. The project must also correlate closely to the local technology plan and reflect the state's priorities for academic achievement.

4. Partnership Commitment: Stakeholder Involvement/Collaboration

The eligible LEA may enter into an eligible local partnership to maximize the impact of the project. The applicant must identify who the major partners of this project are and describe each partner's level of commitment. See *Eligible Local Partnership and Fiscal Agency* (Appendix G) for more information.

Applicants must list any business or organization partners, providing a brief description of their roles and contributions to the success of the project. The list should include any partners that are instrumental in the delivery of professional development and/or related services.

Criteria for evaluation (cont.)

5. and 6. Goals and Strategies

Applicants must create goals and strategies for Phase One only. These goals will address professional development to enable teachers to transform their classrooms into 21st century technology-enabled learning environments and how you will share lessons learned within your school, your district, your community and throughout Ohio. Make sure these goals are aligned and linked to the appropriate CIP Goals.

7. Action Steps

Applicants must provide an explanation of the project's activities for Phase One which primarily involves professional development to enable teachers to transform their classrooms into 21st century technology-enabled learning environments, including:

- Steps to identify and support a .5 FTE technology integration coach who will assist the participating teachers by modeling lessons, co-teaching and training teachers to use the technology effectively, and to assist with curriculum development as it relates to educational technology;
- Actions to enable the 21st century team to participate in the state-sponsored professional development, identify and plan other needed professional development, plan and work together to implement the new strategies;
- Actions to share the knowledge and skills being learned with others in the building;
- Actions to share what is being learned through the grant with parents, the district, the community and other educators across the state.

8. Capacity and Commitment of School Building to Implement Grant

The school and principal will be expected to support the 21st century team which includes the four teachers, the coach and a building administrator. In Phase One, the teachers will need release time for the required professional development (including but not limited to two (2) full days prior to September 30), three additional days via face-to-face or videoconferencing and participation at the Ohio Educational Technology conferences and other meetings. A minimum of 50 hours will be required for online coursework. Additional time will be needed for other professional development and working and planning with the technology integration coach. Participation in learning communities will provide support and learning opportunities as well. To demonstrate the school's capacity and commitment, address the following:

- Provide a summary of the activities that the school conducted to ensure the acceptance of and commitment to the requirements and goals of this grant;
- Describe any similar grants or projects in which the school building has been involved. Include in your discussion the school's capacity to administer them and the success of the projects;
- Previous successes with implementation of school-wide changes such as implementing new curriculum or new teacher and student support systems;
- Provide information regarding other support available for the teachers such as dedicated personnel for staff development, release time for planning, common planning time, etc.;
- Explain the school's commitment to transforming teaching and learning to include a focus on :
 - Collaboration and Collaboration skills;
 - Communication skills;
 - Flexibility and adaptability;
 - Accountability and ability to be self-directed;
 - Problem solving and critical thinking skills;
 - Creativity and innovation, and;
 - Media and information literacy and technology skills.

criteria for evaluation (cont.)

9. Readiness of School Building to Participate

Provide evidence of your school's readiness to participate in this grant. Readiness may be determined by, but not limited to:

- Regular use of technology in instruction, communication and administration;
- How technology is currently being integrated with teaching and learning and any mentor programs (if applicable);
- Existence of student programs that support technology skills and technology utilization in teaching and learning (if offered);
- Other resources (such as partnerships) that support effective technology integration in learning environments (if available).

10. Teacher Capacity to Implement Grant

The grant will be awarded to schools that demonstrate a collaborative team of four (4) teachers who are able to influence learning outcomes for a set group of students and who will ultimately become mentors to other teachers in the building and leaders in a school professional learning community. To facilitate systemic change, this group should represent some functional unit of the school's faculty (for example: 9th grade interdisciplinary team or, another example, the science department).

- Identify the participating teachers, their title, classes taught and explain clearly how these 4 teachers meet the criteria above of a functional team;
- This grant is designed to support instruction by building the capacity of teachers to utilize technology and 21st century learning in the classroom. Please provide information regarding these teachers' education, their commitment and desire to participate, and any existing knowledge of the teachers comprising the team regarding:
 - Examples of how these teachers are currently utilizing technology in the classroom for teaching and learning (for example: use of a learning management system, ePortfolios, handheld devices, probeware, etc.);
 - Knowledge of and experience with 21st century skills development, project-based learning, social networking, Web 2.0 tools, etc.

