

**DEETF Recommendations Affecting the NITC and its advisory groups
December 30, 2005**

Distance Education Enhancement Task Force Recommendations that affect the NITC Technical Panel, in the event that they are agreed to by the Legislature:

1. "The Chief Information Officer will also bid for equipment (hardware and software) related to distance education, which meets at least **minimum standards as set by the Nebraska Information Technology Commission** for school districts, E.S.U.'s, and public postsecondary institutions who want to participate in statewide leasing and/or purchasing contracts." p.3

A. What, if any, additional standards are needed?

B. Who shall be responsible for drafting these minimum standards?

C. To which pieces of equipment and software do they apply?

D. If new standards are needed, how quickly must these standards be approved by the NITC?

2. "The Distance Education Council shall provide scheduling software or scheduling services **meeting any standards established by the Nebraska Information Technology Commission.**" p.5

A. Who shall be responsible for drafting these minimum standards (bid specifications)?

B. How quickly must these standards be approved by the NITC

C. How will the NITC coordinate with the Distance Education Council?

3. "(Distance Education) Council purchases of hardware and software related to distance education in excess of \$10,000 **will need to be approved by the Technical Panel of the NITC as being in compliance with NITC standards.** p.5

A. What system or process of approval will be used?

4. "The Distance Education Council may also administer, or delegate the administration of, **learning management systems that are in compliance with NITC standards...**" p.6

A. What additional standards are needed?

B. Who shall be responsible for drafting these minimum standards?

C. If new standards are needed, how quickly must these standards be approved by the NITC?

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Distance Education Enhancement Task Force Recommendations that affect the Collaborative Aggregation Partnership (CAP) and the operations of Network Nebraska, in the event that they are agreed to by the Legislature:

1. "The Nebraska Chief Information Officer will arrange for all school districts, E.S.U.'s, and public postsecondary education institutions to have the opportunity to **link to Network Nebraska** at the earliest available opportunity." p. 3

A. *How does CAP define “link to” or “participate in” in networking terms?*

2. “A technology allowance will be added to the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Act **for access and transport charges** equal to 85% of the local system costs minus federal reimbursements from the E-rate program.” p.6

A. *How does CAP plan to charge school districts for access and transport charges on a fair and equitable basis?*

3. “A technology allowance will be added to the minimum allocation in the E.S.U. infrastructure funding formula **for access and transport charges** equal to 85% of the E.S.U. costs minus any federal reimbursements from the E-rate program.” p.6

A. *How does CAP plan to charge ESUs for access and transport charges on a fair and equitable basis?*

4. “Coordination of the Distance Education Council will include, but not be limited to: **Scheduling and prioritization for access to Network Nebraska** by school districts, ESUs, and private not-for-profit elementary and secondary schools contracting with Network Nebraska.” p.5

A. *What does it mean to coordinate scheduling and prioritization for access to Network Nebraska?*

5. “A system shall be established by the (Distance Education) Council for prioritizing courses if the **network reaches capacity...**” p.5

A. *What communication mechanism will be used to help the Network Nebraska operations staff to know which videoconference(s) to preserve and which to delete?*

Distance Education Enhancement Task Force Recommendations that affect the NITC Education Council, in the event that they are agreed to by the Legislature:

1. “If there is not a member of the Distance Education Council in the membership of either the NITC or the Technical Panel of the NITC, **the NITC will be required to have a member of the Distance Education Council on any ad hoc technical advisory group or workgroup that establishes, coordinates, or prioritizes needs for education.**” p.4

A. *Does this mean the NITC Education Council?*

B. *Does it apply to any other existing advisory group or workgroup?*