



Qwest Rewards Innovative South Dakota Teachers Who Improve Education With \$25,000 Grant

SIOUX FALLS, S.D., March 22, 2007 - The Qwest Foundation and 29-90 Distance Learning Consortium (29-90 DLC) today announced a landmark plan to offer teachers vital technology for their classrooms. The \$25,000 Teachers and Technology grant will be divided among up to 10 teachers to improve education in the classroom.

"The advancement of technology in the classroom is key to continuously improving our local and national education system," said Larry Toll, Qwest's South Dakota state president. "The Qwest Teachers and Technology grant program is a unique opportunity for educators to find innovative ways to bring technology into the classroom and better prepare students to succeed."

"We are delighted to be involved with Qwest's Teachers and Technology grant program," said Brian Dzwonek, director of 29-90 DLC. "Technology is a core component of education in South Dakota's school districts, and this funding not only supports our educational mission by allowing for greater opportunities to integrate technology in the classroom, but also reinforces a very important and long-term community relationship with Qwest."

The grants will be awarded to teachers through a competitive process that will be administered by 29-90 DLC. Educators will be able to submit applications for the Qwest Teachers and Technology grants beginning at: <http://2990dlc.googlepages.com/qwest>. The Web site will provide specific instructions on the grant process, including a timeline for application dates. The grant application deadline is April 13, 2007.

The funds may be used to purchase supplies or to support professional development needs; however, funds may not be used to pay salaries or stipends.

The objectives of the program are to improve student achievement through the use of today's technology; build a real-world team problem-solving environment; and set the groundwork for future technology integration projects.

About the Qwest Foundation:

The Qwest Foundation's core principle is that investing in education provides lasting value for the future. The Qwest Foundation awards grants to community-based programs that generate high-impact and measurable results, focusing on pre-K through 12 education.

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