



Respons-Able Educators Certification Program

Digital Respons-Ability is the state provider of Digital Citizenship education in Utah. They've taken their experiences with students and parents to create their research-based Respons-Able Educator Certification (REC) program. They are also working with experts in the field to help provide resources for others.

WHAT is Digital Citizenship?

Digital Citizenship is the ethical and responsible use of technology. It's a holistic term that covers instruction in digital communication, online safety, digital wellness, media literacy, and much more.

Respons-Able Educator Certificate Program (REC) is Digital Respons-Ability's professional development program for educators. It is available online, through Canvas. The training program helps teachers embed digital citizenship in their classroom to keep kids safe. For students to be 21st Century learners and be capable and competent in their careers, they must know how to use technology responsibly.

WHO is it for?

- Secondary Education teachers
- School Counselors
- Library and Media Specialists
- Any educator who wants to help keep kids safe online

WHEN would it be used?

Elements of digital citizenship are found in many subjects, but not taught to students in a cohesive, research-based way. The REC program can be a part of Career and Technical Education (CTE), health and wellness classes, English Language Arts (ELA), part of STEM curricula and more. REC can be part of other prevention programs to keep students and school communities safe.

WHY?

The REC program will enhance the Digital Citizenship learning already happening in the classroom. In addition, having a clearinghouse of information and resources will help existing Digital Citizenship efforts and help parents bring that education home to their children.

The REC program includes

- Strategies and resources for educators to engage with parents
- 25-30 online courses (equivalent of 1.5 days of in-person instruction)
- 10 self-study modules
- Certificate for educators who complete the program and pass the assessment
- Lesson plans, videos, and other resources
- Currently being used by federal government in schools around the world



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Program Modules

Module 0: Orientation

Key questions: What does this course cover?

Module 1: The Basics of Digital Citizenship

Key questions: What is digital citizenship? Why is it important for 21st century learners?

Module 2: Prevention Science and Digital Citizenship

Key questions: What are the risk and protective factors? What is prevention science?

Module 3: Technology Trends

Key questions: What are the recent technology trends? How do those trends affect teaching digital citizenship?

Module 4: Teaching Online Communication

Key questions: How do you communicate online? What is intellectual property? What is my digital footprint?

Module 5: Teaching Media Literacy

Key questions: What is media literacy? How do our social groups affect our beliefs online? What is bias? How do we evaluate media sources?

Module 6: Teaching Digital Safety and Ethics

Key questions: How does prevention science relate to online safety? How do we create healthy ethics and norms online? How do you teach online privacy?

Module 7: Digital Commerce

Key questions: What is digital inclusion? What are research-based digital citizenship resources? How can I make digital citizenship culturally inclusive?

Module 8: Working with Families to Encourage Digital Citizenship

Key questions: How can I encourage parent engagement? How can parents talk to their kids about technology? How can I host a digital parenting event?

Module 9 Teaching Digital Health and Wellness

Key questions: What are the effects of technology on the brain? How can students focus with technology-related distractions? What is mindfulness and how does it relate to digital citizenship?

Module 10: How Can Educators Measure Digital Citizenship Skill Attainment Effectively?

Key questions: How can educators encourage student participation? What are age-appropriate surveys? Why is behavior hard to measure?