



National Center for Technology Innovation
Advancing Technology Innovations for All Students

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***Technology in the Works 2009* Competition
Recognizes Collaborative Research Focusing on Innovative Technologies
for Students with Special Needs**

Washington, DC — The National Center for Technology Innovation (NCTI) announced today the *Technology in the Works 2009* competition. This award competition promotes excellence in short-term, quasi-experimental evaluations studying the impact of learning and assistive technologies (AT) to improve educational outcomes for *all* students, with a particular focus on students with special needs.

The annual competition calls for “quick turnaround” collaborative research efforts that inform the development of innovative and emerging assistive technologies, tools that provide greater access for students with disabilities. The objective of the competition is to encourage researchers, including graduate students, and developers to work collaboratively to study the effectiveness and feasibility of a particular technology intervention.

“There is a sense of urgency among educators and families to determine what programs and technologies are demonstrating promise for students with special needs. This competition provides initial data on emerging technologies that can enhance the lives of students with disabilities,” commented Tracy Gray, Director of the National Center for Technology Innovation at the American Institutes for Research.

The *Technology in the Works* competition will offer up to five awards of \$15,000 each and will be announced on May 4, 2009. Letters of intent must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. ET on March 23, 2009, and the proposal must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. ET on April 6, 2009. Award recipients must secure matching funds of at least \$15,000 to be eligible. Funds may be used to support an expansion of an already existing research project.

More information regarding the competition, including a detailed Request for Proposal (RFP), eligibility guidelines, and deadlines, as well as a list of past recipients, is available on the [NCTI Web site](#).



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About the National Center for Technology Innovation

The National Center for Technology Innovation (NCTI) (www.NationalTechCenter.org), established in 2001, advances learning opportunities for *all* students, with a special focus on individuals with disabilities, by fostering technology innovation. NCTI offers technical guidance to facilitate growth and sustainability of learning and assistive tools. The Center is funded by the Office of Special Education Programs at the U.S. Department of Education and is located at the American Institutes for Research in Washington, DC.