11. Technology Integration Coach and Contact Person

- Identify the person who will serve as the technology integration coach. Provide information about this person including their current role, their educational background and why you believe they are qualified to serve as the technology integration coach **or** explain how you will locate a person for this role.
- Identify a contact person who will be responsible for all administrative and programmatic issues, including correspondence between the project and the Ohio Department of Education and eTech Ohio.

criteria for evaluation (cont.)

12. Budget

The itemized budget should identify costs of no more than the amount that the school is awarded for **Phase One** (Appendix H). For this phase of the grant, expenditures may be used for the state-sponsored professional development and other professional development, providing the half-time (.5 FTE 20 hrs/wk) technology integration coach, substitutes, release time, stipends for professional development (excluding any contractual school days), and travel. A laptop and a MP3 player must be purchased for the participating teachers and coach if they do not already have one that meets the specifications (Appendix D). Projectors may also be purchased for the 4 teachers' classrooms if they do not already have one.

NOTE: The Ohio Department of Education and eTech Ohio will not enter into negotiations as to final salary amounts for coaches - this is up to district policy to govern.

NOTE: A budget for Phase Two will be developed along with the Action Plan for Phase Two early in 2010.

Please note: The CCIP application tool has a 4,000 character per question/item limit. This translates to approximately one page of text-only information. Applicants are advised to be concise and direct when responding to the ARRA Title II-D competitive RFP application questions. While each item is given the 4,000 character, one-page limit, applicants are encouraged to submit focused responses to ensure that the desired information is provided for their unique and individual building application. Duplicate applications will not be reviewed or scored.

REVIEW AND AWARD PROCESS

Review Process

Funding for the Ohio ARRA Title II-D competitive grant project is projected to be approximately \$11.4 million. While this investment is substantial, it is insufficient to fund all eligible schools; therefore, a competitive grant application process was developed to meet the requirements of this federal program. The application review process consists of the following steps:

1. Each complete proposal will be reviewed by at least three external peer reviewers.
2. Each proposal's score will be analyzed to eliminate reader bias and statistically adjusted in cases where scores are inconsistent.
3. Each proposal will be rank ordered according to overall adjusted score for proposal.

As stated, the funded projects will be chosen via a peer-review process. All applicants are required to submit the names and email addresses of two (2) reviewers (one committed and one alternate) from the eligible building applying for ARRA Title II-D competitive grant funds. One reviewer from each building that applies for funding will participate in the reviewers training scheduled in Columbus, Ohio for **July 7 or 8, 2009** and will read submitted applications **on July 8 or 9, 2009**. No reviewer will be allowed to judge a proposal submitted by his/her own institution or an institution in which the reviewer has a conflict of interest. Expenses incurred for the grant readings are the grant applicant's responsibility.

The Ohio Department of Education and the eTech Ohio Commission will consider the following when awarding ARRA Title II-D competitive grant funds:

- Distribution of awards that ensures diversity among grant recipients according to geographical regions, economic scale and school district size.
- Priority will be given to those buildings that have not already participated in the Ohio Enhancing Education Through Technology (Title II-D competitive) grant.

The ODE has developed a District Efficiency Rating (DER) intended to increase district efficiency and accuracy in meeting reporting requirements. The DER rating scale includes multiple indicators that are routine in nature and have reliable data collection sources. The indicators represent timely submission of data to ODE. These data are easily accessible and defensible.

Districts will have an independent rating based on the proportion of applicable indicators met. This rating will indicate district efficiency in timeliness and accuracy of reporting. The average of FY 09 and FY 10 DER scores will be used as a criterion in determining the CCIP competitive grant application awards.

The DER is a public document accessible in the CCIP Documents Library Accountability Section. Questions regarding the DER should be referred to the district consultant in the ODE Office of Federal Programs (614) 466-4161. Additional information can also be obtained at <https://ccip.ode.state.oh.us>.

The Ohio Department of Education and eTech Ohio may reject any grant application that is not in the required format, does not substantially address all the requirements of this Request for Proposal (RFP) or that the Ohio Department of Education believes is not in the state's interests to consider or to accept. In addition, the Ohio Department of Education may cancel this RFP, reject all the RFP submissions and/or seek to award the grants through a new RFP.

review/award (cont.)

