

## Title IIA Funds for Digital Citizenship

**Summary:** Title II, Part A of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act helps school districts support teaching and leading. The goals and priorities of Title IIA are to:

- Increase student achievement
- Improve the quality and effectiveness of teachers and school leaders
- Increase the number of teachers and other school leaders
- Provide low-income and minority students greater access to quality and effective teaching and leading
- Title IIA grants allow state educational agencies to offer sub-grants to local education agencies (LEAs)  
These LEAs have flexibility to use these funds to meet the goals of the Title IIA funds.

This paper clarifies how Title IIA funding can be assist teachers, media specialists and school leaders to embed and implement digital citizenship in their classrooms and school communities.

**✓ProTIP: Share this document with your district grant writer or federal programs director.**

### How can Title II-A funding align with digital citizenship?

Digital citizenship education can help students prepare for a future college and career. Digital citizenship is the ethical and responsible use of technology. It is a concept embedded in multiple subjects across grades K-12. The ability for educators across different grades and subjects to embed digital citizenship in the classroom is an important part of student learning.

Title IA funds can be used to “improve the quality and effectiveness of teachers and school leaders.” These funds can be used specifically for professional development for educators and other different school roles.

### Why Digital Respons-Ability?

Digital Respons-Ability is a research-based provider of digital citizenship education, serving K-12 students, parents and educators since 2016. We have taught tens of thousands of K-12 students in deep-dive, in-person digital citizenship classes as the state provider in Utah of online safety education since 2019. Digital Respons-Ability also has a state contract to teach parents how they can help their children navigate technology. We are the only company providing so many direct services and in-person trainings of digital citizenship in the world.

Digital Respons-Ability employs research-based digital citizenship curriculum during in-person, classroom-based learning to support SEL and change digital behavior. Data from surveys administered to over 3000 K-12 students in Utah from January-March 2020 indicated that:

- 96% of 3-6 graders and 74% of K-2 students felt that would know how to keep themselves safe online
- 68% of K-2 students knew the names of their feelings some or most of the time
- 100% of 8th grade students felt they could use technology for good

**Digital Respons-Ability has taught tens of thousands of students, parents and educators digital citizenship.**

### Respons-Able Educator Certification program (REC)

Digital Respons-Ability's Respons-Able Educator Certification program prepares K-12 educators to address the topic of digital citizenship in their schools following the current ISTE Standards of Educators and the SEL framework from the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL)1.

The off-the-shelf digital modules currently have 53 lessons divided into 10 modules with an introductory orientation that has downloadable resources.  
Orientation and Resources

- Module 1: The Basics of Digital Citizenship
- Module 2: Prevention Science & Technology for Educators
- Module 3: Technology Trends
- Module 4: Teaching Online Communication
- Module 5: Teaching Media Literacy
- Module 6: Teaching Digital Safety and Ethics
- Module 7: Teaching Digital Commerce
- Module 8: Teaching Digital Health and Wellness
- Module 9: Engaging Parents with Digital Citizenship
- Module 10: Creating Digital Citizenship Lessons

The REC program is available to be exported in multiple standard formats (most commonly SCORM 1.2) into an organization's preferred Learner Management System (LMS). A certificate is available for educators who complete the program and pass the assessment and professional and continuing education hours are available for an additional fee.

#### **Supplemental resource: Respons-Able Digital Parenting**

The REC program has a separate module on how educators can communicate with parents around technology. This communication will also help them better understand and support the implementation of school rules around acceptable use policies and how to use devices.

Technology can be a way that school districts can better engage, communicate and work with parents. Or it can be a source for stress and division. Digital citizenship education must not only include the educators, but also the parents. Digital Respons-Ability has taught thousands of parents, virtually and in-person, focusing on strategies and information for parenting around technology.



### The 3 M's of **DIGITAL PARENTING**

Through their "3Ms of Digital Parenting" class and related services they can help support parent family/parent/community engagement work. The virtual classes are 1-2 hours long and include sharing strategies to parent around technology to different age groups with the "3Ms of Digital Parenting". Parents will be connected with free resources and a newsletter when attending.

These classes are available in English or Spanish. Respons-Able Digital Parenting is bundled at a discount with the REC program to help engage the broader school community