Overview

The U.S. Department of Education Office of Educational Technology (OET) develops national educational technology policy and establishes the vision for how technology can be used to transform teaching and learning.

OET supports the Department’s priorities by promoting equity of access, ensuring all learners are connected to broadband Internet, supporting educators and a robust ecosystem of entrepreneurs and innovators.

OET resides in the Office of the Secretary of Education and works in collaboration with other ED offices and federal agencies on issues related to the effective use of technology to support learning. OET is also the primary office for outreach to the developer community.

Key Policy Documents & Publications

National Education Technology Plan
[tech.ed.gov/netp](http://tech.ed.gov/netp)

The National Education Technology Plan (NETP) is the flagship educational technology policy document for the United States. The plan outlines a vision of equity, active use, and collaborative leadership to make everywhere, all-the-time learning possible. Using examples from the field, the NETP presents a cohesive vision for teaching and learning enabled by technology across the country.

Early Learning and Educational Technology Policy Brief
[tech.ed.gov/earlylearning](http://tech.ed.gov/earlylearning)

The joint policy brief includes four guiding principles for families and early educators that promote developmentally appropriate use of technology in homes and early learning settings. The brief, developed by ED and HHS, also includes a call to action for researchers and media and app developers, highlighting topics for further research and encouraging the development of research-based products.

Advancing Educational Technology in Teacher Preparation: Policy Brief
[tech.ed.gov/teacherprep/](http://tech.ed.gov/teacherprep/)

This policy brief identifies key challenges and solutions to the effective integration of technology in teacher preparation, provides guiding principles on how to move the field toward effective integration of technology in teacher preparation programs, and identifies areas of opportunity and collaboration for stakeholders across the field.
Key Initiatives

Technical Assistance for States and Districts
Since 2014, the Office of Educational Technology has led efforts to support district leaders across the country working to improve teaching and student achievement through the effective use of technology. Technical assistance focuses on four focus areas – collaborative leadership, personalized professional learning, personalized student learning, and robust infrastructure.

Future Ready Librarians
futureready.org/librarians
This initiative highlights connections between the skills and expertise of librarians and the goals of schools and districts transitioning to personalized digital learning. If properly trained and supported, librarians are well positioned to be leaders in the digital transformation of learning happening in schools.

Stories of Ed Tech Innovation
tech.ed.gov/stories
Educators can use the Story Tool to browse stories of innovation happening in schools across the nation. By sharing these stories, we hope to connect districts, schools, and educators implementing similar practices so that they can learn from each other’s experiences.

Rapid Cycle Education Technology Evaluation Coach
tech.ed.gov/rce
Traditional research approaches do not meet the needs of evaluating rapidly changing education technology. Working with Institute of Education Sciences, OET contracted Mathematica to design and field test tools that school leaders, entrepreneurs and researchers can use to conduct rapid cycle tech evaluations and make evidence-based decisions regarding ed tech acquisitions.

#GoOpen Movement
tech.ed.gov/open
Openly licensed educational resources have enormous potential to increase access to high-quality education opportunities for all students. OET provides technical assistance to 108 districts and 20 states transitioning to the use of high quality, openly licensed educational resources in their schools. The #GoOpen District Launch Packet highlights stories and strategies from districts choosing to implement a systematic open approach.

Ed Tech Higher Education Innovation
tech.ed.gov/highered
The technologies available today provide us an opportunity to create a system of higher education that provides excellent education and ensures even greater equity for our students tomorrow. OET works to cast a vision of a higher education system that leverages technology to design flexible models that will meet the needs of all students.

For more information contact us at tech@ed.gov