

In our newsletter a few weeks ago, we discussed the federal funding legislation addressing Covid-19 education relief funds. However, many states are still waiting for this relief to either be approved or arrive. But, as August arrives and classes begin for students across the nation, the question remains: Can schools really wait to invest in new technology and in their students for these funds?

The answer is really simple: no. While the most recent infrastructure bill addresses technological and educational gaps within our country and is working on moving as fast as possible, legislation may not move fast enough for a moment where the gap has been growing for the past year. More than ever, the integration of technology into our in-person classrooms is at a pivotal moment and access *to* that technology is the first step.

An investment in access to technology grows access to books, literary supplements, math supplements, and the endless resources that a STEM education provides to students. For students, access to technology replaces the outdated memorization skills from classrooms with modern critical thinking and collaboration among students. Resources are also more accessible to students that have not previously had a ride to the library or help at home from parents with subjects that many students struggle with. Access to technology can and will improve equity issues across school districts that may not otherwise be able to excel.

For educators, an investment in technology means better simulation tools to formulate better connections and engagement between teachers and students. It also helps teachers to better understand how the future generations think and the changes they want to make to the world, which will increase student engagement and interest when the right technology is incorporated into lesson plans. The use of educational technology allows for students to participate in self-paced learning, indicating what challenges most students face and pain points for students that may be struggling. Moreover, it increases student accessibility to online resources and textbooks that are interactive and help students focus and apply the content even further than a physical textbook.

Our microgrant program can and will allow your district to start the investment in education technology as soon as possible. We accept applications from Public, Private, Charter, and Religious K-12 schools, as well as Young Adult Education Centers, Community Service Centers, English Language Learning Centers, and STEM/STEAM Organizations. [The Fall Application](#) is open until September 15th and our grant program is super flexible depending on the type of resources and support your school district needs. The application process typically takes 3 months, including review and acceptance or rejection by January 1st, 2022.

Visit our website to learn more about our program and apply!