

\*Project Name: Ohlone College's Computers, Networks, and Emerging Technology (CNET)  
NETLAB+ Optimization and Support Project

Please enter the name (or a descriptive title) of the specific program seeking support.

\*Project Amount (\$) 19,652

\*Project Start Date January 1, 2015

\*Project End Date December 31, 2015

\*Describe the project for which you are seeking funding (3-5 short sentences)

Ohlone College's Computers, Networks, and Emerging Technology (CNET) department and the Western Academy Support and Training Center (WASTC) are combining efforts to optimize our existing NETLAB+ implementation, to establish professional technical support and lab management of the system, and to expand NETLAB+ access to CNET students, the ICT instructors that the WASTC supports throughout the region, and to partner institutions that we currently share our NETLAB with.

\*Describe the need, problem and/or opportunity addressed by the project. How did you identify the particular need addressed by your proposal? Please provide measurable evidence if applicable.

Ohlone's CNET department invested in our NETLAB+ system nearly ten years ago. We have struggled each year with lab deployment, maintenance, and upgrades to the system. Each year we look for promising students who help to fulfill some of these needs. We have been fortunate in most years to identify great students who take on the project, learn, have success, apply what they have learned, and leave for better more permanent opportunities. There have been some years where we don't find a shining start student.

Ohlone's CNET department's NETLAB+ system is currently being shared with local high school partners, the Western Academy Support and Training Center, and with our regional partner colleges. We have reached our capacity and need to do some system upgrades to optimize our implementation and to continue and to expand this shared environment.

**\*Describe how you will use funds:**

We will use the funds to do the following:

- perform equipment upgrades on our existing system,
- hire a part-time technician/lab manager for our NETLAB implementation,
- provide professional development training for the technician and faculty that will be using the system.

**\*Why is this the right time for this project?**

ICT has been identified as an important employment sector in our region. We have demonstrated experience with collaborating with our partners, sharing our resources, and expanding student access. We can do much more.

**\*Describe how this project will enable the NetLAB User Group to expand our shared knowledge of the tools, allow more students access, and/or enable more faculty to become proficient in their use.**

Other institutions, in the state, that use NETLAB+ have similar challenges and are seeking similar solutions. We will be able to provide a member of, what we envision will be, a team of NETLAB technicians/ managers who will be able to share best practices and best solutions. Instructors who are NETLAB users will be able to share curriculum and labs. We will be able to expand our shared knowledge of the tools and the pedagogy.

**\*What is the most difficult aspect of this project that could affect your success?**

We will be challenged to find competent technical support on a part-time basis in what is a tight Bay Area ICT employment market.

**\*Will you be requiring any resources from your Deputy Sector Navigator (DSN) other than funding for the project? Please explain.**

No. No other funds will be required from the DSN.

**\*Given that you will share your results at the conclusion of your project, what are your plans to make your proposed project available for the NetLAB User Group and for your DSN and how will you increase the effectiveness of your work for the larger community?**

We will share the following with the NetLAB User Group:

- best practices for resources sharing
- examples of MOUs that we have used to institutionalize the sharing.
- document the scheduling and management practices which allow infrastructure to effectively support delivery of courses.