

## MLTI 2.0 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

### General

**Q: Will MLTI 2.0 service, support, and professional learning options be the same, no matter the device chosen?**

**A:** Yes, all participants in MLTI 2.0 will receive the same level of service, support, and professional learning.

**Q: Do you have any information about the alternate equivalent value program?**

**A:** Because we are providing each district with an allocation and not a device, there is no alternate equivalent value program.

**Q: What units are eligible to participate in MLTI 2.0?**

**A:** Participation in MLTI 2.0 is based on publicly funded attending students. If a unit has publicly funded attending students, the unit is eligible to participate in MLTI 2.0. A list of eligible units can be found on the [MLTI 2.0 web site](#).

**Q: Is there a plan for CTE Regions?**

**A:** CTE programs will be able to purchase off of the State negotiated contracts.

### Professional Learning

**Q: Can you participate in the PD elements of MLTI without participating in the device purchase?**

**A:** Yes.

**Q: Can you clarify the role of the instructional coach that will be provided to each MLTI school?**

**A:** We will have regional MLTI Ambassadors who will provide school-based instructional coaching to MLTI schools. These ambassadors will be assigned schools based on student population instead of county to ensure that they have a manageable caseload. This coach will work with the building leadership to understand the building goals, hopes, and needs regarding effective classroom technology integration. In addition to understanding the building goals, the coach will also meet with each teacher to understand their personal goals regarding technology integration in their classroom. From there, the coach will develop a plan to meet and work with the school- this could be in full staff meetings, grade level teams, content areas teams, as individuals, or any design that works. It is our expectations that all of the teachers who receive a MLTI device are engaging with the coach on some level, but it is our intent to customize the engagement to meet the needs of the individual educator and school. Goal setting by the

schools and educators will, to an extent, determine the level of time commitment within a given school.

### **1:1 Personal Computing Devices**

#### ***Q: Will there be a Question and Answer session with Maine DOE?***

**A:** Yes. On May 7<sup>th</sup> we will host two Q&A sessions open to Tech Directors and Superintendents. The recordings of those sessions will be posted on our website by the end of the day on Monday, May 10<sup>th</sup>.

#### ***Q: If the cost of the device is more than the state-provided device allocation, will the district be able to pay out the cost over 3 years?***

**A:** The local share will be paid directly to the vendor. Any financing or payment plans for the local share will need to be negotiated directly between your district and the vendor.

#### ***Q: In past iterations of MLTI, we have been able to opt-in for other grade levels that were not included in the state funding of the program. Will that be an option with MLTI 2.0?***

**A:** Yes, districts will be able to purchase additional devices at their own cost off the State negotiated service contracts.

#### ***Q: How were the student allocation numbers determined?***

**A:** The attending student counts used to determine the student allocation are from the 10/1/20 student count in NEO. These counts have been compared with the April 1 reported data and the highest number from either report was used to obtain the most accurate student count possible. We did this for SY 21-22 because of the effects of the COVID 19 pandemic on student counts, particularly early in the school year. In future years we will use the October 1 count only.

#### ***Q: Where do I find my student allocation numbers?***

**A:** You can find student allocation numbers [here](#).

#### ***Q: Can Schools purchase add ons for the devices if the cost remains below the allocation amount?***

**A:** Due to state procurement laws we are only allowed to pay for what was bid during the RFP response, not for any add-ons you may choose to purchase. The reimbursement is only for the package that was bid and was awarded through the RFP. These packages can be found on our [website](#). Any additional purchases will be at local expense and not reimbursed.

#### ***Q: Are there different device selections for staff and students?***

**A:** No, the device menu is the same for students and staff.

**Q: In the past the payments for the MLTI program were broken down into 4 years. Will this still be the case? I noticed the warranty and MDM were only for 3 years so we were not sure.**

**A:** The 1:1 computing device program for MLTI 2.0 has shifted from the model of the original MLTI. The devices will be purchase in a one-time payment, not leased. When you purchase the device, it comes with 3 years of MDM licenses and 3 years of the extended warranty. This year, the allocation is for two grade levels. In the following years, the allocation will be for one grade level contiguous to either 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Q: We currently use a different MDM than the one offered with our preferred device. Is there any way to switch the MDM or are we locked into using the one provided with the MLTI devices?**

**A:** The awarded bids included the specific MDM so when you purchase the device you will receive the listed MDM. Of course, you can choose not to use it, but unfortunately, you wouldn't be refunded the cost because it is part of the negotiated package.

**Q: What grade will the Year 2 device allocation be for?**

**A:** Year 2 student allocation can be used to purchase devices for contiguous grades. The configuration of grades beyond 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade could include 6<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> in year 2. If a school chooses to have the device follow the student, they could choose 7<sup>th</sup> grade again in year 2 and have 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> grade enrolled in MLTI 2.0.

