Elementary and Secondary Relief – Digital Professional Learning Grant

August 18, 2020

Equity ● Quality ● Collaboration ● Community
Agenda

• NOFO/RFP Overview
• Application Process
• Next Steps

Equity ● Quality ● Collaboration ● Community
Presenters

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Curriculum and Instruction Department
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NOFO/RFP OVERVIEW
Purpose

• The purpose of the Elementary and Secondary Relief – Digital Professional Learning NOFO/RFP is to assist school districts in enabling digital-age teaching and learning. School districts may use funds to provide educators with professional learning opportunities that drive digital-age learning, integrate technology across subject areas, and develop digital citizenship.
Program Description

• Equitable access to technology-enhanced instruction, curriculum, and assessments is one of the foundational components upon which today’s schools create enhanced and empowered digital learning experiences. Quality professional learning for educators and parents/caregivers on the meaningful use of technology is critical in effectively enabling digital learning.

• The Elementary and Secondary Relief – Digital Professional Learning NOFO/RFP is a one-time grant opportunity that utilizes Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding to assist districts in reducing barriers to the continuity of education by addressing professional learning needs related to digital remote learning.
Program Description

• Grant funds will be awarded based on the highest needs as identified in the grant application. Grant application questions will assess professional learning needs and the way in which additional funds will complement the district’s existing professional learning plan. In addition, the application will ask districts how they are supporting all students, including, but not limited to, students with disabilities, English Learners, and students from low-income families.

• As part of the application process, applicants must complete the Illinois School District Technology Survey prior to the submission of the application.

  – If districts submitted the Illinois School District Technology Survey as part of the application process for the Digital Equity Grant, there is no need to submit the survey again.
CARES and GEER

• The CARES Act required that at least 90% of the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund flow to local educational agencies, with no more than 10% reserved for state education agencies.

• Congress set aside approximately $3 billion of the $30.75 billion allotted to the Education Stabilization Fund through the CARES Act for the Governor’s Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER). The Department will award these grants to States (governor’s offices) based on a formula stipulated in the legislation.
Illinois public school districts, state-authorized charter schools, and Regional Offices of Education (ROEs) are eligible to apply. Priority points will be given to those applicants that are furthest away from 100% or more Final Percent of Adequacy as listed on the fiscal year 2020 Full FY 2020 Evidence-Based Funding (EBF) Calculation.

EBF data using the Full FY 20 EBF Calculation at [https://www.isbe.net/Pages/ebfdistribution.aspx](https://www.isbe.net/Pages/ebfdistribution.aspx)

Eligible entities have received an IWAS broadcast and will see the grant by selecting System Listing in IWAS. Note that this grant has different eligibility requirements than the Digital Equity Grant.
APPLICATION PROCESS
Grant Application

- Online application accessible via IWAS
Overview Page

Elementary and Secondary Digital Professional Learning RFP

Program: Elementary and Secondary Relief – Digital Professional Learning Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)/Request for Proposals (RFP)

Purpose: The purpose of the elementary and secondary relief – digital professional learning NOFO/RFP is to assist school districts in enabling digital-age teaching and learning. School districts may use funds to provide educators and parents with professional learning opportunities that drive digital-age learning, integrate technology across subject areas, and develop digital citizenship.

Definition: For the purposes of this NOFO/RFP, the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) defines “digital equity” as the condition in which students have the technology capacity needed for full participation in educational opportunities.

Program Type: Federal Competitive Grant

CFDA Number: 53.42-2411

CFDA Title: Elementary and Secondary School Relief Grant – Digital Professional Learning RFP

CFDA Number: 84.420

CFDA Name: Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund

Eligible Applicants: Illinois Local Education Agencies (LEAs), including public school districts, state-authorized charter schools, university lab schools, and Regional Offices of Education (ROEs) are eligible to apply. Priority points will be given to those applicants that are furthest away from 100% or more from the Percent of Adequacy as listed on the fiscal year 2020 Full FY 2020 Evidence-Based Funding (SBF) Calculation spreadsheet at the link below.

https://www.isbe.net/Programs/defdistribution.aspx

GATA Award Requirements: The State of Illinois Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA) requires applicants to complete pre-award requirements before receiving an award for an FY 2021 grant. This includes completion of the Grantee Registration and Pre-qualification process through the Illinois GATA Web Portal at the link below. Grant applications must be submitted by the deadline indicated in the NOFO/RFP.

https://www2.illinois.gov/portal/gata/registry/apply/default.aspx

Grant applicants are required to complete an FY 2021 Fiscal and Administrative Risk Assessment in the form of an Internal Controls Questionnaire (ICQ) available through the GATA Web Portal and an Organizational Risk Assessment for FY 2021 through the ISBE Web Application Security (WAS) system. Grant awards will not be executed until the FY 2021 ICQ and Organizational Risk Assessments are completed.

