

EQUIPMENT NEEDS ASSESSMENT APPLICATION

Name of Person Submitting Request:	Diane Hunter
Program or Service Area:	Writing Center
Division:	Humanities
Date of Last Program Efficacy:	2008/2009
What rating was given?	Continuance
Equipment Requested	Pronunciation Software
Amount Requested:	\$490.00
Strategic Initiatives Addressed:	Student success/Technology

1. Provide a rationale for your request.

The Pronunciation Power software is critical for the success of our ESL students. The numbers of ESL students who have used the Writing Center for pronunciation workshops are as follows: The class caps for each of the 5 ESL sections offered each year was set at $30.30 \times 5 = 150$ students maximum per year multiplied by 2 for the two years in which students were assessed = 300.

According to the data provided by the SBVC Assessment Center, from August 2010 to August 2012, 688 students were assessed into English as a second language (ESL) courses. This number is more than twice the number of students that the ESL course offerings were capable of serving during this period of time. This indicates that there is a great need in the community for ESL course offerings. Students who are assessed into these courses require assistance with accent reduction and pronunciation practice, which require additional support outside of a classroom setting in order to achieve mastery.

2. Indicate how the content of the latest Program Efficacy Report and/or most current EIS data support this request. How is the request tied to program planning? (*Reference the page number(s) where the information can be found on Program Efficacy.*)

Furthermore, SARS data from the SBVC Writing Center revealed that during the time between January 2011 and September 2012, there have been 105 ESL student attendees for the ESL pronunciation workshops that have been offered by the Writing Center. Of this number, 57 students were unduplicated.

Student interest in pronunciation accuracy and mastery through their attendance in ESL workshops and enrollment in ESL courses supports the need for the college to purchase an English pronunciation program that can further foster the development of the oral communication skills of this population of students. The purpose of this software will be to facilitate in the improvement of ESL students' skills in pronunciation and articulation of spoken discourse.

We are requesting that two sets be purchased for the Writing Center since the center has the media resources to run the software programs. This two-part software program will be housed in the Writing Center for student use. **This is a one-time purchase.**

3. Indicate if there is additional information you wish the committee to consider (*for example: regulatory information, compliance, updated efficiency and/or student success data or planning etc*).

4. Evaluation of initial cost, as well as related costs (including any ongoing maintenance or updates) and identification of any alternative or ongoing funding sources. (for example Department Budget, VTEA or Perkins)

The cost of one set of this program is approximately \$204.95 plus taxes and shipping . However, we are requesting that two sets be purchased for the Writing Center since the center has the media resources to run the software programs. The cost of two sets of programs is approximately \$475.00 including tax and shipping.

5. What are the consequences of not funding this equipment?

If the pronunciation software is not purchased, students will not have the opportunity to improve their language skills with current, proven, technology and practice methods and matriculate from the ESL first-level course to our mainstream composition course sequence, which is the goal.