**Q: Regarding adjacent grades in the second year if we choose a grade that has significantly more publicly funded students would our device number allocation change?**

**A:** The allocation will match the student count of the chosen grade. However, if 9<sup>th</sup> grade is chosen in the second year, there will need to be agreement from all of the sending middle schools because it will count as the allocation from all of those middle schools.

**Q: Will the device follow the student?**

**A:** Device deployment and management will be the local unit's decision.

**Q: How will the device allocation work?**

**A:** The device allocations are based on the attending student count certified on October 1. The device allocation amount will be declared annually. 2021-22's device allocation is \$459. Maine DOE will pay the device vendor directly up to the maximum allocation for the unit. If the unit purchases devices over the total allocation amount, the vendor will invoice the unit for any remaining balance that is over the allocation amount paid by Maine DOE on behalf of the unit.

**Q: How will schools order devices for enrollment increases that will happen in August/September due to changes in COVID restrictions?**

**A:** We have provided your allocations based on your NEO enrollment for your incoming 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders for SY 21-22. We will only be able to reimburse you for this number. Please do not order

additional devices in anticipation of enrollment increases due to students who you think will be returning in the fall. We cannot reimburse you for these devices. We will have a process for ordering additional devices in the fall to cover enrollment increases due to COVID.

**Q: I assume that the eligible units will own the devices?**

**A:** Yes, units will own the devices they purchase.

**Q: Can a district elect to take funds for staff devices but not for student devices (e.g. if they already have enough student devices purchased locally)?**

**A:** Yes, this is a local unit's decision.

**Q: Can a district buy one device for students and a different device for staff (e.g. Chromebook for students and Mac or Win laptop for staff?)**

**A:** Yes.

**Q: Is this a purchase or a lease?**

**A:** Maine DOE will not make any device purchases and will not be entering into any leases. MLTI 2.0 eligible units will purchase off the state negotiated contracts. Each unit will choose the financing mechanism that best suits them for amounts owed over the state allocation amount.

**Q: Can districts buy four to five years worth of devices from the list of approved options in year one and then be reimbursed in years 2 and 3?**

**A:** No, allocations must be spent for device purchases in the year it is allocated.

**Q: If many schools decide to not participate in the device program, will the per device allocation increase? What would happen to the extra money?**

**A:** The budget for MLTI is based on an estimated number of units participating. Once we have confirmed unit participation we will revisit the budget, if necessary.

**Q: Can districts take the money equivalent and do something other than buy a device? For example, can they buy professional development, AV Equipment, software?**

**A:** No. The device allocation is for purchasing devices.

**Q: Is there a list of qualified staff positions/types who will receive Devices?**

**A:** MLTI 2.0 provides a device allocation for eligible staff, including technology directors, and staff positions who provide instruction to student students in participating grades including classroom educators, library media specialists, ESOL teachers, GT teachers, instructional coaches, literacy specialists, special education teachers, technology integrator coordinators, as provided in NEO staff module on March 8, 2021.

**Q: In past iterations of MLTI, we have been able to opt-in for other grade levels that were not included in the state funding of the program. Will that be an option with MLTI 2.0? We're**

***trying to weigh our options for replacing student and staff devices and it would be very helpful to know if this was an option for us.***

**A:** Units will be able to purchase devices off the device contracts for any grade level.

**Q: *We will be able to use the \$459.00 per eligible Staff or Student to purchase machines directly from a vendor who is not on the MLTI device menu?***

**A:** The MLTI device allocation can only be used to purchase devices off of the [approved device](#) menu.

**Q: *Can districts be reimbursed for device purchases that are not on the menu?***

**A: No**

### **Technical Support**

**Q: *Will Maine DOE or Networkmaine support wireless networks? Should we be budgeting to set up our own WiFi network?***

**A:** The MLTI 2.0 program will support MLTI managed WiFi for the 2021-22 school year, through 6/30/2022. This means WiFi maintenance and support for your existing MLTI managed WiFi network, including wiring, access points, controllers, switches and other network equipment will be supported for one additional school year, but will not be supported by MLTI after 6/30/2022. Over this next school year, MLTI program staff will work with your school(s) to transfer WiFi responsibility to local control. A transition of WiFi networks to local responsibility must take place during the school year 2021-22. This transition will have both an operational and financial impact on your SAU.

MLTI 2.0 will continue to support the Maine School and Library Network (MSLN) a consortium managed by Networkmaine that provides support and delivery of broadband to each of your buildings at no cost; the broadband service and support will not change.

### **Software**

**Q: *Please describe in detail how the Software part of the program will work? Is this software for creation and productivity like video/audio, "Office" style tools? Will it be for subscriptions for curated resources (e.g. Britannica online, Newsela, Discovery Ed) or instructional tools (e.g. Lexia, Dreambox, IXL)***

**A:** We are currently working on the details of the software allocation.

**Q: *Can you participate in the software offerings without participating in the device purchase?***

**A:** Once a unit opts in to participate in MLTI 2.0 they will be able to determine if they would like the full device allocation or not.