

Securing Grants for Britannica Online School Edition

Alignment to Improving Basic Programs Operated by Local Educational Agencies (Title I, Part A)

Britannica Online Overview:

Designed for differentiated instruction for all levels of learning, *Britannica Online School Edition* gives teachers and students access to *four* complete encyclopedias and other learning resources correlated to classroom topics. High-quality interactive lessons and online learning materials developed by teachers and curriculum experts are also easily incorporated into the classroom.



- Integrated searching of 203,000 articles and multimedia
- Over 60,000 graphics plus 2,600 animations, audio clips, and videos
- Detailed maps of over 200 countries, U.S. states, and all Canadian provinces
- Spotlight features with study guides on school-related topics
- Web sites based on educational value and curriculum-based content
- Journals and Magazines locating up-to-date information and current events
- Learning Materials including interactive guides, concept reviews, and activities
- Resources for Teachers that help incorporate the encyclopedia and the Internet into the curriculum
- Workspace, a research organizer for assembling and personalizing content

www.school.eb.com

Grant Overview: Improving Basic Programs Operated by Local Educational Services (Title I, Part A)

Purpose of Grant: This grant is in place to support school improvement activities.

Grant Description: This federal program provides financial assistance to local education agencies and schools with high numbers or high percentages of poor children to help ensure that all children meet challenging state academic standards.

Grant Requirements: More than 50,000 public schools across the country use Title I funds to:

- Provide additional academic support and learning opportunities to help low-achieving children master challenging curricula and meet state standards in core academic subjects
- Support extra instruction in reading and mathematics
- Support special preschool, after-school, and summer programs to extend and reinforce the regular school curriculum

More information:

<http://www.ed.gov/programs/titleiparta/index.html>

Grant Requirement: Focus Title I services on children who are failing, or most at risk of failing, to meet state academic standards.

How Britannica Online meets grant requirements:

- **Britannica Learning Materials** have been correlated to every state's curriculum standards and benchmarks.
- **Orange Curriculum Standards** buttons link directly from standards to related articles and activities.
- **Educators can locate activities and articles supporting specific standards and standards-based classroom activities and lesson plans.**
- **Colorful photos, illustrations, and videos support the needs of visual learners.**
- **Math manipulatives help meet the needs of kinesthetic learners.**
- **Multimedia and text-to-speech features help address the needs of auditory learners.**
- **A table of contents provides a visual outline to help guide a learner to the contents within an article.**
- **Ready, Set, Research** materials scaffold the research process for learners to help guide them through information retrieval.



Suggested applications:

- When planning a lesson based on state standards, work with special education teachers to determine a struggling learner's best learning style (visual, auditory, kinesthetic). Focus on those features of the program which best match the child's learning style. For example, engage a visual learner's attention with the videos and illustrations in *Britannica Online*.
- Solicit teachers to pilot a peer-coaching program to hold each other accountable for developing modified lesson plans for at-risk students to meet state standards better. Use the Curriculum Standards buttons in the program to locate state standards and materials/resources/articles within the program that support those standards. Document the standards utilized, the methods, and outcomes of the program.
- Build and share custom Workspace Projects in *Britannica Online* that support specific academic standards.

“Currently, we are offering workshops on how to integrate multimedia from Britannica into a PowerPoint presentation as a teaching tool.”

—Lisa Elliott, Technology Program Facilitator, Garden Grove, CA

“The reading level is low enough for the struggling readers and high enough for the ones who need more of a challenge.”

—Leslie Broughton, Media Specialist, Alexandria, VA

“The layout is appealing and intuitive for young users, while the Additional Content links make it very easy to access magazine articles and Web sites. The best part is that because it is Web based, our students can continue their learning outside of school from any computer with Internet access.”

—Eunice Espinosa, Librarian, Kaneohe, HI

Grant Requirement: Provide additional academic support and learning opportunities to help low-achieving children master challenging curricula and meet state standards in core academic subjects.

