Expert Space
Aligns to Enhancing Education Through Technology Criteria

The primary goal of the *Enhancing Education through Technology (*Ed Tech) program is to improve student academic achievement through the use of technology in schools. .According to the federal *Guidance on the Enhancing Education through Technology (Ed Tech) Program*, a Local Education Agency's (LEA) technology plan must address 13 specific components in order to qualify for formula or competitive funding. The following chart details how *Expert Space* helps meet 12 of these requirements.

Required *Ed Tech* Components	📖 *Expert Space*
1. Strategies for improving academic achievement and teacher effectiveness: A description of how the applicant will use *Ed Tech* funds to improve the academic achievement, including technology literacy, of all students attending schools served by the LEA and to improve the capacity of all teachers in schools served by the LEA to integrate technology effectively into curriculum and instruction	*Expert Space* is the new online curriculum supplement that combines a rich collection of leveled content with sophisticated learning tools to help all students access information, build content-area knowledge, and develop key information literacy skills. In addition, educators can use *Expert Space* to digitally supplement the science and social studies curriculum and prepare students for success in the 21st century. Organized around the most commonly taught, studied, and researched topics, *Expert Space* provides the best starting point for learning and exploration in science, social studies, and current events. ▪ 100 content bundles and 120,000 articles cover 100% of National Essential Skills in science and social studies. ▪ Anchor videos, leveled text, read-alouds, and Spanish translations make content accessible to all students. *Expert Space* includes numerous reading scaffolds to support the reading needs of all students: ▪ Anchored Instruction engages and motivates students with anchor videos that introduce key vocabulary terms and help build background knowledge on each topic. ▪ Leveled Text matches students to content they can comprehend with articles written on three reading levels. All articles within *Expert Space* are leveled according to the Lexile® Framework for Reading. ▪ Spanish Translations support English-Language learners with content written in their native language. ▪ The Read-aloud Tool ensures that reluctant readers and Special Education students can participate in content-area learning.

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2. Goals: A description of the applicant's specific goals, aligned with challenging state standards, for using advanced technology to improve student academic achievement	*Expert Space* transforms the way all students access and deepen content-area knowledge, plan and complete projects and assignments, and develop 21st century information literacy skills. Interactive productivity tools help students plan and complete assignments. Every student has access to a suite of personal learning tools to set goals, synthesize, organize and cite information, and build essential skills.
3. Steps to increase accessibility: A description of the steps the applicant will take to ensure that all students and teachers have increased access to technology	*Expert Space* is completely web-based and can be accessed anywhere students have an Internet connection. As a trusted home base, students can find information, complete assignments, and manage projects in school, the library, as well as at home. Teachers can use *Expert Space* to supplement the science and social studies curriculum or to build information literacy skills. Librarians can use the program to support researchers and homeschoolers and make connections to the local school curriculum.
4. Promotion of curricula and teaching strategies that integrate technology: A description of how the applicant will identify and promote curricula and teaching strategies that integrate technology effectively into curricula and instruction, based on a review of relevant research and leading to improvements in student academic achievement	*Expert Space* includes over one hundred content bundles and 120,000 articles that cover 100% of the National Essential Skills in science and social studies. Reading supports include anchored videos, leveled text, read-alouds, and Spanish translations that make content accessible to all students. Interactive quizzes and an online reward system help to motivate students. *Expert Space* includes several interactive learning tools that will help students build the information literacy skills necessary for secondary education. ▪ Personal Digital Locker—Students can save and manage links to articles, websites, images, or any web-based information that they deem relevant to their assignments. They can also store note cards, outlines, or other documents that they create electronically. ▪ The Assignment Planning Wizard and Calendar help students plan projects and stay on task. This unique planning tool asks students to identify a goal for their project, as well as sources of information. After they have identified this key information, the program guides them in creating a calendar of key due dates for each project requirement, such as note cards, outlines, rough draft, and final project. Students can also include dates for other activities and obligations that might impact meeting their deadlines. After students have started a new assignment, each time they log on to *Expert Space* they will be given an update on the status of their project. The system will also provide prompts on what the student might consider working on next. *(Continued)*

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Promotion of curricula and teaching strategies that integrate technology, Continued	▪ *Skill Builder* Tutorials—Students can watch a short animated tutorial on the best practices in each of eight 21st century information literacy skills, including taking notes, evaluating sources, setting goals, citing sources, and more. Educators may choose to use these tutorials to teach skills in the language arts classroom, content-area classroom, or school library. Students can also use the *Skill Builders* independently as they work on their assignment. ▪ Online Note Taker –This feature allows students to synthesize and organize information onto digital note cards for easy reference. As students use the web-based information to research, they record notes on digital note cards. The note card tool allows students to provide a title for their research, use a direct quote, or paraphrase information. Each time a student creates a new note card, before it can be saved, the program will prompt the student to add a source or citation. Further, each article within *Expert Space* will be cited in one of three ways—Chicago Manual of Style, APA, and MLA—so students can learn how to create a citation. ▪ The *Skill Builders* will teach students when they should attribute information to a source. All of the citations that are entered on the note cards will automatically populate a bibliography that a student can print and submit as part of their assignment. Finally, students can digitally sort and organize their note cards to begin forming a project outline. ▪ The Outline Builder—The note cards will help to populate a project outline. A student is always able to change the hierarchy or order of information presented in the outline. ▪ Dictionary/Atlas—*Expert Space* features five dictionaries, including one Spanish-English dictionary and one English-Spanish dictionary, as well as two thesauri. The program also includes an interactive atlas that will help build geography and map skills.
5. Professional development: A description of how the applicant will provide ongoing, sustained professional development for teachers, principals, administrators, and school library media personnel to further the effective use of technology in the classroom or library media center	All purchasers of *Expert Space* have access to a free monthly online delivered training session. The monthly training reviews features, functionality, and ideas for how to incorporate *Expert Space* into the classroom and library. Additional training is available from Scholastic on a fee-basis.

