

# Federal Funding Options



As your partner in education, Blackboard is dedicated to supporting your efforts to expand learning opportunities for students and teachers. Identifying and securing funding for your initiatives is often the first step toward realizing your goals. For your convenience, below you'll find details on funding options available under The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB) and the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA), which is known commonly as Stimulus Funding, to support the purchase of Blackboard® solutions. We have included deadlines for each program. For additional funding information, please visit <http://www.ed.gov/fund/> or speak to the federal programs director within your district.

## Title I, Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged

FY10 FUNDING MUST BE SPENT BY JUNE 30, 2011

STIMULUS FUNDING MUST BE OBLIGATED BY SEPTEMBER 30, 2011 AND SPENT BY DECEMBER 31, 2011

Title I funds must be used to improve teaching and learning for disadvantaged students. It is dedicated to turning around the lowest performing schools using new programs and technologies with a new emphasis on middle and high school programs. NCLB requires that districts use at least 5% of Title I, Part A funds for professional development and encourages districts to use technology to increase parental involvement. Blackboard technology helps districts meet Title I goals by providing:

- 1. An Affordable Learning Platform Designed to Increase Student Achievement**
  - + Increase access to quality education for all students by expanding course offerings and resources online
  - + Extend the school day with after-school, weekend and summer accessibility to instructional materials and resources
  - + Empower educators with tools to monitor and assess academic progress
  - + Provide personalized learning paths (acceleration and remediation) to ensure all students meet or exceed standards
  - + Offer flexible and personalized credit recovery options
- 2. Community Building Systems to Foster Parental Involvement**
  - + Empower parents to partner with the school community
  - + Provide parents with ongoing key insight into their student's academic progress
  - + Offer an easily accessible online parent portal to provide helpful resources and to address important questions and concerns
  - + Ensure parents can easily connect and communicate with teachers and administrators
- 3. Anywhere, Anytime Access to Professional Development and Teacher Support**
  - + Expand access to high-quality, ongoing, and flexible professional development
  - + Address teachers needs with just-in-time and flexible professional development
  - + Form professional learning communities to connect teachers around student data, curriculum, and resources

## Title IIA, Teacher Quality

FY10 FUNDING MUST BE SPENT BY JUNE 30, 2011

Title IIA funds must be used for teacher professional development, teacher recruitment, and teacher retention. Title IIA establishes the “highly qualified teacher” requirements. Blackboard solutions support Title II goals by helping districts to:

### 1. Train Highly Qualified Teachers:

- + Offer just-in-time and flexible professional development to improve teachers’ subject area knowledge and teaching skills
- + Encourage educator collaboration in professional learning communities
- + Provide cost-effective and easily accessible professional development, including strategies such as peer networks and distance learning
- + Ensure relevance with up-to-date content that can be centrally controlled
- + Employ tools to track teachers progress toward meeting licensure requirements and to measure the impact on student learning

### 2. Recruit Highly Qualified Teachers:

- + Implement a transcendent platform that aligns pre-service and in-service training between local universities and school districts
- + Offer a 21st century professional experience and give applicants access to district curriculum and expectations as well as opportunities to collaborate

### 3. Retain Highly Qualified Teachers:

- + Facilitate professional learning communities that empower teachers with opportunities to collaborate and share best practices
- + Provide flexible mentoring and coaching opportunities
- + Encourage teacher collaboration to work with and learn from their peers
- + Empower teachers to conveniently contribute to school and district planning

## Title IID, Enhancing Education Through Technology

FY10 FUNDING MUST BE SPENT BY JUNE 30, 2011

STIMULUS FUNDING MUST BE OBLIGATED BY SEPTEMBER 30, 2011 AND SPENT BY DECEMBER 31, 2011

Districts can use Title IID funds for any technology purpose that will improve student achievement and must reserve 25% for professional development. Title IID also requires student technological literacy by 8th grade. Blackboard technology helps districts meet Title IID goals by providing:

### 1. Integrated Learning Technology to Help Students Reach Academic Standards

- + Transform teaching/learning into an active learning environment
- + Encourage student collaboration within the classroom, across subject areas, and for extracurricular activities
- + Increase student engagement with interactive technologies
- + Promote parental involvement with an easy-to-access online parent portal
- + Ensure reliability and security with a managed hosted solution

### 2. Anywhere, Anytime Access to Flexible Professional Development

- + Encourage technology integration in the classroom with relevant, ongoing professional development opportunities
- + Develop online professional learning communities to support teacher collaboration around student data, performance, and instructional strategies

## E-Rate

Blackboard Managed Hosting is 71% eligible for E-Rate Funding. E-Rate provides discounts between 20% and 90% to public and private schools and public libraries for telecommunications service that include Internet access and internal connections.

### Going Mobile?

E-Rate is offering \$10 million for a number of grants in mobile learning pilot projects. Blackboard mobile solutions can extend an existing Blackboard implementation by making much of the core academic content available in an engaging and intuitive way on mobile devices.