



New Policy Brief: *K-12 Online Education* The Maryland Equity Project

K-12 Online Education: What are the Policy Implications for Maryland (2.4.15)

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Technology has become an increasingly important topic in K-12 education, but designing effective policies to keep up with the advancements in learning technology and facilitate the use of digital tools in K-12 public education is harder than it might seem. Simply adopting policies that facilitate access to technology is insufficient to improve student learning. This policy brief compares Maryland's experiences with online education to other states and describes the governance, funding, learning, and accountability challenges online education poses for K-12 schools and districts. It shows how different kinds of online delivery options each involve a different set of questions and challenges that, if addressed, will facilitate successful use and implementation. The brief concludes with recommendations for how policymakers can address these challenges and better link instructional and learning goals to technology use in K-12 classrooms.

Available at: <http://mdequity.org/research/K-12education>

About Us: The Maryland Equity Project seeks to improve education through research that supports an informed public policy debate on the quality and distribution of educational opportunities in Maryland. The Maryland Equity Project is a program in the Department of Teaching and Learning, Policy and Leadership, College of Education at the University of Maryland, College Park, MD. Visit us at mdequity.org or follow us on Twitter @mdequity.