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6. Technology type and costs: A description of the type and costs of technology to be acquired with education technology funds, including provisions for interoperability of components	_Expert Space_ is completely web-based and can be accessed anywhere students have an Internet connection, including home, school, and the library. Organized around the topics most commonly taught, researched and studied, _Expert Space_ includes access to articles, videos, images, timelines, web links, primary sources, and maps to deepen learning.
7. Coordination with other resources: A description of how the applicant will coordinate activities funded through the education technology program with technology-related activities supported with funds from other sources	_Expert Space_ can be integrated with funds and money from state, local, and other sources. The federal funding programs for which it qualifies include: ▪ Title IA—Improving Basic Programs ▪ Title III—English Language Acquisition ▪ 21st Century Community Learning Centers ▪ Enhancing Education through Technology ▪ GEAR Up ▪ Smaller Learning Communities ▪ IDEA, Part B ▪ IDEA, _Response to Intervention_
8. Integration of technology with curricula and instruction: A description of how the applicant will integrate technology (including software and electronically delivered learning materials) into curricula and instruction, and a timeline for this integration	_Expert Space_ presents information via content bundles, or _xSpaces_, which include key topics in science and social studies. The 100 _xSpaces_—50 in science and 50 in social studies—were designed based on a National Survey of teachers, review of state standards, and topics most commonly covered in science and social studies textbooks. Each _xSpace_ follows the same format in order to make the content accessible to all students. 1. Anchor Videos—Before students begin reading any information on a topic, they will view an anchor video. Research shows that when students have a mental model about a topic their reading comprehension improves. Each _xSpace_ features a short 90-120 second overview video on the topic to build background knowledge. 2. Feature Articles—Next students will read the feature article on the topic. Each feature article is written on three reading levels so that students can study the same topic using the same resource, regardless of their reading abilities. Level One is written on a 600-800 Lexile® level; Level Two is written on an 800-1000 Lexile® level; and Level Three is written on a 1000-1200 Lexile® level. The article is also available in Spanish so that English Language Learners can read the feature article in their native language. 3. Read-alouds—Students are able to hear every _Expert Space_ nonfiction article read aloud. _(Continued)_

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Integration of technology with curricula and instruction Continued	4. _Dive Deeper_ Section—This section is designed to extend learning on each topic. Here students will find additional articles, video, slide shows, web links, interactive timelines and much more to extend their learning on the topic. 5. _Explore More_ Section—This section provides a comprehensive list of all the *Expert Space* articles on the topic. 6. _Project Ideas_ Section—Finally, we want students to apply this new knowledge to a short assignment or project so we provide journal prompts, opinion essays, and more to give students a chance to reflect on what they have learned. Teachers might also choose to use these as homework assignments, class projects or longer term papers or projects.
9. Innovative delivery strategies: A description of how the applicant will encourage the development and use of innovative strategies for the delivery of specialized or rigorous courses and curricula through the use of technology, including distance-learning technologies, particularly in areas that would not otherwise have access to such courses or curricula due to geographical distances or insufficient resources	*Expert Space* transforms the way all students access and deepen content-are knowledge, plan and complete projects and assignments, and develop 21st century information literacy skills. As a web-based digital curriculum and toolkit, it can be accessed anywhere there is an Internet connection—in the classroom, school library, computer lab, at home, and on the go. *Expert Space* can be used to digitally supplement the science and social studies curriculum, as a way to teach essential 21st century literacy and as a research tool.
10. Parental involvement: A description of how the applicant will use technology effectively to promote parental involvement and increase communication with parents, including a description of how parents will be informed of the technology used	The *Educator View* allows teachers and librarians to search for lesson plans, find articles and resources correlated to state standards, and search for articles by a Lexile® range to help differentiate instruction. Educators will also have access to the full suite of content and learning project tools
11. Accountability measures: A description of the process and accountability measures that the applicant will use to evaluate the extent to which activities funded under the program are effective in integrating technology into curricula and instruction, increasing the ability of teachers to teach, and enabling students to reach challenging state academic standards	*Expert Space* is a web-based digital curriculum and toolkit that transforms students' content-area knowledge and expertise, plan and complete projects and assignments, and develop 21st century literacy information skills. The program can be used in the classroom to supplement instruction or in the school library or computer lab to extend learning and research. Administrators can monitor usage statistics to determine how effectively students are using the *xSpaces*, *Skill Builder* tutorials, and research tools.

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12. Supporting resources: A description of the supporting resources, such as services, software, other electronically delivered learning materials, and print resources, that will be acquired to ensure successful and effective uses of technology	No additional resources are required in order to effectively use *Expert Space*. Students and teachers have unlimited access to content aligned to the most commonly taught, researched, and studied topics in science and social studies; multiple reading scaffolds to ensure that all students can access this information; a comprehensive collection of articles, videos, images, timelines, maps, and primary sources; calendar and assignment planning tool; digital locker; notetaking tool and organizer; outline tool; and a bibliography generator. The program also includes lesson plans to support content-area and information literacy instruction, projects/assignment ideas, state-standards correlation tool, and other professional resources.