

Professional Development Overview

Embedded Learning- Learning Sciences International Overview

Professional Development is the most vital element and the key to success for the Classrooms for the Future program. All applicants agreed to participate in professional development activities for leadership, coaches and teachers. The following are professional development requirements:

- Participate in a minimum of 2 training days, Technical (fall) and Implementation (spring) for eMBEDDED Learning (Learning Sciences International) professional development system and opportunities. (Cohort 3 only)
- Participate in a minimum of 30 hours of additional professional development on PDE-mandated content through a combination of offline and online course work training per year (All cohort participating teachers).
- Use professional development experiences to integrate the technology appropriately by adopting practices that regularly integrate technology with teaching and learning, adopting technology-integrated program management practices where appropriate, and ensuring the commitment and endorsement of all Classrooms for the Future teachers(All cohort participating teachers).

Embedded Learning Cohort 3 Requirements

Required 30 hour Professional Development – Embedded Learning Academy PD – Cohort 3

The building administrator and teachers involved in or impacted by Classrooms for the Future including teachers who will be getting fully equipped rooms (teacher laptop, projector, cart with student laptops, white board, all other equipment), and teachers who receive some equipment (fully equipped rooms, but not student laptops) are required to complete a 30 hour course per year. The course will be part of the series, *21st Century Teaching and Learning*, created by Learning Sciences International for the Embedded Learning Academy, formerly know as OPEN courses. Activities include online participation, readings, reflection, local face to face discussion groups, action research and action planning. The courses will be available in a variety of versions including self-study and facilitated study groups; however, **only the facilitated study group versions of the courses will be acceptable in order to fulfill the Classrooms of the Future requirement.** Graduate versions of the courses also fulfill the requirement, and can count toward a MEd: Major in 21st Century Teaching and Learning through Wilkes University. (These are facilitated by graduate level LSI/Wilkes University provided facilitators). For more information regarding graduate credit please visit <http://www.embeddedlearning.com/grad/>.

Courses in the series include:

- Teaching in the 21st Century: The Need for Change

- Authentic Teaching and Learning in the (Math, English, Science, Social Studies) Classroom
- Differentiated Instruction in the (Math, English, Science, Social Studies) Classroom
- Inquiry-based Learning in the (Math, English, Science, Social Studies) Classroom
- Project-based Learning in the (Math, English, Science, Social Studies) Classroom

* This professional development opportunity will allow each district to determine course beginning and ending times, enroll their teachers in the series, manage the learning, facilitate online study groups, monitor coursework, and view data in reports. Plus, it automatically reports Act 48 professional education hours to PDE for all learners.

November One-day Introduction and Technical Training Format

The one-day November training sessions are split into two separate 3 hour sessions. The first session will begin promptly at 8:30 am and run till 11:30 am. Sign in for the first session will occur from 8:00 am- 8:30 am. This session will be directed toward administration involved in the grant and will focus on planning for the 30 hour professional development course, what the 21st Century Teaching & Learning Series is, and what each district receives as part of the grant. This session is open to any team member to attend but does have a specific focus.

Lunch will be provided from 11:30-12:30.

The second session will begin promptly at 12:30 pm and will conclude around 3:30 pm. Sign in for the second session will run from 12:00 pm- 12:30 pm. The second session will be a getting started “train the trainer” technical training on the system provided to participating districts. The second session will focus on how to get your teachers registered, how to set up a study group to take a course, and choosing facilitators for the course. This session is open to any team member to attend but does have a specific focus.

The team from each district that **must attend at least one session during the day**:

- Central office representative for staff development.
- High school principal from each participating high school (or assistant principal for staff development).
- Facilitator(s) designated by the district who will facilitate the first course and be responsible for training other district facilitators (e.g. teacher leaders, coaches in this and other projects such as Project 720 and PAHSCI, department chairs, etc.)
- Person designated by the district that will setup the study groups using the online system (may be an administrator, but may also be the same person as the lead facilitator.)

Lunch will be provided for those attending the trainings. Attendees will receive Act 48 hours for the trainings.

November 3 eMBEDDED Learning Introduction & Technical Training
(Harrisburg PaTTAN)

November 5	eMBEDDED Learning Introduction & Technical Training (IU 19)
November 6	eMBEDDED Learning Introduction & Technical Training (King of Prussia PaTTAN)
November 12	eMBEDDED Learning Introduction & Technical Training (Pittsburgh PaTTAN)
November 13	eMBEDDED Learning Introduction & Technical Training (Clarion Holiday Inn)
November 14	eMBEDDED Learning Introduction & Technical Training (Penn State Nittany Lion Inn)

We have had good responses from teachers taking the first and second course in the *21st Century Teaching & Learning Series*. A number of schools have begun and are planning for all teachers to take a course from the series. We applaud their efforts to provide this opportunity for all teachers to engage in conversations about the changing world and need for change in schools. Please note that we encourage you to include your high school librarian and others in these courses.