During the evaluation process, the Ohio Department of Education and eTech Ohio may request clarifications from any Applicant under active consideration and may give any Applicant the opportunity to correct defects in its grant application if the Ohio Department of Education believes doing so does not result in an unfair advantage for the Applicant and it is in the Ohio Department of Education's interests to do so.

The Ohio Department of Education and eTech Ohio reserves the right to reject an awardee's continuation in the grant and to cancel further funding to the school based upon their failure to meet the requirements of Phase One and/or their Action Plans for Phase Two not meeting approval.

Award Notification

ARRA competitive grant award recipients will be contacted through the eTech Ohio announcement listserv, as well as the CCIP notification process. The award recipients must submit a signed performance agreement within 15 days of the grant recipient orientation in order to receive their funds. Failure to respond by this timeline will result in the forfeiture of the grant award. Awards will only be made to the extent of available funding. In no event shall any applicant be reimbursed for costs associated with the application's preparation.

Please note: Recipient building personnel must attend the grant recipient orientation to meet funding eligibility requirements. Funds will be processed for electronic payments via the Ohio Department of Education's CCIP Project Cash Requests System. Recipients will follow all guidelines as outlined by the Ohio Department of Education's CCIP process for submission of fiscal reports.

All ARRA Title II-D competitive grant recipients agree that awarded funds will only be utilized in the schools identified by this application. Budget revisions will be required if a change to the expenditures on any function line alters the total category amount in the consolidated budget by more than 20%. A budget revision request and justification with an authorized signature must be submitted to the Ohio Department of Education for approval.

ARRA Title II-D competitive funds must be obligated by the end of the Federal fiscal year succeeding the Federal fiscal year for which the funds were appropriated. The federal FY2010 competitive funds must be spent by September 30, 2011.

Reporting

From a state perspective, an external evaluation of the entire project will be conducted. Recipient districts will need to provide information to the evaluator in the form of surveys, interviews, and data. In addition, the Ohio Department of Education and eTech Ohio will target a sampling of funded projects and conduct both scheduled and sporadic on-site evaluations.

As required by the U.S. Department of Education, a yearly report of expenditures must be filed by the grant recipient. This will be an online report and is typically due in September. This report will request information on project goals, funding, and long-range goals. Detailed information will be provided to the recipients in filing this report.

NOTE: Reporting criteria may change dependent upon federal guidelines.

APPLICATION SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Application Deadlines

Letter of Intent and Information

All eligible buildings that plan to respond to this ARRA Title II-D competitive grant RFP must submit a Letter of Intent (Appendix A). The Letter of Intent must be received at the eTech Ohio Commission, Attn: ARRA Title II-D, 2323 W. Fifth Ave., Suite 100, Columbus, Ohio, 43204, by **5 p.m. (EST), on Friday, May 15, 2009**. Submit original documents with signatures only. Faxes or emails **will not** be accepted.

Statement of Interest Form

All eligible buildings that plan to respond to this ARRA Title II-D competitive grant RFP must submit a form on the Recovery.Ohio.Gov website (<http://recovery.ohio.gov/>) indicating your expression of interest to apply for federal stimulus funds. Applicants will provide complete responses to the questions by **5 p.m. (EST), on Friday, May 15, 2009**. (See Appendix J for how to answer specific questions.)

Application

Applicants will submit the ARRA Title II-D competitive application using the ODE's online CCIP tool (<https://ccip.ode.state.oh.us>). Login access is needed to enter the Funding Applications portion of the competitive grants section. Applicants will respond to the questions listed per the RFP guidelines for the ARRA Title II-D competitive grant and supply the appropriate and complete responses to the online CCIP application tool by **5 p.m. (EST), on Friday, June 12, 2009**.

Only complete applications will be reviewed and scored.

Please note: A SAFE account User ID and password are required to be an active user in the CCIP. To obtain a SAFE Account User ID and password, go to <http://education.ohio.gov>. Please click on the "SAFE Sign-in" link at top of the page and click the "I am a new SAFE user. Click Here" button to request a SAFE Account Login.

Assurances

eTech Ohio must receive the original Federal Assurances Form (Appendix B) at the eTech Ohio Commission, Attn: ARRA Title II-D, 2323 W. Fifth Ave., Suite 100, Columbus, Ohio 43204, by **5 p.m. (EST), June 12, 2009**. Original documents only. Faxes or emails **will not** be accepted.