Dan and Bradstreet Universal Numbering System (DUNS) Number and System for Program: Provided by a valid DUNS number in its application.

Award Management System (SAM): Continue to maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times during which it has an active federal, state or local award, or an application or the grantee has been awarded an award by a federal or state awarding agency. ISBE may not consider an application for a federal pass-through or state award to an applicant until the applicant has completed all applicable DUNS and SAM requirements.


Merit-Based Process for Competitive Grants: ISBE is required to design and execute a merit-based review and selection process for applications. This process is incorporated by reference in all applicable funding opportunities. Applicants are advised to refer to the full text of the ISBE merit-based review policy, which can be found at, https://www.isbe.net/Documents/Merit-Based_Review_Policy.pdf

Grant Award/Cost Sharing or Matching: The Elementary and Secondary Relief – Digital Professional Learning NOFO/RFP may have up to a total of $13,954,809 in FY2021 to assist applicants with technology-related professional learning as part of the applicants’ plan to enable digital-age teaching and learning. There is no cost sharing or match requirement. Additional funding information can be found on the Funding Information tab.

Grant Period: The grant period will begin no sooner than September 7, 2020, and end at the execution date of the grant on June 30, 2021. No proposal or undertaking made in this NOFO/RFP is an assurance that a grant will be awarded, nor does this NOFO/RFP create any right to or expectation of renewal.
Pre-Submission Requirement

• Applicants must complete the Illinois School District Technology Survey at https://ltcillinois.tfaforms.net/7 prior to the submission of the grant application

• Survey must be submitted by August 28

• If a district has already submitted a survey to apply for the Digital Equity Grant, there is no need to do this again!
Survey

• After submission, the LTC's support team will review the survey.

• The purpose of the approval process is to identify and resolve inconsistencies or questions related to technical details prior to grant application submission. If needed, the LTC will contact you to clarify the survey data.

• Approximate turn-around time is seven days.
Survey

• Survey can be saved and completed later
• The Survey questions can be viewed by clicking on the Technology Survey Link on the grant information page at https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Educational-Technology.aspx
Funding Information

• $13,954,909 is available
  – Funding is subject to maximum award amount

$5000 base per awardee plus
$20 for each teacher.

For example, a district with a staff size of 200
would have an available budget of $5,000 plus
$4,000 = $9,000
Review Criteria

• The selection of the grantees will be based upon the overall quality of the application.
• The scoring for each criterion is based upon the following criteria:
  – Priority Points will be awarded based on the LEA’s Final Percent of Adequacy as listed on the Full FY 2020 EBF Calculation spreadsheet at the link below, with those furthest away from 100% or more receiving the most priority points.
  – Need is defined as the identification of stakeholders, facts, and evidence that demonstrate the proposal supports the grant program purpose;
  – Capacity is defined as the ability of an entity to execute the grant project according to the project requirements;
  – Quality is defined as the totality of features and characteristics of a service, project, or product that indicate its ability to satisfy the requirements of the grant program;
  – Scope is defined as the relationship of the proposal to the purpose of the program and its goals.
• 5 to 25 priority points given based on district’s Final Percent of Adequacy.
• Proposals that score under 60 points will not be funded.
• In the event of a tie, the district with the higher proportion of low income students as indicated on the FY 2020 Full EBF Calculation spreadsheet will be given priority.
Review Criteria

Priority points will be issued based on an applicant’s Final Percent of Adequacy as indicated on the Full FY 2020 EBF Calculation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Very Limited</th>
<th>Somewhat Limited</th>
<th>Moderate</th>
<th>Strong</th>
<th>Very Strong</th>
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<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EBF Final Percent of Adequacy is at 100% or greater</td>
<td>EBF Final Percent of Adequacy is between 81%-99%</td>
<td>EBF Final Percent of Adequacy is between 71%-80%</td>
<td>EBF Final Percent of Adequacy is between 61%-70%</td>
<td>EBF Final Percent of Adequacy Level is at or below 60%</td>
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Section 1: The school district has a strong financial need. Priority Points for LEAs that are furthest away from 100% or more Final Percent of Adequacy as listed on the Full FY2020 EBF Calculation (25 points) Possible Points

