TITLE 33
EDUCATION

CHAPTER 48
IDAHO EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVE

33-4801. SHORT TITLE. This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Idaho Educational Technology Initiative of 1994."

[33-4801, added 1994, ch. 229, sec. 1, p. 716.]

33-4802. FINDINGS. The legislature hereby finds, determines and declares that the state of Idaho recognizes the importance of applying technology to meet the public need for an improved, thorough and seamless public education system for elementary and secondary education, education of the hearing or visually impaired, postsecondary and higher education and public libraries.


33-4803. DEFINITIONS. As used in this chapter:

1) "Educational segments" are, individually, the public elementary and secondary school system, the Idaho bureau of educational services for the deaf and the blind, the career technical education system, the commission for libraries, the state historical society, Idaho public television, the community colleges, the four-year colleges and universities, the state department of education and the office of the state board of education.

2) "Libraries" means district, city, school/community libraries, and the commission for libraries as described in chapters 25, 26 and 27, title 33, Idaho Code.

3) "Technology" means all present and future forms of computer hardware, computer software and services used or required for automated data processing, computer-related office automation or telecommunications.

4) "Telecommunications" means all present and future forms of hardware, software or services used or required for transmitting voice, data, video or images over a distance.


33-4804. PUBLIC SCHOOL TECHNOLOGY GRANTS. There is hereby established the public school technology grant program, to be implemented by the state department of education, which shall make available grants for schools to provide Idaho classrooms, including classrooms at the Idaho bureau of educational services for the deaf and the blind, with the equipment and resources necessary to integrate information age technology with instruction and to further connect those classrooms with external telecommunications services. Grant applications shall include a project plan that describes proposed equipment and software purchases; how the proposed equipment and software will be used effectively in the classroom; provision for training
teachers to make optimal use of the technology; and provision for local matching funds as prescribed.


33-4805. EVALUATIONS AND AUDITS. The legislative services office shall, from time to time as directed by the legislature, evaluate and audit the relative impact, costs and benefits of each of the educational technology programs conducted pursuant to this chapter. The state department of education shall report to the legislature and the governor each year on or before October 1 as to the relative impact, cost and benefit of the educational technology program conducted pursuant to this chapter.


33-4808. SEVERABILITY. The provisions of this chapter are hereby declared severable, and in the event that any word, phrase, sentence, clause, paragraph or section of this chapter be determined by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid for any reason, such partial invalidity shall not affect the validity of the remainder of this chapter.

[33-4808, added 1994, ch. 229, sec. 1, p. 719.]