

ALTEC NEWSLETTER



TITLE II.D FUNDING UPDATE

The Enhancing Education through Technology (EETT), Title II.D program has been level funded for FY08. Because the funding did not increase from FY07, many states have decided to distribute funds via competitive grants.

Competitive grants are awarded for two years. Each year, priority is given to Year Two grants which are continuation grants and are non-competitive; the remaining funds are used to fund new Year One competitive grants. Final approval is contingent upon federal funding this fall.

Check with your state department of education to see exactly how funds will be distributed to your school district this year. Private schools that reside in a public school district scheduled to receive funding, will receive the same per pupil allocation as the public schools do in the same district.

As soon as your local state department of education receives the federal funding, allocations are calculated (usually in November of each year), all registered school administrators will be notified via email, invited to information sessions, and given the opportunity to begin spending their funds.

If this funding is important to you, continue to let your representatives know so that the funding level increases to it's original \$496 million in 2008. For more information about how to contact your representatives visit <http://www.house.gov/writerep/>

You can contact a member of Congress by letter, fax, e-mail, or phone. Fax is recommended over letters when contacting federal legislators to avoid delays caused by security. You can also e-mail your letter through the Web site provided above.

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TRAINING

LEARN COST-EFFECTIVE WAYS TO TRAIN YOUR ENTIRE STAFF

With school starting soon and Title II.A funds now available for professional development, many schools are planning their back-to-school professional development sessions. With a limited budget, keep in mind that you can flex other Title funds into your Title II.A account to use for professional development purposes. Up to 50 percent of Title IV funds can be flexed into Title II.A. Those schools that reside in districts that are receiving Title II.D funds this fall can add those funds to their professional development plans because Title II.D can be used to purchase technology and professional development.

Several schools operating on limited budgets have found creative ways to train all of their teachers to use new and existing technologies. One school, for instance, implemented a “whiteboard in every classroom” initiative. To prepare teachers, they decided to sign up for ALTEC’s Integration Intensive, which is a completely customized 5-day training complete with online follow-up. You decide the dates and type of training you want and an ALTEC trainer comes to your school to implement the program you have requested. Ten teachers at the aforementioned school were trained to use and effectively integrate whiteboard technologies into their classrooms. The administrator then chose one teacher from the group to provide training to the rest of the staff at other times throughout the year.

Another option schools have chosen is to share costs with other schools in the area to provide professional development. The schools can schedule a ALTEC custom training at one school and split the cost. They can then collaborate to have their teachers provide training to the other teachers at their school and use their remaining Title funds to pay stipends if training occurs after school hours.

A third option, which is very cost-effective to provide professional development, is through distance learning. ALTEC can provide distance learning via live video using the Internet. For a fraction of the cost of a face-to-face training, teachers have the benefit of interacting with an instructor live, which is

an excellent option if they don’t feel they are ready to take an online course.

Online courses are a fourth, cost-effective way to provide professional development. Teachers appreciate the convenience of being able to complete their course work at times that are most convenient to them. Even beginners to online classes feel that after the first two or three sessions they are able to navigate the online courses just fine, especially if they take the course with a colleague and collaborate on the first two or three sessions.

Listed below are the professional development sessions that ALTEC currently offers. Keep in mind that our staff has over 15 years of experience training teachers to integrate technology into the classroom in effective ways. With this in mind, if you don’t see your particular software or hardware listed below, please contact us to schedule a custom training. Our trainers have experience with a wide variety of hardware and software, and chances are we will be able to provide exactly the training that you need.

ONSITE WORKSHOPS

LoTi: Level of Technology Implementation
An LCD Projector in the Classroom
An Interactive Whiteboard in the Classroom
The Power of Video-based Learning
Math Illustrated: Using Geometer's Sketchpad
Advanced Microsoft Office
Creative Thinking Skills Using Handhelds
Strategic Technology Planning
Technology Integration Academy
Podcasting: Educational Applications
Custom Staff Inservice Days

ONLINE SESSIONS

Online Project-Based Learning
Online Inspiration, Kidspiration, Kid Pix
Online Interactive Whiteboard Intensive
Online Annenberg Math Resources
Online Microsoft Access

Visit <http://pd.altec.org> or call us at 785 864 0699 and we’ll be glad to help you find a workshop that’s right for you or customize a workshop for your teachers based on your specific needs.



Conference Calendar

Meet ALTEC staff at the following fall conferences!

Western Kansas Math Academy

Date: October 8, 2007

Location: Colby, KS – Colby High School

Registration: Now Open

Web site:

<http://www.swprsc.org/vnews/display.v/ART/4671535b32976>

MITC (MOREnet Conference)

Date: October 14-16, 2007

Location: Osage Beach, MO – Tan-Tar-A Resort

Registration: Now Open

Web site:

<http://www.more.net/conferences/mitc/index.html>

NSBA Technology + Learning Conference

Date: October 17-19, 2007

Location: Nashville, TN – Opryland

Registration: Now Open

Web site: <http://www.nsba.org/t+/>

KASB Convention

Kansas Association of School Boards

Date: November 30 – December 2, 2007

Location: Overland Park, KS – Overland Park Convention Center

Registration: Now Open

Web site: <http://www.kasb.org/conv.html>

NSDC Annual Conference

National Staff Development Council

Date: December 1-5, 2007

Location: Dallas, TX – Hilton Anatole

Registration: Now Open

Web site:

<http://www.nsd.org/connect/events.cfm>

ALTEC PROVIDES SERVICES TO SUPPORT YOUR EXISTING PROJECTS

If you have an existing or proposed project, ALTEC can develop and host your Web site, support your online community with discussion boards, set up your video conference, or custom-design a software application to meet your needs. Propose stronger projects and programs using ALTEC's over 15 years of expertise in educational technology, special needs, professional development, and evaluation. Please call us at 785 864 0699 to set up a free consultation. We're happy to assist you with all your technology needs.

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SEND COMMENTS, QUESTIONS AND FEATURE IDEAS TO:

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