The proposal includes an EBF Final Percent of Adequacy Level that indicates a high need. 25
### Review Criteria

**Section 2: The school district has demonstrated an educational need for the proposed activity. (15 points)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The proposal describes the status of the applicant’s educational technology professional learning opportunities and demonstrates a high educational need for additional professional learning opportunities to address digital remote learning issues that impact educators and parents/caregivers.</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>The proposal includes a clear indication of how grant funds will support training for educators and parents/caregivers. The plan should include the anticipated number of parents/caregivers, teachers and other staff who will be impacted.</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>The proposal demonstrates that other sources of funding are limited to such an extent that the applicant is unable to conduct or expand professional learning as proposed without funding from this grant.</td>
<td>5</td>
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## Review Criteria

### Section 3: There is a clearly expressed relationship between the proposed activities and the district’s educational goals, school improvement plan, or local technology plans. (30 points)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The proposal describes how proposed activities support digital-age learning, integrate technology across subject areas, and develop digital citizenship.</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>The proposal states time-specific objectives and activities that are realistic and include all major activities needed to implement the project.</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>The proposal describes how the professional learning opportunities complement, align, or enhance the district’s plan for the use of technology, its integration into the curriculum, and/or support for parents/caregivers</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>The proposal describes how the professional learning opportunities for educators are aligned to Learning Forward Standards.</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>The proposal description includes a design for overall evaluations that will allow the project to develop successfully.</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>The proposal describes an evaluation design using data to further refine and improve the overall project.</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Review Criteria</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Section 4: Receipt of funding under this program will contribute to the accomplishment of the district’s long-term plans for digital remote learning and technology. (15 points)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Budget allocations indicate a cost-effective use of funds related to and consistent with the overall goals, objectives, and activities of the proposed projects and/or resources.</strong></td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>The proposal describes strategies to train educators to effectively use advanced technologies to improve digital teaching and learning and to encourage parents/caregivers to support digital remote learning while at home.</strong></td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The proposal describes how activities will continue after the end of the grant period.</strong></td>
<td>5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
## Review Criteria

**Section 5: Staff and/or outside entities chosen to be involved with the project were chosen in a manner congruent with the district’s educational goals, school improvement plan, or local technology plans. (15 points)**

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>A description of all staff and outside contractors involved in the proposed activities was provided</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evidence of the staff and/or outside contractor’s prior delivery of quality outcomes on similar activities or a detailed description of expertise that will lead to the successful outcomes of activities was provided.</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>The proposal indicates how the district will leverage existing statewide initiatives, including the Learning Technology Center, to meet needs related to professional learning.</td>
<td>5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The application has been submitted. No more updates will be saved for the application.

Abstract

When completing this page, do not use special formatting copied/pasted from Word, such as numbered or bulleted lists, charts, graphs, etc. Do not use special characters, such as single or double quotes, ampersand symbol, etc.

Provide a brief overview of the nature of the planned program and services to be provided.*

(*) 0 of 1500 maximum characters used)
Program Specific Items – Needs Assessment

The application has been submitted. No more updates will be saved for the application.

Educational and Equity Needs Assessment

The EBF Final Percent of Adequacy Level for the most recent fiscal year for which data are available: 62.16%

When completing this page, do not use special formatting copy/pasted from Word, such as numbered or bulleted lists, charts, graphs, etc. Do not use special characters, such as single or double quotes, ampersand symbol, etc. Describe the educational need for professional learning for both teachers and parents. The description must include the following information:

a) The status of the applicant’s educational technology professional learning programs and demonstrates a high educational need for additional professional learning on digital remote learning for educators and parents/caregivers.

b) A clear indication of how grant funds will support training for educators AND parents/caregivers.

c) A demonstration that other sources of funding are limited to such an extent that the applicant is unable to conduct or expand professional learning as proposed without funding from this grant.
Program Specific Items – Goals and Plans

Goals and Plans

When completing this page, do not use special formatting copy/pasted from Word, such as numbered or bulleted lists, charts, graphs, etc. Do not use special characters, such as single or double quotes, ampersand symbol, etc.