21st Century Teaching & Learning frequently asked questions are available at <http://www.embeddedlearningacademy.com/pde/21/faq/>.

If you have a question that is not answered on the site please contact 877-574-1638 or email cs_cff@embeddedlearningacademy.com.

For Embedded Learning Technical and Customer Support, please contact 877-574-1638 or email cs_cff@embeddedlearningacademy.com.

Required Follow-Up Training – Cohort 3

Districts participating in Classrooms for the Future during the 2008-09 school year are required to send a small team to one of six regional one-day introduction and technical trainings in November 2009 and a one-day follow-up training in late February early March to not conflict with PSSA testing. **These meetings are for new grantees (Cohort 3 only), and are MANDATORY.**

To Registered for ALL eMBEDDED Trainings

Registration will be available for the November introduction training and the spring follow-up training for Cohort 3 districts at www.embeddedlearningacademy.com/pde/21. **The registration page will also contain information to assist in determining the staff who should attend the fall technical training.**

Implementation plan – Cohort 3

Districts in the first year of the grant are required to submit an online implementation plan outlining numbers of teachers participating in the program, professional development course work and when they will be completing courses. Please visit www.embeddedlearningacademy.com/pde/21 for a link to the web form. Districts will be asked to complete the online form and **submit their implementation plan by December**

31, 2008. Please feel free to share this plan with any one in your building. We will be utilizing the information provided by you to provide the best support to aid in your implementation and meet the requirement for your district.

Embedded Learning Cohort 1 & 2 Requirements

Requirements and Options for Cohorts 1 & 2 Professional Development – Embedded Learning Academy

Cohort 2- 30 Hour Professional Development Requirement

Teachers involved in or impacted by Classrooms for the Future including teachers who will be getting fully equipped rooms (teacher laptop, projector, cart with student laptops, white board, all other equipment), and teachers who receive some equipment (fully equipped rooms, but not student laptops) or teachers continuing in the grant are required to complete a 30 hour course per year.

New teachers must complete the blended-study group version or the graduate version of the Need for Change course.

Teachers continuing in the grant must complete the Teaching Authentic in the Subject Area Course in the blended-study group version or the graduate version.

Cohort 1- 30 Hour Professional Development Requirement

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New teachers must complete the blended-study group version or the graduate version of the Need for Change course.

Teachers continuing in the grant for their second year must complete the Teaching Authentic in the Subject Area Course in the blended-study group version or the graduate version.

Teachers in the third year of the grant have the option to complete any of the last three courses in the series, Differentiated Instruction in the Content Area, Inquiry-based Instruction in the Content Area, or Project-based Instruction in the Content Area. The district has the ability to run one or a combination of the last three courses for anyone in the third year of the grant.

Implementation Plan Requirement – Cohort 1 & 2

Districts who have already submitted an online implementation plan are asked to **submit a brief update to their plan online by December 31, 2008.** A link for the update form will be available at www.embeddedlearningacademy.com/pde/21. If you have questions regarding information submitted in your plan please contact your PDE coach mentor.

Cross district Study Group Options Cohort 1 & 2

Districts have the option to collaborate to build study groups across multiple school districts. This option will allow smaller districts to have more in-depth conversation and discussions by content areas, or will give the options for teachers to join in conversation with other educators throughout the state. Districts interested in this option can find more information on the 21st century website at www.embeddedlearningacademy.com/pde/21.

Test-out Option (Cohort 1 Only)

Educators covered under the Classrooms for the Future professional development requirement may, with the district's permission, test-out of the courses "Differentiated Instruction in the 21st Century", "Inquiry in the 21st Century", and "Project-based Learning in the 21st Century" if they feel the content would be redundant to training they have received previously. In order to be eligible for the test-out option, the high school principal must certify, through using the provided observation tools, that the strategies contained in the course are prevalent, ongoing, and of sufficient quality for the teacher to be eligible for the test-out option. In the 2008-09 school year, testing sites and dates will be available.

The following courses are not eligible for the test-out option: "Teaching in the 21st Century: The Need for Change" and "Teaching Authentic Mathematics, Science, Language Arts or Social Studies in the 21st Century."

The test-out option enables eligible participants in the CFF grant to test out of courses during the 2008-2009 school year by receiving passing score on a written examination. Test-out option may only be given for the Differentiated Instruction, Inquiry-based, and Project-based courses. These are the last three courses in the 21st Century Series and may be taken in any order depending on availability.

If a teacher meets the eligibility requirements and successfully tests out of a course, the teacher is still responsible for completing the CFF requirement of 30 hours of approved professional development.

