

# K-12 Online Learning: What You Can Do in Your School

## What's the buzz?

*E-learning isn't just for colleges and universities. Primary and secondary schools have also embraced the possibilities that come with online learning. There are many reasons e-learning can be a viable consideration—everything from students who live in remote areas to providing access to course content that isn't readily available in a student's local school.*



## Why online learning?

The benefits of online learning don't just apply to the teachers as students, they benefit Iowa's students as well in a variety of ways.

### Students:

- can take accelerated and more challenging classes when a school can't normally offer a section
- can take online courses for credit recovery
- can take online courses at their own pace, including slower or faster than a traditionally-paced classroom which can benefit students with special needs
- can have access to enrichment and elective courses not offered in smaller schools
- with special needs can take advantage of assistive technology, such as screen readers, large print, or graphical organizers
- in transition between programs such as shelters, detention centers, and alternative programs can receive continuous instruction despite the transition
- who feel unsafe in a traditional setting can benefit from the anonymity an online environment can provide
- can earn college credit with a wider variety of courses

## What are my online learning options?

There are many options for utilizing the online learning environment and online learning can be configured in a variety of ways.

Online learning options can look like, but are not limited to, the following:

- a repository of class resources
- a digital drop box for 1:1 classrooms
- a blended learning environment
- a "flipped" classroom-class work at home, homework in class
- a "home-grown" fully online
- use of Iowa Learning Online (ILO) courses and resources
- purchased course content/products
- credit recovery online program

### Contact Us!



## How do AEA's support K-12 online learning?

**AEA's** help Iowa's schools in a variety of ways:

1. Offer Iowa schools access to **free online content** to use, full courses in the following subjects:

*Algebra I, English I, Physics, Chemistry, Science I (physical/biology), Anatomy and Physiology, General Biology, Reading for College Success, Student Orientation to Online Learning, Math-Preferential Voting Module, Social Studies - American, History, Chinese*

2. Are members of **NROC** (National Repository for Online Courses) which provides Iowa schools with access to **Hippocampus**
3. Offer low cost credit recovery content
4. Offer Iowa educators digital resources for the K-12 classroom through **Iowa AEA Online**
5. Easy access to e-curriculum through the digital repository, **EQUELLA**
6. Offer assistance in implementing a Moodle platform, hosted locally or remotely
7. Offer state-wide professional development like the **Online Learning for Iowa Educators** (Project OLLIE) and **COPI** projects
8. **AEA educational technologists** help school leaders with all of these, putting them together into a comprehensive vision for your school, answering questions about policies, the needed technologies, developing an implementation plan, or how to fund the work

### So, where are you?

*"We are a 1:1 school district looking to use digital learning in our classroom."*

**Next Steps:** Utilize e-curriculum from EQUELLA. Contact your AEA to help you transition from in-class to blended learning in your school.

*"We have teachers willing to teach and a Moodle server set up."*

**Next Steps:** Download e-curriculum from EQUELLA; Consider OLLIE professional development and the Online Community of Practice.

*"We have teachers willing to teach, but we don't have a Moodle system set up."*

**Next Steps:** Locate e-curriculum and use it through Moodle hosting or participate in OLLIE Moodle System Admin training.

*"We have teachers willing to teach credit recovery courses."*

**Next Steps:** Purchase low-cost access to credit recovery options; provide your teachers with OLLIE professional development.

*"We have teachers willing to teach, and we want to share out teacher/offerings with other districts."*

**Next Steps:** Contact ILO to discuss ways to market your course or discuss how to build a consortium with other schools.

*"We do not have local teachers available to teach online, but we want our students to access courses."*

**Next Steps:** Contact ILO at <http://iowalearningonline.org/> to find ways to enroll your students.