1. Describe the relationship between the proposed activities and the district's educational goals, school improvement plan, or local technology plans. The description must include the following information:

   a) A description of how proposed activities support digital-age learning, integrate technology across subject areas, and develop digital citizenship.

   b) A description of how the professional learning opportunities complement, align, or enhance the district's plan for the use of technology, its integration into the curriculum, and/or support for parents/caregivers.

   c) The alignment with Learning Forward Standards.

2. Describe how funding will contribute to the accomplishment of the district’s long-term plans for digital remote learning and technology.* The description must include the following information:

   a) A description of strategies to train educators to effectively use advanced technologies to improve digital teaching and learning and to encourage parents/caregivers to support digital remote learning while at home.

   b) A description of how activities will continue after the end of the grant period.
Program Specific Items - Activities and Evaluation

Activities and Evaluation 1 - 3

When completing this form, do not use special formatting COPY/PASTE from Word, such as numbered or bulleted lists, charts, or tables. Do not use special characters, such as single or double quotes, underscores, or symbols. Provide all the requested details for each activity to be funded by this grant. At least one activity must be included. Up to five (5) activities may be included on this page. Use Activities and Evaluation 6-10 and/or Activities and Evaluation 11-15 for up to 15 activities total.

Training Topic #1*

1. Activity Begin*
   - Summer/Fall 2020
   - Winter 2021
   - Spring 2021

2. Activity End*
   - Summer/Fall 2020
   - Winter 2021
   - Spring 2021

3. Provide the general timeline for activities, including key milestones with dates.*

4. Position(s)/person(s) responsible to carrying out activities.*

5. Indicate the intended audience.* Check all that apply:
   - Teachers
   - Administrators
   - IT staff
   - Parents/caregivers
   - Other #1 (specify)
Program Specific Items - Staffing

Staffing - Employees and Contractors

Describe how staff and/or outside entities chosen to be involved with the project were chosen in a manner congruent with the district’s educational goals, School Improvement Plan, or local technology plans. Include the following information:

a. A description of all staff and outside contractors involved in the proposed activities.*

b. Evidence of the staff and/or outside contractor’s prior delivery of quality outcomes on similar activities or a detailed description of expertise that will lead to the successful outcomes of activities.*

c. A description of how the district will leverage existing statewide initiatives, including the Learning Technology Center, to meet needs related to professional learning, technology services, technical support, and cooperative purchasing.*

*Required field
Program Specific Items – Evaluation Plan

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Evaluation Plan</th>
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<td>When completing this page, do not use special formatting copied from Word, such as numbered or bulleted lists, charts, graphs, etc. Do not use special characters, such as single or double quotes, ampersand symbol, etc.</td>
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Describe the overall evaluation plan, including:
- How data will be collected,
- How the data will be monitored and evaluated,
- How the plan will be adjusted as needed to ensure successful completion of the overall plan, and
- How results will be reported.
Program Specific Items – Funding Calculator

Funding Calculator

Award Calculation:
Enter the number of teachers below and click on the Save Page button to calculate the allowable maximum award request.

84
Enter the number of teachers

1680
Number of teachers x $20 each

5000
Base award per awardee = $5,000

6680
Maximum request amount

For example, a district with 200 teachers would have an available budget of $5,000 plus $4,000 = $9,000

A. Maximum Award

6680 Maximum Request Amount
Program Specific Items – Funding Calculator

Non-Public School Participation

- Appropriate consultation with nonpublic schools must occur and be documented if the district has students in nonpublic schools.

B. Nonpublic Consultation

1. Indicate the participation of the nonpublic school located within the LEA boundary.
   - Yes - Complete the page in full
   - No - Save the page and proceed to the next

2. Appropriate consultation with nonpublic schools must occur and be documented if the district has students in nonpublic schools. Upload a signed copy of the Nonpublic School Consultation Form. (Blank form is linked below.) If there are multiple nonpublic schools involved, forms may be uploaded separately or may be combined into a single scanned PDF document as one upload. The upload should not exceed 4 MB.

   Nonpublic School Participation Form

   - Use the Browse and Upload buttons below to upload a copy of required nonpublic school participation consultation form(s). (Do not use any symbols besides a hyphen in the document name.) Repeat this action to upload additional forms, or a single PDF combining all forms, if applicable.
   - Label the document with the region-county-district-type code number of the applicant, followed by a hyphen, then the name of the nonpublic school listed on that form.

