

## Frequently Asked Questions

- What if equipment is not installed on time?

**Answer:** Systems should work as actively as possible to ensure the equipment is installed and the technical staff should document everything.

- How fast will budgets be approved and what will the EXACT date be the money is available to use?

**Answer:** Everything will be done to expedite the approval as quickly as possible. The grant is very specific about how the money is to be spent and there isn't much room for budgeting items not listed in the grant so the approval should not take too long.

- What will the ETTC turnaround time be on the new sign-off sheet required to be included with the grant application?

**Answer:** The ETTCs will do everything possible to not hold-up the process. If the school systems work with the ETTCs all through the process, there should not be any problem...

- What if local infrastructure issues arise and therefore, the installed equipment doesn't meet the August 15, 2007 deadline?

**Answer:** Work with the ETTC ahead of time and document everything.

- What if principals cannot determine the exact teachers that will be part of the grant?

**Answer:** Write the grant application with the proposed teachers and if personnel changes occur, an amendment will need to be submitted.

- What if the tech person has already had the training because they were involved in the 2 previous Wireless Grants?

**Answer:** No one will have to repeat a class already taken, but technical staff will have to have the documentation/certification verifying the completion of the courses.

- In the Grant Guidelines, it says on p. 8 at the very bottom that "Applicants may add additional members to the leadership team, as necessary." If a district decides to do so, can they use grant funds to pay for those additional support personnel to attend any of the training offered, or only those 5 individuals that make up the core team can be paid for with grant funds?

**Answer:** On page 3 of the grant guidance, at the end of the section on "\$24,062.50 for Professional Learning" it states, "The remainder of the professional learning may be spent at the discretion of the LEA..." and this indicates that grant funds may be used to support more teachers in the PD sequence.

- Can grant funds be used to renew subscriptions to skill and drill software programs?

**Answer:** On page 9 of the grant guidance, under Section G, it states "How will classroom activities be motivating, rigorous and beneficial..." and in the third bullet it states "Align to research and best-practice models of inquiry-based, project-based, or engaged learning."

- Can systems have access to awarded grants from last year as they write theirs for this year to get ideas?

**Answer:** Last year's grant applications are not public domain.

- In place of the interactive boards, would it be allowable for schools to use a SMART Airliner or Promethean Slate to satisfy the Title IID grant requirements for interactive whiteboards?

**Answer:** The guidance says: "Interactive Whiteboard Device" If the two mentioned devices meet the minimum requirements, and students can manipulate the device to the fullest, then the school may apply for it.

- Is there a sample grant schools systems can look at for guidance?

**Answer:** No, there is no sample grant.

- How much money will systems have to give to the private schools that want to participate? What is the formula for determining what private schools receive?

**Answer:** School systems can invite private school participants to attend the PD with the school and work with them as part of a team. The granted school would pay for the first one or two private schools folks to attend the training, but that was the extent of their commitment. We encourage them to continue to work together, but there has never been any equipment sharing or purchasing of equipment for the private schools.

- Are districts expected to pick up any extra travel expenditures incurred over the two year period or can money from another area be allocated to support the travel fees?

**Answer:** If there are funds left over after the minimum requirements have been met in those areas, then yes, money can be used to support more PD.

- Can the laptops be hard wired into the classroom rather than focus on access points and carts?

**Answer:** The spirit of the grant is to be able to share resources in a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Environment. This would be hard to do if the laptops are hard-wired into the classrooms. The laptops/tablets need to encourage engaged, project-based 21<sup>st</sup> century learning.

- Can desktops be ordered instead of laptops?

**Answer:** No

- Will there be a carry over for the two years on funding?

**Answer:** Funds for year two need to be encumbered before the end of year one.

- Does the money for the 100 hours of support for the ETTC have to be paid up front as does the PD money?

**Answer:** Systems need to encumber the funds for the 100 hours of support the first year.

- Does the 100 hours of instruction span over the 2 year course of the grant?

**Answer:** Yes

- Can school systems see the scores and comments given to them by grant readers on last year's Wireless Grant?

**Answer:** The scores and comments are no longer available.

- If no private school matches the required grade level for the grant, do they still have to contact them?

**Answer:** The school district has to contact the private schools in the area and indicate that the portion of the grant that would be shared would be the professional development piece of the grant.

- Are the forms included in the 20 pages or can you have all 20 pages for the narrative?

**Answer:** The 20 pages are for the narrative. The required appendices do not count in that number.