ACCELERATING THE USE OF EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

For our education system to deliver the results our students deserve, we must take advantage of new tools and strategies that can help all students learn. New technologies can enhance and complement instruction, and can give students access to resources and learning opportunities they would otherwise have never had the opportunity to enjoy. But technology should not just be an isolated program – it must be a tool that is integrated into everything we do in education, dramatically enhancing the impact and feasibility of reforms across the education sector.

The President's 2012 budget request and Blueprint for Reform of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) will promote proven and promising approaches to using technology in schools, classrooms, and homes to support all students in learning to their full potential.

- \$835 million for the Effective Teaching and Learning for a Complete Education programs, which will support States and districts in identifying how best to meet the academic needs of their students and teachers across the subject areas, including through the development, implementation, and evaluation of innovative uses of technology for teaching and learning. We will also target funds for the creation of high-quality digital education content.
- \$2.5 billion for Effective Teachers and Leaders formula grants, which will support more
 professional development opportunities for teachers, including in using technology effectively in the
 classroom.
- Larger set-asides from the \$14.8 billion College- and Career-Ready Students program (formerly Title I Grants to Local Education Agencies) for building State and district capacity to support instruction, which may include through the use of technology.
- In the \$300 million Investing in Innovation fund, the Department will give priority to applicants proposing promising or evidence-based uses of education technology.
- \$90 million for a new Advanced Research Projects Agency for Education, which will foster
 breakthrough developments in educational technology and learning systems, support systems for
 educators, and tools that result in improvements in student outcomes.
- \$372 million for the Expanding Educational Options programs, which will support districts in
 implementing specific approaches to expanding educational options for students, including through
 online learning programs and innovative, autonomous school models, including those that embrace
 the power of technology to transform learning.
- Improving assessment technology. Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the Administration invested \$350 million in developing the next generation of assessments that will fairly and accurately assess student learning, including by making greater use of computer-based testing. We will continue this investment in high-quality assessments that measure critical thinking skills and that take advantage of technology through the \$420 million Assessing Achievement program.