   Example: Quincy District 172 would name the first upload as 01-001-1720-22-QuincyDistrict172Nonpublic.

   If multiple schools are included in a single document, the name would be 01-001-1720-22-AllNonpublics.

   HOW TO UPLOAD A FILE

   - Browse to locate the required document.
   - Double-click to display it in the Browser window.
   - Click on the Upload button.
   - The name of the uploaded document will display in the area below.

   Choose File | No file chosen

   Any uploaded files will appear below. Unlike the application is submitted to ISBE, an uploaded document may be deleted using the Delete button below. After submitting to ISBE, any required changes must be submitted separately, adding a Version number to the name.

3. Provide any necessary comments or explanations related to uploaded files in the area below.

C. Participating Nonpublic School Equitable Share

Both nonpublic equitable share calculation methods below must be completed. Refer to the Instructions link above for additional guidance.

To determine the participating nonpublic school equitable share using ENROLLMENTS, enter the public and participating nonpublic school enrollments below and save the page. The nonpublic equitable share based on ENROLLMENTS will calculate automatically when the SAVE PAGE button is selected.

- Public school enrollment
- Enrollment of participating nonpublic schools
- Sum of public and participating nonpublic enrollments
- Nonpublic school percentage of enrollment
- Equitable share for participating nonpublic schools based on ENROLLMENT

To determine the participating nonpublic school equitable share using LOW-INCOME students, enter the number of public and participating nonpublic school low-income students below and save the page. The nonpublic equitable share based on LOW-INCOME students will calculate automatically when the SAVE PAGE button is selected.

- Number of low-income students in public schools
- Number of low-income students in participating nonpublic schools
- Sum of public and participating nonpublic low-income students
- Nonpublic school percentage of low-income students
- Equitable share for participating nonpublic schools based on LOW INCOME
Calculating the non-public share

• Calculate the share using:
  – The number of low-income students in nonpublic schools (ESEA Sec. 1117) and the total number of students enrolled in nonpublic schools (ED Guidance 4.30.20). Please see the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief step by step application webinar, slide 18.
  – LEAs will engage in consultation and nonpublic schools will receive the services based upon the number of low-income children (ESEA Sec. 1117)
  – LEAs will hold back the difference between the total ESSER LEA allocation and the amount calculated based upon total enrollment minus the low-income student proportionate share (like in an escrow account).
  – The lesser of the two, number of low-income students or total number of students enrolled shall be used for the delivery of initial services.
# Budget

Itemize and explain each expenditure amount that appears on the Budget Summary. Provide a complete breakdown of eligible employee benefits. Federal Funds: Please review the Instructions link for details that apply to your specific grant regarding teacher’s retirement. Contact your program consultant with any additional questions you may have regarding TRS contributions. Click on the “Create Additional Entries” button to enter additional information.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Function Code</th>
<th>Object Code</th>
<th>Exclude from MTDC*</th>
<th>Expenditure Description and Itemization</th>
<th>DlgEq4998-DT Funds</th>
<th>Delete Now</th>
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| Total Allotment | 0 |

| Total Direct Costs | 10500 |
| Less Functions 2530 and 4000, Capital Outlay Costs, Contract amounts over $25,000 | 0 |
| Modified Total Direct Costs | 10500 |
| Indirect Cost Rate % | 0.00 |
| Maximum Indirect Cost | 0 |
| Indirect Cost | 0 |

| Grand Total | 10500 |
| Allotment Remaining | 10500 |
Budgets and Allotments

• You will notice that your Total Allotment will be 0 and entering budget amounts will cause the Allotment Remaining to go negative.

• The Total Allotment will be entered once your application has undergone merit based reviewed and approved.
Assurance Pages

• Be sure to read terms on each page and check the boxes indicating that you have read, understand, and will comply.
Next Steps

• Complete the LTC Technology Inventory Survey if not already completed for digital equity grant.
  – This is due by August 28

• Complete the grant application in IWAS
  – Due by 4pm on Friday, September 4

• FAQ questions and responses will be posted to https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Educational-Technology.aspx
Questions

• Webinar slides and recording will be posted to https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Educational-Technology.aspx

• Questions about the grant can be emailed to egrauke@isbe.net