If a teacher opts to test-out of all 3 remaining courses, the district must provide 30 hours of professional development approved by PDE to substitute for the coursework.

More information on the test out option can be found at www.embeddedlearningacademy.com/pde/21.

Cohort 1 & 2 Optional Webinars Regarding Professional Development – Embedded Learning

In an effort to support the continued implementation of the 21st Century Teaching and Learning Series, LSI will be offering a series of optional webinars for Cohort 1 & 2 districts. These webinars will occur throughout the year and focus on implementation and technical topics for any district interested. Webinar registration and topics will be announced through the PDE update and information will also be available at www.embeddedlearningacademy.com/pde/21.

September 24, 2008- 3:30 pm- How to Begin Courses Refresher

October 1, 2008- 3:30 pm- Cross District Study Groups/Cohort 1 Test out Option

October 8, 2008- 3:30 pm- Other Professional Development Courses Available (Most for Free!) through the eMBEDDED System.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q- What is the eMBEDDED Learning Academy system that my district is receiving?

A- The eMBEDDED Learning Academy System provides participating CFF districts with a delivery system for online professional development courses. Purchased for each district by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, the online content is free to certified teachers.

Q- How do teachers participate in the course?

A- The eMBEDDED system is a fully web based professional development system that is accessible from any internet location. Teachers create accounts in the system using their Personal Profession Identification Numbers. Then school districts facilitate the blended version of the courses, where they can determine start and end dates and many other aspects of the online professional development.

Q –Are there any tests that the teachers have to take or a project they have to complete in the online course? Are there assignments?

A- Yes. The courses contain computer-scored quizzes at the end of each of the 4 course content units. There are also reflective essays, self-assessments, and practical job-embedded, classroom relevant activities for supporting teachers to integrate technology into their instruction in such a way as to improve student learning.

Q- How soon can the teachers begin the 30 hours of required online course work?

A- Districts will receive a “train the trainer” technical getting started training at the November meeting. District can begin setting up their courses following this training. We encourage districts to use the time before the trainings to start planning for the implementation of the professional development requirement. For more information to assist in the planning process please visit www.embeddedlearningacademy.com/pde/21.

Q-Who is able to see my teacher’s work?

A- There are several privileges through the system that allow monitoring of the learners to occur that will be covered at the technical training. Learner compliance and completion is also regularly monitored by PDE. All teachers participating in CFF are expected to fulfill the professional development requirement. PDE reserves the right to sanction districts for noncompliance.

Q- Our staff wants to go through the course to review it before the teachers begin. How are we able to do this?

A- At the November training each district will be given a demonstration account for the course which will allow you to review the content for 30 days after the session. This demonstration account will be explained in more detail at the training your team attends.

For more Frequently Asked Questions please visit www.embeddedlearningacademy.com/pde/21/faq/.

Optional Online Cohort 1, 2, & 3 Coaches Professional Development (Option Only for Coaches)– Embedded Learning

PDE is again offering free facilitated CPE credit professional development courses for CFF coaches. The courses are the recommended, **but not required**, professional development for any CFF coach and provide a framework for instructional coaching. The course titles include: Teacher Leadership, Instructional Coaching, Part I, and Instructional Coaching, Part II.

The courses will all run in a **9 week facilitated format** with one full week provided at the end of the course to complete the final plan. Registration for the courses is available at www.embeddedlearningacademy.com/pde/21.

Interested coaches will need to **register** through the 21st Century Website, www.embeddedlearningacademy.com/pde/21, no later than **Wednesday, October 1, 2008**.

Courses are set to begin **Monday, October 6, 2008** and run for **9 weeks** until **Friday, December 12, 2008**. The final plan is due during the week of December 15-19, 2008.

All learners participating in the facilitated CPE version of a course will receive 3 CPEs per course and must have an 80% to pass.

Course Descriptions:

Teacher Leadership (Prerequisite)

This course begins with a review of the core beliefs and guiding principles about teacher leadership. You will explore how schools are rapidly changing and the complexity of the change. You will learn and experience various tools of reflection throughout the course. You will also explore the impact of school culture on learning. Also, you will understand the behaviors and attitudes of teacher leaders. It will become a valuable resource for you and other educators.

Instructional Coaching Part I

This course provides the answer to the question “What is coaching?” The content identifies qualities associated with effective instructional coaches and explains why coaching is an effective initiative for improving student achievement. The online learner will participate in a variety of activities and analyze his or her success. Tools for how a teacher successfully moves into a coaching position are

provided. An understanding of adult learners will be explored allowing you to apply coaching strategies with teachers in your school.

Instructional Coaching Part II

This course provides the answer to the question, “How do I become a more effective instructional coach?” After a review of essential elements of coaching, you will learn how to use data in a coaching model. You will also learn how to implement a culture of continuous learning and receive insight on maximizing your coaching potential.