

At Blackboard, our commitment to K-12 education begins with one mission: to close the gap between the way students live and the way they learn.

With over 10 years of experience working as a trusted partner with virtual, private and public schools and districts nationwide, Blackboard helps enable 21st century educational experiences that are engaging, individualized, connected and effective. For more information, please visit www.blackboard.com/k12/learn.

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 other federal programs to support the purchase of Blackboard® solutions. 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

Title I funds must be used to improve teaching and learning for disadvantaged students. 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 students academic progress
- + Offer an easily **accessible online parent portal** to find helpful resources and to address important questions and concerns
- + Ensure parents can easily **connect and communicate** with educational stakeholders

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

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

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

1. Integrated Learning Technology to Help Students Reach Academic Standards

- + Transform teaching/learning in into an **active learning** environment
- + Encourage **student collaboration** both 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

E-Rate provides discounts between 20% and 90% to public and private schools and public libraries for telecommunications services, Internet access and internal connections. **Blackboard Managed HostingSM is 71% eligible for E-Rate Funding.**