Commitment and Support Signatures

eTech Ohio must receive the original Commitment and Support Signatures Form (Appendix C) at the eTech Ohio Commission, Attn: ARRA Title II-D, 2323 W. Fifth Ave., Suite 100, Columbus, Ohio 43204, by **5 p.m. (EST), June 12, 2009**. Submit original documents with signatures only. Faxes or emails **will not** be accepted.

Note: It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure timely receipt of the grant items and submission to the online CCIP application. NO EXCEPTIONS SHALL BE MADE FOR APPLICATIONS or MATERIALS RECEIVED AFTER THE STATED DEADLINES.

Please note: If your school requires board approval prior participation in the application or award funding process, it is the responsibility of the building submitting the application to secure such approval prior to submission of the application.

GRANT CHECKLIST

- All components of the ARRA Title II-D competitive Request for Proposals reviewed
- Budget generated
- School Building Level FY08-09 BETA completed
- Current eTech Ohio approved district technology plan
- Statement of Interest form submitted on the Recovery.Ohio.Gov website Deadline: May 15, 2009, 5 p.m. EST. (See Appendix J)
- Letter of Intent form, (original) received at the eTech Ohio (Appendix A) Deadline: May 15, 2009, 5 p.m. EST. Original documents only. Faxes or emails **will not** be accepted.
- Federal assurances form (original) received at the eTech Ohio (Appendix B) Deadline: June 12, 2009, 5 p.m. EST. Original documents only. Faxes or emails **will not** be accepted.
- Commitment and support form (original) received at the eTech Ohio (Appendix C) Deadline: June 12, 2009, 5:00 p.m. EST. Original documents only. Faxes or emails **will not** be accepted.
- RFP application/narrative addressed and submitted to CCIP tool by June 12, 2009, 5 p.m. EST.
- Register Grant Reviewer and Alternate Grant Reviewer by 5 p.m. EST, June 18, 2009.

PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION

Sandy Paxton - sandy.paxton@etech.ohio.gov
Education Technology Consultant
eTech Ohio Commission
2323 W. Fifth Ave Suite 100
Columbus, OH 43204
877.383.2406

Dan Badea - daniel.badea@ode.state.oh.us
EETT Administrator
Office of Curriculum & Instruction
Ohio Department of Education
25 South Front Street,
Mail Stop 509 Columbus, OH 43215
614.387.2189

Web Links

- eTech Ohio: <http://www.etech.ohio.gov>
- Ohio Department of Education: <https://ccip.ode.state.oh.us>
- United States Department of Education Recovery: <http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/leg/recovery/index.html>

APPENDIX A Letter of Intent

All eligible buildings that plan to respond to this ARRA Title II-D competitive grant RFP must complete a Letter of Intent indicating so. Deadline: May 15, 2009, 5:00 pm EST. Original documents only, faxes or emails will not be accepted.

Applying District and Building Site Information:

Applying Building Site Information:

District Name:

County Name:

Building Name:

Building IRN:

Building Principal Full Name:

Email Address:

Phone:

Signature:

District Superintendent Full Name:

Email Address:

Phone:

Signature:

Primary Grant Contact Full Name:

Email Address:

Phone:

Signature:

Grant Reviewer Information:

Primary Reviewer Full Name:

Email Address:

Phone:

Alternate Reviewer Full Name:

Email Address:

Phone:

Please identify the type of functional team that will be involved in the grant:

- Interdisciplinary
- Single discipline

Which content areas will be involved: check all that apply:

- Math
- Science
- Social Studies
- English/language Arts

The original Letter of Intent Form with signatures of must be received at eTech Ohio, Attn: ARRA Title II-D, 2323 W. Fifth Ave., Suite 100, Columbus, Ohio 43204, by **5 p.m. (EST), May 15, 2009. Faxes and/or emails will not be accepted.**

Eligible Buildings must also register the designated grant reviewer and alternate reviewer by **June 18, 2009 at 5 p.m. EST.** Go to <http://www.etech.ohio.gov/> to register. Additional information will be provided.

APPENDIX D
Specifications for Hardware for Phase One

Hardware:

Funds for Phase One of the grant will be used to purchase hardware with a mobile and flexible platform for each of the four participating teachers and the technology integration coach if they do not have equipment. Hardware specification, which introduce teachers to highly immersive instructional environments supporting 21st-Centry teaching and learning methods will be released upon awards.

