



CIITS News You Can Use

CIITS News, a supplement to the KSIS & More newsletter, is focused on CIITS data quality. CIITS data comes from Infinite Campus, Kentucky's Student Information System (KSIS); therefore, it is important to know how KSIS data is used and the critical need for accuracy.

CIITS monthly webcast

In the October webcast, Brian Spellman from Kentucky Educational Television (KET) discussed the Public Broadcasting System (PBS) resources available in CIITS.

The Nov. 30 one-hour webcast is scheduled to begin at 10:30 a.m. (ET) and will include guests from the Literacy Design Collaborative (LDC) and Mathematics Design Collaborative (MDC).

For more information, including CIITS webcast presentations and recorded sessions, visit the [CIITS Training webpage](#).

Mathematics Design Collaborative Formative Assessment Lessons available in CIITS

State approved Mathematics Design Collaborative (MDC) Formative Assessment Lessons (FAL) have been loaded to CIITS as Lesson Plans. MDC information is now on the CIITS homepage with access to KDE's MDC webpage and the Shell Center for Mathematical Education.

For more information on accessing MDC FALs, use the Quick Reference Card (QRC) located [here](#).

Race to the Top no-cost extension available upon district's written request

The U.S. Department of Education provided notification that KDE is approved to allow Race to the Top Phase 3 participating districts to make no-cost extension requests to extend until June 30, 2016 the period of time allowed to spend carry-forward Race to the Top funds (Grant #4521).

This is not an automatic extension. Districts wishing to extend the time they have to spend their funds must submit a written amendment request to KDE. Each local district wishing a no-cost extension should submit a revised Scope of Work (SOW) indicating which existing projects in the SOW require an extension of time to complete. Additional information can be found below:

Kentucky's approach to no-cost extensions for participating LEAs will be as follows:

- Participating LEAs with funds remaining after the close of Year 4 of the grant will be provided an opportunity to submit an amendment request through the Kentucky Department of Education to carry

these funds into an extended project period to end June 30, 2016. **Amendments will be due by Dec. 18, 2015.** This amendment request will be made through submission of an amended Race to the Top Scope of Work.

- The criteria for approval of the amendment requests will include a programmatic review for alignment to the Scope of Work, and a fiscal review to ensure that planned expenditures are allowable costs and budgeted accordingly.
- Unexpended funds of participating LEAs that do not submit an amendment request for carry forward by Dec. 18 will be re-distributed according to the original allocation formula to supplement the budgets of participating LEAs with approved no-cost extension amendment requests.

If you have any questions, please contact David Cook by [email](#) or telephone at 502-564-4201, or you may contact Thelma Hawkins by [email](#) or telephone at 502-564-1979.

CIITS Production upgraded to 17.0

On Oct. 30, the CIITS production site was upgraded with Release 17.0 that included the following updates:

- Instructional Management System (IMS)-Item/Assessment Creation Redesign User Experience
- IMS-Select Standards feature
- IMS- Checklist item type
- IMS-Item Analysis - Trait breakdown
- Educator Development Suite (EDS)-Accessing Previous Years Student Growth Goals (SGG)
- EDS-Individual Search & Dashboard
- EDS-Professional Growth Plan (PGP) Status screens
- EDS-PGP Approval Buttons moved
- EDS-No Numbers for Observation Summary