FLEXIBLY ACCESSED COMPUTER LABS

The flexibly accessed computer lab provides opportunities for large group, small group or individual instruction and activities as well as independent use. A flexibly accessed computer lab must be large enough to include student stations, a teacher station, work areas, and storage space. Forty square feet should be allowed per workstation, resulting in 1200 square-foot minimum to accommodate a typical thirty-student class.

ACTIVITIES

Word processing, data management, desktop publishing, computer-assisted instruction, presentations and multimedia, online research, online courses.

SIZE

Suggested minimum for K-12: 40 sq. ft. per workstation. For example, 1200 sq. ft. is the recommended minimum for a class of 30 students, plus additional space for instruction and storage. Size varies depending on student population and needs.

SPATIAL RELATIONSHIPS

Accessible to classrooms and media center. If managed by school library media coordinator, direct physical and visual access from the media center is necessary.

FURNITURE/EQUIPMENT

- Sufficient networked multimedia computers (to accommodate the largest class)
- 3 to 1 ratio of students to computers
- Ergonomically sound and age-appropriate furniture
- Workstations that meet Standards for Accessible Computer Workstations
- Tables or counters
- Chairs
- Storage units for software and supplies
- Bookshelves
- Telephone with internal and external access
- Clock
- One surge protector per computer or built-in surge protection for circuits
- Teacher workstation with 200-volt UPS with surge suppression
- Printer
- Flatbed scanner
- Overhead projector or document camera
- Screen
- Data/video projection capability
- White boards and/or digital interactive whiteboard
- Individual student response system
- Television or large-screen monitor
- Adequate electrical outlets

