



Student Technology Fee Committee (STFC) Annual Allocation Request

ALLOCATION REQUEST DATE INFORMATION

Date Created: 2021-02-19 13:16:42

Date Due: 2021-02-19 23:59:00

Date Submitted:

ALLOCATION REQUEST TITLE/DESCRIPTION

Request Title: Writing Center e-Tutor desktops

Request Description: An ongoing request for funding for computers to provide students with e-Tutoring services

ALLOCATION REQUEST INFORMATION

Department Name: Teaching and Learning Center (Writing)

Request Code: 21A0302

Contact Names: Rebecca Disrud, Tim Bostelle

UW Tacoma Affiliation: Staff

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Phone Number: 2536924650

Title of Request: Writing Center e-tutor desktops

Type of Request: Continuous / Ongoing

Department Head Approval: Department Head: Rebecca Disrud

Annual Request Information

1. Background: Review and discuss the context of the proposed technology in detail. Explain how this proposal will be used in conjunction with an original proposal or existing technology. If applicable, how is the current technology disabled or inadequate?

The Teaching and Learning Center (TLC) has a very popular e-Tutoring program. This is a service where employed students work as peer writing consultants to provide asynchronous writing support for other students on their papers and job applications. Students seeking feedback are able to submit their drafts and questions to peer consultants and receive written feedback and answers to their questions without having to come to campus or meet synchronously with a peer consultant. The e-tutoring service is particularly popular for students who find it difficult to come to campus on certain days, who work full-time, who have care-taking responsibilities, or who speak another language than English because students do not have to be present at the time of the appointment and can access the written feedback anytime after the appointment.

The TLC's writing center currently has 6 computers for e-tutoring appointments, which means it can conduct up to 6 e-tutoring appointments at a time. IT services installed 5 older computers from the STFC surplus. The computers are not on the replacement schedule and cannot be replaced again.

We are asking the STFC to fund an ongoing proposal: we are asking the STFC to fund two replacement computers this year and then one computer every year after that. In that way we can ensure that the e-Tutoring computers are always less than 5 years old and by replacing one computer a year, it spreads out the costs of replacing computers over five years (instead of \$6,600 all at once, it would be \$1,100 a year).

2. Benefit to Students: Discuss how students have benefited from the original proposal, if applicable. How will additional funding of the technology benefit students? If this was an unforeseen technology need, discuss how students will benefit from this new proposal and why the need cannot wait for annual allocation funding.

These computers are the only tool for peer consultants to provide written feedback to other students. Without working computers, peer writing consultants cannot read and comment on student papers and answer questions, and the only way students would be able to receive writing help would be to come to campus during "business hours."

The writing center in general is a powerful center of peer-to-peer teaching and professional development for student employees. Many students find it helpful to get writing advice from fellow students who can relate to their experiences. Peer writing consultants receive extensive mentoring from professional staff and benefit from a supportive peer group. These students are invested in teaching other students transferable writing skills and supporting them in reaching their academic and career goals. The e-tutoring program allows the TLC to provide wider and more equitable access to writing support and to expand services beyond face-to-face consultations during weekday "business hours" that do not work for many students.

The e-tutoring program allows students who cannot come to campus or who have many demands on their time to access tutoring services asynchronously. Students send drafts of their papers and questions to peer writing consultants, who provide written feedback and answers to students to read and refer to anytime. The e-tutoring program is helpful to students who work full-time, have caregiving responsibilities at home, or who cannot come to campus, because they can schedule appointments during the day when peer consultants are working and access the feedback later, after work or when they are available.

3. Access: Describe who will be using or will have access to the resources being proposed. If the access has changed since an original proposal, be sure to note that here. In addition, all previous requestors, please provide historic data highlighting the usage and accessibility of technology. All new requestors, please provide user need data.

These computers are used by students employed as peer writing consultants. Only UW Tacoma students are hired to do this work and only UW Tacoma students are served by this program.

Even before the pandemic, over 50% of writing appointments have traditionally been e-tutoring appointments, which shows the demand for this service. In the calendar year 2020 (January 1-December 31 2020), the writing center completed 2860 e-tutoring appointments.

4. Timeline: Provide a timeline showing how the proposed technology can be completed during the requested period. Describe when you would like to see this proposal initiated and completed, and why.

Installing computers is typically very fast.

5. Resources/Budget: Discuss available financial, personnel and space resources devoted to the proposed technology and level of support. Proposal must detail all the items/resources requested to be purchased. This includes filling out the Item Detail in next section.

The new Learning Commons space will have a true collaboration between the Center for Equity and Inclusion, the Library, and the Teaching and Learning Center. Each of these units will have a front desk which they will staff and who can provide front-line support for equipment in the complex.

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Funding Request Items

Item	QTY	Cost Per Item	Shipping Fee	Tax Per Item	Subtotal
Dell OptiPlex 3080 - SFF - Core i5 10500 3.1 GHz - 16 GB - SSD 256 GB. With 1 22 inch monitor	2	\$1,111.00	\$0.00	\$113.32	\$2,448.64
OVERALL TOTAL:					\$2,448.64