APPENDIX E

Qualifications for a Technology Integration Coach

1. BA/BS in Education or Computer/Educational/Information Technology. Strong background in Technology Professional Development, Curriculum Design, standards-based instruction.
2. Three or more years of teaching experience.
3. Evidence of improving student achievement in their classroom.
4. Demonstrated deep knowledge of one or more instructional content areas.
5. Knowledge and use of a rich array of instructional practices/strategies.
6. Skills in collecting, analyzing and using data.
7. Interpersonal, problem solving and organizational skills required to effectively facilitate peer coaching and staff development.
8. Knowledge of equity issues in current education reform.
9. Knowledge of standards-based education system. Success in modeling effective use of current instructional technology.
10. Have experience as an innovative classroom teacher (or special area teacher) that successfully integrated the use of instructional technology to enhance student learning with demonstrable results.
11. Have experience in adult learning theory, coaching/mentoring scenarios, or at minimum, having led school level workshops.
12. Demonstrate awareness and/or use of multiple technologies.

Note: The person who is designated as the technology integration coach for this program will participate in professional development to help him/her gain some of these skills. However, the person should already possess many of these qualifications such as 1, 2, 4, 7, 10.

Desirable qualifications:

1. Ability to design and/or broker (individually or in collaboration with others) high quality training for teachers/school staff.
2. Current and past membership in instructional technology organizations, participation in technology conferences, experience as a presenter, and other professional involvement in the field of instructional technology are desirable.
3. Having a history of teacher-leadership, demonstrated through participation in school and district committees and initiatives.
4. Be recognized as a creative and effective teacher commanding the respect of peers within their school setting.
5. Experience in the support of teachers across various scenarios, including one-to-one, group training, online forums, classroom demonstration, etc.
6. Demonstrate knowledge of current research regarding communities of learners, instructional practices linked to student achievement, differentiated instruction, mentoring, coaching, and emergent technologies.
7. Demonstrate knowledge of the challenges faced by classroom teachers (time constraints, increased paperwork, classroom management issues, technology resources and support issues etc.) and have a propensity to plan with these challenges in mind, in order to counteract inherent challenges.

Qualifications modified from *Classrooms for the Future Program* with permission

APPENDIX F Resources

Read at least one article from each category as you address

21st Century Skills

Evalutech Technology Literacy and 21st Century Skills. 21st Century Skills and Information and Communication Technologies Literacies. [Retrieved April 21, 2009 from <http://www.evalutech.sreb.org/21stcentury/index.asp>]

Partnership for 21st Century Skills. The intellectual and policy foundations of the 21st century skills framework. [Retrieved April 21, 2009 from http://www.21stcenturyskills.org/route21/images/stories/epapers/skills_foundations_final.pdf]

Coaching

Annenberg Institute for School Reform. Instructional coaches: professional development strategies that improve instruction. [Retrieved April 21, 2009 from www.annenberginstitute.org/pdf/InstructionalCoaching.pdf]

Cornett, J. & Knight, J. (July 2008). Research on coaching. [Retrieved April 23, 2009 from www.annenberginstitute.org/pdf/InstructionalCoaching.pdf]

Rudnesky, F. (November, 2004). Bridging the technology proficiency gap through peer mentoring. Tech Learning. Available online: <http://techlearning.com/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=51200665>

Technology

CEO Forum School Technology and Readiness Report. (2001, June). Key building blocks for student achievement in the 21st century. Washington, DC. Available online: <http://www.ceoforum.org/downloads/report4.pdf>

Ringstaff, C. and Keeley, L. (2002). The learning return on our educational technology Investment: A Review of Findings from Research 2002. WestEd RTEC. Available online: http://www.WestEd.org/online_pubs/learning_return.pdf

The New Media Consortium. (2009). The horizon report: k-12 edition. Available online at: <http://wp.nmc.org/horizon-k12-2009/>

APPENDIX G Eligible Local Partnership and Fiscal Agency

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

1. A LEA that can demonstrate 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.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. A public or private nonprofit organization with demonstrated expertise in the application of educational technology in instruction.

The eligible local partnership may also include:

- Other local education agencies;
- Educational service agencies;
- Libraries; and/or
- Other educational entities appropriate to provide local programs.

