### New Round of Grants for Digital Teaching & Learning Available for 2023-24

Digital Teaching and Learning in North Carolina's public schools will benefit from a new round of competitive grants approved December 1, 2022, by the State Board of Education.

Up to \$1.25 million in grants funded by the General Assembly through the state's Digital Learning Initiative will be available to school districts, charter schools, lab schools, and regional schools during the 2023-24 school year. During the past six years, the Department of Public Instruction's Digital Teaching and Learning Division has committed more than \$8.8 million in similar grants to help schools and districts develop and strengthen digital-age learning initiatives.

These competitive grants are intended to support North Carolina districts and schools as they address challenges, harness opportunities, and leverage resources for digital-age teaching, and learning. As specified in the state's <u>Digital Learning Plan</u>, this grant program is intended to support the development and dissemination of local innovative digital teaching and learning across North Carolina.

Following the board's approval, the Department of Public Instruction is now seeking proposals for grants in three categories: **digital learning impact, professional learning, and emerging technologies.** All North Carolina districts, charter schools, and regional schools are eligible to apply.

For the 2023-24 school year, there will be two request-for-proposal applications: the Digital Learning Impact Grant and a mini-grant for professional learning and also for emerging technologies. The window for the request for proposals for the grants opened December 1, 2022, and will close with a February 28, 2023, deadline.

The materials related to the Request for Proposals are available on the <u>Digital Teaching</u> and <u>Learning website</u> for detailed information about this grant opportunity and submission guidelines.

# The Impact Grant:

The Digital Learning Impact Grant is a 3-year grant that is intended to provide the awarded Public School Units (PSUs) the ability to plan, implement and assess a digital learning initiative. Recipients of this grant will be provided with funding for three years. The Request for Proposals for the Impact Grant can be found <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>.

- Up to \$95,000 each year for traditional PSUs
- Up to \$20,000 each year for Charter, Regional, and Lab Schools

## The Professional Learning Mini-Grant:

The intention of this grant is to provide PSUs and the opportunity for funding professional learning that enhances and furthers staff understandings around the North Carolina Digital Learning Competencies and/or the North Carolina Digital Learning Student Standards. The Request for Proposals for the Emerging Technology Mini-Grant can be found <a href="here">here</a>.

- PSUs can request:
  - Up to \$30,000 for Traditional PSUs
  - Up to \$10,000 for Charter, Regional, and Lab Schools

### The Emerging Technologies Mini-Grant:

The intention of this grant is to provide PSUs funding for emerging technologies that are not already a part of the PSUs purchase and refresh plan. The Request for Proposals for the Emerging Technology Mini-Grant can be found <u>here</u>.

- PSUs can request:
  - Up to 50,000 for Traditional PSUs
  - o Up to 20,000 for Charter, Regional, and Lab Schools

# The deadline for all application submissions is Tuesday, February 28, 2023, at 5 p.m.

Each week, a webinar will be offered to support PSUs with their grant applications. The first 30 minutes will be dedicated to providing information about the Digital Learning Initiative Grant or best practices in grant writing. The remaining 30 minutes will be open to PSUs to ask questions. Each webinar will be recorded and available for review on the DLI Grants website.

Grant Overview and Support Sessions			
Date and Time	Topic	Link to the Session	
December 8, 2022 10 a.m 11 a.m.	Overview of the Digital Learning Initiative Impact Grant	Click here to join the meeting	
December 8, 2022 1 p.m 2 p.m	Overview of the Digital Learning Initiative Mini- Learning Grants	Click here to join the meeting	
Thursday, January 5, 2023 10 a.m 11 a.m.	Overview of the Digital Learning Initiative Grants	Click here to join the meeting	

Thursday, January 5, 2023 11 a.m 12 p.m.	Describing your Why: Data and Research	Click here to join the meeting
Friday, January 6, 2023 10 a.m 11 a.m.	Overview of the Digital Learning Initiative Grants	Click here to join the meeting
Thursday, January 12, 2023 11 a.m 12 p.m.	Budgeting	Click here to join the meeting
Thursday, January 19, 2023 11 a.m 12 p.m.	Evaluating the Proposed Program	Click here to join the meeting
Thursday, January 26, 2023 11 a.m 12 p.m.	Writing the Proposal	Click here to join the meeting
January 6, 2023 - February 24, 2023 Every Friday 11 a.m 12 p.m.	Office Hours	Click here to join the meeting

We look forward to many of our North Carolina PSUs engaging in this competitive process as we continue to foster digital-age, personalized learning across our state. If you have questions, please contact Dr. Ashley McBride (<a href="mailto:ashley.mcbride@dpi.nc.gov">ashley.mcbride@dpi.nc.gov</a>) or Lindsey Sipe (<a href="mailto:Lindsey.Sipe@dpi.nc.gov">Lindsey.Sipe@dpi.nc.gov</a>).