How Britannica Online meets grant requirements:

- Britannica Learning Materials have been correlated to every state’s curriculum standards and benchmarks.
- Educators can locate activities and articles supporting specific standards and standards-based classroom activities and lesson plans.
- *Britannica Online* is organized by topic and grade level to readily provide the information or activities suitable for each learner.
- Britannica’s homepage features four different reading levels.
- Multiple levels of learning allow learners to choose the level of difficulty and progress at their own pace.
- *Learning Zone* can be customized for whole class, small group, or individual instruction.
- Longer articles are divided into separate sections in the Table of Contents, allowing educators to scale lessons.
- The quick-click dictionary and thesaurus can be used to listen to the pronunciation of difficult words and learn their definition.

Suggested applications:

- Use part-time paraprofessionals to work in small groups with low-achieving learners to boost their comprehension and decoding skills using *Britannica Online*’s learning materials and online activities.
- Search for state standards for a subject area using the Curriculum Standards button link. Select 1-2 standards for the learner to master. Search through the Learning Materials for activities, stories, and practice opportunities for the learner to use as supplemental curriculum support. Document materials, lessons used, and outcomes.



“Our students have such a wide range of reading abilities and technology skills. The three levels of Britannica Online have made it possible for all of our students to be successful in their research. The layout is appealing and intuitive for young users.”

—Eunice Espinosa, Librarian, Kaneohe, HI

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Grant Requirement: Support extra instruction in reading and mathematics.

How Britannica Online meets grant requirements:

- Learning Materials including interactive guides, concept reviews, online math manipulatives, and skill activities facilitate differentiated instruction.
- Online activities and stories help learners improve reading / writing skills and promote critical thinking.
- Children’s stories, online activities, and worksheets are available to facilitate reading comprehension, vocabulary, and grammar skills.
- Interactive lessons, activities, math manipulatives, and study guides provide practice and support of core concepts taught in the math curriculum.

- **Resources for Teachers** helps educators enhance their teaching by providing instant-access resource materials to support the lessons.
- **Learning Material** activities foster critical-thinking and problem-solving skills by applying knowledge gained during Learning Material activities.
- **Multiple levels of learning** allow learners to choose the level of difficulty and progress at their own pace.

Suggested applications:

- Provide Individualized Education Program services for at-risk or failing students using the Learning Materials in Reading to boost comprehension and decoding skills. Provide additional math support by allotting time for learners to utilize the math activities and manipulatives in the math Learning Materials. Set goals for each learner and record progress.
- Assign short research projects on high-interest topics to encourage use at home and parental involvement in reading.

“It is a resource which meets the needs of basic research for all grade levels with many additional resources to enhance the basic facts anyone might need. The videos, state standards, learning activities, and news links are only a few of the special features.”

—Carolyn McCown, Library Consultant, San Angelo, TX

Grant Requirement: Use funds to support special preschool, after-school, and summer programs to extend and reinforce the regular school curriculum.

How Britannica Online meets grant requirements:

- **Articles and hundreds of printable and online curriculum-based learning activities** are available for use in the classroom, media center, computer lab, or home.
- **Printable worksheets focusing on skills and concepts in major content areas** can be used both in the classroom and at home for additional reinforcement.
- **The Workspace can be retrieved from school, home, or the library** to access important data when doing a research report or searching for information.
- **Home access is provided with every subscription** to reinforce the school curriculum and provide home-school connections.
- **The program is used in statewide networks of public libraries and schools** to support curriculum goals.

Suggested applications:

- School libraries can work together with local libraries to purchase *Britannica Online* for all district and local libraries to allow learners to use the program in school or after school hours.
- Offer extended school library hours one day a week for learners to continue their research using *Britannica Online*.
- Encourage the use of *Britannica Online* to school tutors or mentors to help learners with their homework or research projects.
- Hold a Math curriculum night including instruction for *Britannica Online*'s program. Use the *Learning Zone* and Learning Materials as a starting point for the session.
- Have an open house for training on reading strategies for parents to use at home to support the learning activities with *Britannica Online*.

