

# Transforming Education through Technology Act

---

## Purposes

1. Utilize technology to improve student outcomes and skills of teachers and school leaders
2. Transform the way students learn and schools operate through technology
3. Build technology infrastructure, including hardware, wiring, connectivity, and devices

## TITLE I: DIGITAL LEARNING READINESS

### State Grants (10%)

- Grants to states awarded by formula
- States provide matching funds equal to 20% of grant
- States must—
  - provide technical assistance to school districts for improving technology readiness, teaching and school leadership, skills of principals and school leaders, curriculum and instruction, education of students with disabilities and English language learners
  - provide professional development and align pre-service teacher and principal preparation with digital learning standards

### Local Grants (90%)

- Grants to school districts awarded by formula
  - If appropriations fall under \$500 million, grants become competitive to districts
- Districts must use funds in 2 main ways—
  - Build technology infrastructure (at least 40% of grant funds)
    - purchasing hardware, wiring, equipment, or improving connectivity
    - address needs identified in technology readiness survey
  - Provide professional development (at least 35% of grant funds)
    - ensuring teachers can use technology across the curriculum, can use technology-based assessments, and can individualize instruction
    - ensuring school leaders can use technology to redesign curriculum, oversee assessments, and increase student engagement
    - MAY include technology coaches, master teachers, digital badges, gaming, or other innovative strategies to improve teaching
- Grantees may purchase products eligible for but not duplicative of E-Rate discounts

### Reporting

- States and districts must report every year to the Secretary, including—
  - description of technology purchased and how it was used, description of professional development, description of instruction, strategies, activities, curricula, and materials used, and description of type of programs funded

### Authorization

- \$500 million for FY2014, and such sums for following 4 years

## **TITLE II: TECHNOLOGY FOR TOMORROW FUND**

### **Grants**

- Grants awarded competitively to eligible partnerships, which include—
  - States or school districts AND non-profits, community-based organizations, businesses, or for-profits
  - 2 to 3-year grants with option to renew for 2 years
  - Partnerships submit application demonstrating capacity and commitment and how plans are based on strong or promising evidence
- Grant awards are spread evenly across geographic areas

### **Use of Funds**

Grantees must do at least 1 of the following—

- Use technology to individualize instruction through activities such as—
  - hybrid or blended learning, gaming or other self-directed learning, online platforms for credit recovery or accumulation, or assessment accommodations
- Use technology to improve teaching and school leadership such as—
  - on-demand professional development, online communities of practice, pre-service training in digital learning, or online administration of teacher evaluation systems
- Use of technology to improve student access to high-quality education such as—
  - assistive technology, intuitive games and interfaces, technology-based accommodations, or expanded learning opportunities, particularly for low-income students, students with disabilities, and English language learners
- Use of technology to improve educational efficiency and productivity such as—
  - extending the reach of effective teachers, open-source technologies, hybrid or blended learning, or 1:1 initiatives that reduce cost of instructional delivery

### **Other Requirements**

- Grantees must collect, report, and use data on student outcomes and other data to improve the effectiveness of their activities
- Grantees may NOT spend funds solely on hardware, materials, tools, or online learning

### **Performance Measurement and Evaluation**

- Secretary establishes indicators to measure grantee performance
- Grantees must show sufficient progress on indicators to receive an additional 2-year grant
- Secretary evaluates program at year 3 and 5 and disseminates best practice

### **Authorization**

\$250 million for FY2014, and such sums for the following 4 years