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For Immediate Release

September 6, 2016

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Governor Walker Announces \$1.5 Million Available in Grants for TEACH Educational Technology Teacher Training

Madison – Today, Governor Scott Walker announced **Technology** for **Educational Achievement** (**TEACH**) grants are now available to eligible school districts as a way to enhance the role of information technology in student learning and achievement. Administered by the Department of Administration (DOA) in collaboration with the Department of Public Instruction (DPI), the *Teacher Training Grants for Educational Technology* provide support for districts to attend, arrange, and administer training activities that build the information technology knowledge and capacity of teachers.

"As we continue to provide broadband solutions to school districts throughout Wisconsin, we want to ensure educators also have access to training that will enhance digital learning and technology usage," Governor Walker said. "These TEACH grants provide our schools districts with important resources to improve technology and communication in the classroom."

In fiscal year 2016 TEACH grants totaling \$1,499,674 were awarded to 25 consortia comprised of 189 rural school districts to allow district teachers to attend, arrange, and provide training activities to build the information technology knowledge and capacity of teachers.

Grants for fiscal year 2017 are available to consortia of three or more eligible school districts. There is no maximum limit on the number of eligible school districts that can be part of a consortium applying to receive funds. Participating school districts must have 13 or fewer students per square mile. The amount of funding available to a school district is determined by the number of students within the district. A list of eligible school districts and the maximum funding available can be found on the http://teach.wi.gov website.

This year's biennial budget, 2015 Wisconsin Act 55, provided \$1.5 million annually for the *Teacher Training Grants* as a part of the greater TEACH initiative. The allocated funds can be used for registration fees for online, blended, or face-to-face professional learning events focused on enhancing digital learning capacity; training to enhance the use of technology in the classroom; or specific programming aligned to district technology goals.

The *Teacher Training Grants* for Educational Technology are annual awards. Any activities funded must occur or have occurred during the specified grant award period, July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017. Unused funding will not be carried over to subsequent award periods.

Eligible school districts can apply for TEACH *Teacher Training Grants* online at the <u>TEACH website</u>. Grant applications must be submitted to DOA by 11:59 p.m. on October 10, 2016. Late applications will not be considered.

For more information about the grant requirement or reimbursement process, visit the <u>TEACH website</u> .	
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