



FOCUS ON

California Department of Education (CDE)

California Education Technology Initiatives



Resources for the integration of, and support for, education technology in California schools

For the past 25 years, State-supported education technology services have provided professional development, planning and implementation assistance to help schools utilize technology to support teaching and learning.

These services have been delivered through a variety of programs administered by the California Department of Education (CDE). To qualify to receive education technology federal or state funds, county offices of education, school districts, and direct-funded charter schools must have an approved technology plan in place.

Current education technology programs being administered by CDE include:



CALIFORNIA TECHNOLOGY ASSISTANCE PROJECT (CTAP)

CTAP is funded by the California Department of Education (CDE) to promote effective use of technology in teaching, learning, and overall school administration.

CTAP is a regional technical assistance program that provides coordination and services in education technology based upon local needs in each of the 11 regions in California. A list of the CTAP regions can be found at <http://www.ctap.k12.ca.us/regions/>.

Each CTAP region has developed, and is implementing, a plan to provide technical assistance in eight key areas:

- Staff development
- Electronic learning resources
- Hardware and telecommunications infrastructure
- Funding for technology
- Operating and maintaining education technology infrastructure, including improving pupil record keeping and tracking related to instruction
- Coordination with other federal, state, and local programs consistent with State Board of Education-adopted content standards
- Technical assistance and information to support access to the K-12 High Speed Network
- Technology planning and implementation assistance to rural and technologically underserved school districts and county offices of education

This year, CTAP and four Statewide Education Technology Services (SETS) projects are taking proactive measures to leverage existing resources to support school improvement efforts, beginning teacher support programs, and professional developed focused on using technology to support state-approved curriculum materials to increase student achievement.

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STATEWIDE EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

Four Statewide Education Technology Services (SETS) projects, under contract with the California Department of Education, provide a coordinated support system designed to meet specific regional and local technology needs and assist districts, schools and teachers with the effective integration of technology into instruction. The projects, each with their own area of focus and goals, are also charged with creating awareness of new and emerging technologies and resources that possess the potential to improve teaching and learning.

California Learning Resource Network (CLRN)

An online service for locating electronic and Internet-based learning resources aligned with State Content Standards, CLRN reviews Electronic Learning Resources (ELRs) and Electronic Learning Assessment Resources (ELARs) and technology applications that support data-driven decision making.



CLRN also provides a collection of free web sites called Web Information Links (WILs) that are accessible through a standards-based search function and are suitable for classroom use with students. CLRN is administered through the Stanislaus County Office of Education.

Technical Support for Education Technology in Schools (TechSETS)

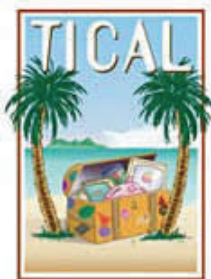
Also an online resource, TechSETS provides technical training, support and information to school technology staff.

Administered by the San Diego County Office of Education, TechSETS provides assistance in planning and installing technology infrastructures and works with vendors, field professionals, county offices of education and school district to provide resources and support for California school technology staff through an online interactive helpdesk.



The Technology Information Center for Administrative Leadership (TICAL)

TICAL is a dynamic portal for administrators offering information and resources through a database and matrix. The matrix centers around six educational technology components central to administrative leadership:



- Data-driven decision making
- Integration of technology into standards-based curriculum
- Technology planning
- Professional development needs of staff in technology
- Financial planning for technology
- Operations and maintenance

A cadre of practicing administrators contribute resources and disseminate information. Santa Cruz County Office of Education is the contractor for TICAL.

EdTechProfile (ETP)

Ed Tech Profile provides educational administrators with tools to guide their decisions regarding the integration of technology into classroom instruction and the creation and evaluation of effective teacher technology training programs.

Resources include access to online technology proficiency assessments and related reports of educator and student proficiency assessment data.

Contracted through the Stanislaus County Office of Education, ETP assists administrators to:

- Support the management of state and local funding efforts
- Improve teacher technology adoption and use
- Create district technology plans
- Measure district progress against plans
- Plan and evaluate staff development programs.



THE K-12 HIGH SPEED NETWORK

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The California K-12 High Speed Network (K12HSN) was established to increase learning opportunities for all K-12 students while expanding professional development and information resources to teachers and school administrators.



In collaboration with partners throughout the K-20 community, K12HSN has enabled connectivity from the California Research and Education Network (CalREN) to county offices of education, school district offices and schools in all of California's 58 counties.

The K12HSN is charged with providing critical services and functions for public elementary and secondary local educational agencies including, but not limited to, the following:

- Reliable and cost-effective Internet service
- Reliable and secure interconnectivity among K-12 entities in California, connection to higher education institutions of California, and connection to state and local agencies to facilitate efficient interaction, including transmission of data.
- Videoconferencing and related distance learning capabilities
- Statewide coordination of network uses to benefit teaching and learning.