Eligible buildings must submit a **unique** building level application and may be part of only one application. Duplicate applications will not be reviewed and scored. Partners, including non-eligible districts/buildings and other eligible local partnership entities, may, however, be part of more than one application.

If the applying school district/building will be using a partnership as part of their comprehensive program, the partnership must be referenced appropriately in the program narrative/application.

Please note: If an eligible local partnership is desired, the fiscal agent must be the LEA identified as the eligible applicant for ARRA Title II-D competitive grant funds.

APPENDIX H
Phase One – Sample Budget

Sample Budget for Phase One

Initial disbursement: \$101,700.00

Teacher equipment – laptops, MP3 player, projector	\$10,000
Technology integration coach equipment – laptop and MP3 player	\$2,500
State-sponsored PD for full grant (full team)	\$18,000
Additional PD for full grant (full team)	\$40,000
Technology integration coach's salary – .5 FTE (20 hrs/wk)	\$25,000
Teacher stipend	\$500
Travel expenses	\$3700
Teacher substitutes	\$2000
TOTAL	\$101,700.00

APPENDIX I
Professional Development

Professional Development is a critical factor in the success of the 21st Century Learning Environments Technology program. This grant incorporates state-sponsored training for all grant recipients, as well as required professional development to be provided at the local team level.

State-sponsored Professional Development

eTech Ohio and the Ohio Department of Education will arrange for required face-to-face trainings, online courses, and other virtual resources plus state mentors who will support recipients and facilitate an online professional learning community.

Local Team Professional Development

In Phase One of the grant, much of the professional development will come from the state level. However, during this time, it is important for the team to meet on a regular basis for meaningful discussions and planning. The technology integration coach will begin to work with the individual teachers to plan how to incorporate the new strategies into their teaching.

Following is a preliminary list of **a few** of the professional development activities for Phase One:

Activity	Who is involved	Length	Timeframe
State Face-to-face workshop	Team: 4 teachers, Tech Integration Coach, administrator	2 days	Early fall 2009
State coach training	Tech Integration Coach	3 days	Fall 2009
State online courses	Team	Various	Ongoing
State PD training	Team	1 day training 1 day presenting	eTech Conf Feb 1-3, 2010
State coach training	Tech Integration Coach	1 day training (in addition to team)	eTech Con, Feb 1-3
Local team training	Team	Teachers training with coach	Ongoing
State Training	Team	1 or 2 days	Spring 2010

APPENDIX J Statement of Interest Form

To submit your Statement of Interest form, go to <http://recovery.ohio.gov/>. Click on *Submit Your Proposal*. Read #2, *Program funds to be distributed by the State of Ohio*, and then click on *Submit a Project* in the right-hand column. Complete the form, noting specific responses for questions identified by the red arrows below.

Contact Information
The point person responsible for managing the project described below.

* Required fields


* Last name:

* First name:

* Email Address:
 I don't have email

* Phone:
Example: 614-123-4567

Title:

* Organization: 

* Street Address:



* City:

* State:

Project Information

* Required fields.

* Project name: Any convenient way to refer to your project.

* Federal Stimulus Program: Choose program that you think best fits your project. If you need help, [click here to view program summaries](#).
Education 
Education Technology 

* This request is for (select one):
 Additional funding for an existing program
 New funding

* Project County: If project spans more than one county, select the county from the drop box where the majority of the activity would be located.
Please select a county This project spans multiple counties

* Project Zip Code: If project spans more than one zip code, enter the zip code where the majority of activity would be located.

* Project Sponsor: The entity that will be legally responsible for the project. Please select a sponsor

* Project Sponsor: The entity that will be legally responsible for the project. Please select a sponsor

* Number of Ohio Jobs Created or Retained: This is an estimated figure, with currently available information. Final job figures will likely have to be justified in your final application.

* Timeframe to Start: Timeframe to begin utilization of funds from time of receipt.
31 to 90 days 

* Estimated Federal Stimulus Request: This is an estimated figure, with currently available information. Final request figures will likely have to be justified in your final application.
\$ 250,000 
Example: 1,234,567.89

* Estimated Total Project Cost: This is an estimated figure, with currently available information. Final total cost figures will likely have to be justified in your final application.
\$
Example: 1,234,567.89

* Brief Project Description and Expected Outcomes (preferably quantified). Example: 150 linear feet of new sewer line.
Note: 1,200 maximum characters.