



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
Shepard Building  
255 Westminster Street  
Providence, Rhode Island 02903-3400

Peter McWalters  
Commissioner

February 3, 2009

**To:** Superintendents  
Principals of Public and Private K-12 Schools

**From:** Mary Ann Snider, Director of Instruction and Assessment

**Subject: Request for Proposals for Enhancing Education Through Technology Grants**

The RI Department of Education is offering grants to be funded, in part, under the U.S. Department of Education's Title II, Part D of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA): **Enhancing Education Through Technology (E2T2)**.

Funding in technology in the current program year will focus resources and apply innovative approaches to assist Middle Schools (priority) in the area of marine science, infusing technology in the math classroom, and the utilization of technology to support and enhance reading and writing in the content areas. Funding will also support technology in the NSF initiative, RI-ITEST, at the High School level. It is expected that participating teachers will develop products utilizing Rhode Island's K-12 Reading, Writing, Mathematics, and Science GLEs/GSEs in the training sessions.

A grant program available in this current year will provide approximately \$900,000 dollars for successful proposals awarded according to merit, need and the following priorities:

- Preferred applicants will be those schools which have done appropriate planning for technology, have a commitment from a significant number of teachers (see RFP details) to deepen and broaden their training in the use of computers in instruction, and are re-considering their classroom instruction so that it results in student-centered activities.
- Technology support will be provided for middle level or secondary schools with high technology need and high poverty. Proposals can include requests for classroom computers and other technologies useful to teachers. Award size is dependent on the actual number of classroom teachers participating in the grant with each classroom receiving an award.

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- The E2T2-Model Classroom Grant (E2T2-MCG) seeks to implement the often-described vision of classroom access to computers and a teacher trained to integrate technology effectively into instruction. Programs that integrate technology effectively into math, science, reading and literacy and based on emerging state curriculum are most likely to be successful. Alternative computer placements will be considered as described in the grant offer.
- A mandatory 2-week summer training institute for each teacher participant, leading to the creation of units of study is a primary element of this program. Middle School Participants can receive URI graduate credit or CEUs. Participants are required to complete pre- and post- project evaluations; schools must provide a report of how the objectives were met.
- Participants are encouraged and supported as they create lessons for themselves and for inclusion in RIDE's Statewide curriculum website.
- The training program is designed to develop local competence and broaden the capacity of districts to extend this training into their districts for the long term. This is a teachers training teachers model that utilizes the existing content expertise in districts, pre-existing technical expertise and the curriculum specialists being supported by RIDE.
- The training consortium will create the training schedule and manage the professional development component of the Title IID Technology competition.

Please review the enclosed RFP carefully. The proposal has a DUE DATE of March 18, 2009.

For more information on this RFP, please contact Holly Walsh, Instructional Technology at 222-8457 or by e-mail: [Holly.Walsh@ride.ri.gov](mailto:Holly.Walsh@ride.ri.gov).