ENHANCING EDUCATION THROUGH TECHNOLOGY (EETT)

Support for school technology from the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, Title II, Part D, is administered through the EETT program to be used in classrooms to improve student academic achievement. Funds are distributed through formula and competitive grants and are intended to assist eligible districts in utilizing technology to enhance teaching and to promote learning. Since the inception of the program through the 2006-2007 fiscal year, \$400 million dollars has benefited California schools.

EETT Competitive Grants (EETT-C)

The EETT-C grant program focuses on grades four through eight. Through a competitive grant process, local Education Agencies (LEAs) receive funds to implement the funded grant program. Many of the innovative projects have resulted in substantial academic achievement gains in math, language arts, science and social studies.

EETT Formula Grants (EETT-F)

EETT-F grants provide funding for grades kindergarten through twelve. Twenty-five percent of all EETT funds must be used for professional development and in the EETT-F grants, the remainder must be spent in accordance with the approved and tested technology plan.

THE EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY K-12 VOUCHER PROGRAM

The result of a settlement agreement between California consumers and a major software provider, vouchers available through the program are to be used to assist districts with implementing and supporting education technology that fosters effective teaching and promotes student achievement in eligible schools that serve students in grades kindergarten through twelfth grade.

The Education Technology K-12 Voucher Program varies from typical state or federal technology grant programs in three primary areas:

- Fifty percent (50%) of the total voucher award amount may only be used for products and/or services that meet the criteria for General Purpose Vouchers and the remaining fifty percent (50%) may only be used for products that meet the criteria for Specific Category Software Vouchers.
- All products and services must be purchased using existing funding. The Lead Education Agency (LEA) then submits the appropriate documentation to the Settlement Claims Administrator (SCA) for reimbursement
- All products and services must meet the conditions of the Settlement Agreement to be eligible for reimbursement.

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E-RATE and CALIFORNIA TELECONNECT FUND (CTF)

E-rate and the California Teleconnect Fund (CTF) are programs that provide discounts on telecommunication costs to eligible schools.

E-rate is a Federal Communications Commission program administered by the Schools and Libraries Division (SLD) of the Universal Service Administrative Company (Outside Source) that provides eligible kindergarten through grade twelve public schools and libraries 20 percent to 90 percent discounts on approved telecommunications, Internet access, and internal connections costs. E-rate discounts are based on the number of students eligible for the National School Lunch Program. Schools and libraries in low-income urban communities and rural areas qualify for higher discounts.

While the E-rate program includes discounts for a wider range of telecommunications services, CTF (Outside Source) offers discounts for measured business service as well as high bandwidth data lines. Applications for CTF discounts are submitted to the telecommunications carrier, who will submit the completed eligible application to the California Public Utilities Commission Telecommunication Division. When CTF discounts are approved, the telecommunications carrier will discount the telecommunications to the school.

CUE STUDENT TECHNOLOGY SHOWCASE SPONSOR

As a joint effort of CDE, CTAP and CUE, the Student Technology Showcase, now held at the Computer-Using Educators (CUE) conference in March of each year, serves to inform parents, teachers, administrators, legislators and higher education representatives about curriculum-based student technology projects being undertaken in Kindergarten through grade 12.



Highlighting the exemplary work of students in the areas of Web, video, multimedia, graphic art, sensor/probe data and analysis, animation, and database development has been the goal of CDE since it began the Student Technology Showcase in 2001. The CTAP regional offices coordinate the submission of applications from students and teachers and ensure that each includes the California content standards that are advanced in the project.

2007 CALIFORNIA SCHOOL TECHNOLOGY SURVEY

The California School Technology Survey (CSTS) is an evolving resource developed by CDE to gather data about how California's schools access and use technology. CSTS consists of three sets of survey questions: the district survey, the school survey and the direct-funded charter school survey. Survey questions are designed to gather data about the number of computers used for instructional purposes in schools, the ratio of students per computer, accessibility of internet, bandwidth, and connectivity, professional development related to technology and the ways in which technology and technology-related resources are utilized in schools and districts.

Required for several education technology funded programs, this data collection measures the progress of technology integration in classrooms and is used by the CDE to determine grant eligibility.

WEB SITES

California Department of
Education
Education Technology
Office
<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/et>
et.
916-323-5715

CTAP
California Technology
Assistance Project
<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/et/rs/ctap.asp>

SETS
Statewide Education
Technology Services
<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/et/rs/sets.asp>

EETT
Enhancing Education
Through Technology
<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/et/ft/eett.asp>

K-12 HIGH SPEED
NETWORK
<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/et/st/highspeednetwork.asp>

EDUCATION
TECHNOLOGY K-12
VOUCHER PROGRAM
<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/et/st/etv.asp>

E-RATE & CTF
E-Rate & California
Teleconnect Fund
<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/et/ft/eratemain.asp>

2007 CALIFORNIA
SCHOOL TECHNOLOGY
SURVEY
<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/et/rs/techsurvey.asp>

CUE
<http://www.cue.org/>

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