

MY Access!

Program Description

MY Access![®] is a Web-based program which features an interactive environment and offers immediate, targeted feedback to students' writing that motivates them to edit, learn, and write some more. In addition, its automated scoring engine, IntelliMetric[™], instantly grades essays with a holistic (overall) score as well as with analytic scores on five specific domains of writing. All work is stored in an online portfolio, so students can view their progress, address their weaknesses, and bolster their strengths. Plus, comprehensive reports keep educators and administrators up-to-date on student progress and pinpoint areas in need of intervention to maximize student achievement. Because MY Access![®] is Web-based, students can work on their assignments anywhere and anytime they have access to an Internet-enabled computer.

Program Implementation

MY Access! is a program that requires that students have access to computers with Internet connection for a minimum of 45 minutes a day, three days a week. This can be accomplished during the regular school day or extended day program. The program is available in both Spanish and English and has been used effectively for ELLs at an intermediate or advanced level. Also, MY Access! consultants will work with schools to upload student data into the MY Access! server, which will provide robust reports on student progress at school, district, network, and citywide levels.

Professional Development

MY Access! can help bring about a fundamental change in a teacher's approach to teaching writing and in increasing students' motivation to write. With ELL support capabilities and cross curricular prompts, MY Access! is a multi-functional program that allows teachers to focus on individualized instruction and help students improve skills through the recursive writing process. This program helps teachers put writing into practice and enables students to discover proper writing methods through the instant diagnostic feedback and unlimited writing practice.

However, none of this is possible without a school or district's commitment to providing teachers with a comprehensive professional learning plan based on teacher writing engagement, and forums for professional dialogue and collaboration. An initial off-site 2-day professional development session for all teachers and administrators involved is arranged. At this session, participants are introduced to the basic software, the benchmark assessments, class roster creation and successful instructional strategies. Subsequent onsite visits can be provided by the MY Access! staff to assist with program implementation, model lessons, and address any program management concerns.

Infrastructure and Cost

Students must have internet access. To be effective, students should use MY Access! for a minimum of three periods per week during the school day and/or in extended day. It is recommended that all staff that will use the program participate in the initial 2-day training session. For additional information, contact Dave Hewes at 1-800-230-2213 or dhewes@vantage.com.