

May, 2011

INTERACTIVE WHITEBOARD PROGRAM- Primary Schools for the 21st Century- Building the Education Revolution

The roll out of Interactive Whiteboards (IWBs) has now begun within the Building the Education Revolution Program of the Primary Schools for the 21st Century (P21).

This applies only to all NSW Public Schools that received new and refurbished classrooms under the P21 Program.

It will involve the roll out of more than 4,000 IWBs in over 1,000 public primary schools across the State.

Selection of Schools for the Roll Out

Due to the massive task of the roll out, the program will be delivered in three continuous phases.

The selection of schools in each phase has been based on the following considerations;

A strong driver for the installation of IWBs is to improve learning outcomes for students. The IWB roll out strategy has combined the trends identified in the IWB trial in 2006 with the Department's initiatives and priorities for improved learning outcomes, and in particular, closing the performance gap for students.

The priority of the roll out has been discussed with the Department of Education and Communities (Office of Schools). Schools have been identified on the basis of student learning needs. The use of IWBs in these schools has the capacity to make a significant difference in closing the gap. The roll out will take place across a spread of regions including a variety of school sizes.

Timing of Roll Out

The exact time of the roll out will depend upon the supply and installation of IWBs with the BER Program Office working with the suppliers for a quick and efficient installation process for all eligible schools.

The roll out will occur in three continuous phases:

- Phase One: May - July 2011 (around 1,900 units for 494 schools);
- Phase Two: August - November 2011 (around 1,300 units for 291 schools); and
- Phase Three: December - January 2012 (around 1,000 units for 264 schools).

It is anticipated that the installation of all IWBs for this program will be completed by the start of Term One, 2012, if not earlier.

Schools will not be able to defer their installation due to the tight time frame for installation but may decline to have IWBs installed in their P21 classrooms if they are not required.

If you have recently ordered IWBs and are now informed you are entitled to receive IWBs, under the P21 Program, you may wish to consider the cancellation of the order, but you will need to consider any possible losses that you may incur. See Compensation Conditions below.

Contact your Principal Liaison Officer to discuss the options.

Allocation of IWBs

The allocation of IWBs will be based on the following conditions:

- Limited up to the number of permanent classes.
- Limited to P21 classrooms where there is no IWB or Interactive Classroom already installed.
- One board type only in line with the procurement of IWBs. See Procurement of IWBs below.
- Not applicable to halls, libraries or other buildings.

If a school has already installed IWBs in P21 classrooms, they may be entitled to compensation. See Compensation Conditions below.

If a school has installed IWBs in their P21 classrooms, IWBs supplied under this roll out will not be transferrable to other rooms in the school. See Compensation Conditions below.

Procurement of IWBs

The procurement of IWBs has been made through a tendering process (due to the large number of IWBs to be purchased) which will deliver a cost effective price and process in a coordinated delivery pattern across the State. The supply and installation will be managed by the BER Program Office to benefit all eligible NSW Public Schools.

Electroboard Solutions Pty Ltd (Smartboards) and Panasonic Australia (Panaboards) have been selected as the two suppliers for the supply and installation of the IWBs.

A special agreement has also been reached so that the IWBs will be supplied with the Department's preferred software package as part of the installation.

There will be no provision within the budget to provide computers.

As there will be a coordinated approach to the supply and installation of IWBs in P21 classrooms from the preferred suppliers, there will be no guarantee that delivery will be quicker if schools decide to purchase directly from them.

Communication to school Principals

Each school Principal will be advised at the same time, by email, of the phase in which their school is to receive IWBs. Information will be required from each school to clarify certain details such as the number of IWBs that may have been purchased, room functions etc. This information will be required within a defined time to ensure an effective delivery schedule for the number and installation of IWBs.

Some discussion with Principal Liaison Officers may be required to confirm the number of IWBs per school as some schools may have already purchased their IWBs through other funding sources.

Principal Liaison Officers will be available to discuss with school Principals issues that may arise during this process. Additional information will also be published on the BER website which may assist school Principals in the implementation of this roll out.

Role of the school Principal

School Principals will need to select their preferred choice of IWB from the two contract suppliers – one IWB type only.

School Principals will be requested to submit orders and information during the school's delivery phase.

School Principals will be required to complete the information request that will be provided (Phase 1, followed by Phase 2 and 3) by the due date to ensure they receive their IWBs within the allocated time frame. If the timeframe for the return of information is not met, then schools may go into the next phase of delivery.

School Principals will also be responsible for the completion of the User Acceptance Testing (UAT) form that will be provided by technicians upon completion of the installation to ensure that the IWBs are fully functional. This must be completed by the school Principal or their nominated delegate. Do not sign a UAT unless the IWB is functioning and you are satisfied with the installation.

Compensation Possibilities

Through the successful tender process and the opportunity to bundle together a package of IWBs, compensation may now be possible for schools that may have already purchased their IWBs for their P21 classrooms. These schools may now be eligible for compensation.

If schools have purchased IWBs from non BER funding sources e.g P&C Association or other school funds, compensation may be possible based on the conditions as outlined below.

Compensation will be considered **ONLY** for those who have installed **NEW** IWBs in their P21 new/refurbished classrooms **PRIOR** to the commencement of the roll out strategy - **29 April 2011** and that the IWBs were purchased new for the P21 classrooms.

Compensation will not be available to those schools that have purchased an IWB from other BER funds such as National School Pride Program as the Commonwealth BER Guidelines do not allow the transfer of funds between BER programs.

Compensation will not be available to those schools that purchased an IWB after the commencement of the roll out strategy (end April 2011) irrespective of whether they purchase one from the two preferred suppliers participating in this roll out.

Compensation will not be available to schools that selected their P21 classrooms as the location for their Interactive Classrooms.

Compensation Conditions

- Schools who are entitled to compensation will receive the compensation after the complete installation of IWBs – end Jan 2012.
- Schools will receive compensation to the maximum value of IWBs based on the current contract price to the value of \$4,533 (ex GST) for Smartboards and \$5,252 (ex GST) for Panaboards. This price includes units and a standard “plug & play” installation.
- Schools will need to provide proof of purchase/itemised invoices to receive compensation.
- Schools will not receive additional IWBs for the value of the compensation that they may be entitled to receive.
- Schools will not be able to trade off for other re-scope works.
- Schools will not be able to request the money for their own installation arrangements.

During the delivery process, schools will be required to complete an information sheet which will identify where schools have purchased IWBs for their P21 facilities. The BER Program Office will liaise with those schools which may be eligible for compensation.

For more information or clarification, please contact your Principal Liaison Officer who will be able to discuss the process or other issues that you may have in relation to this roll out of IWBs.

Click [here](#) for Interactive Whiteboard Program - Primary Schools for the 21st Century - Questions and Answers