

SSBA Hardware, Software, License and Fees Policy

Subscription fees, product or equipment leases, professional development, maintenance or support costs (other than software upgrades), fees or other administrative costs are ineligible costs under SSBA. These items are not eligible as they are considered operational costs, not capital expenditures. SSBA funds cannot be utilized for soft (or operational) costs as they would not be eligible for the State Capital Bonds that will support the program. Districts will be required to have such costs funded through other sources, such as local funding or the federal E-Rate program.

Smart Schools funds may only reimburse the cost of an actual device or hardware and the licenses or core operating software or extended replacement warranties needed to enable the hardware to operate and to directly support the intended educational purpose(s) of the SSBA plan.

Licenses, software and warranties that are purchased on an annual basis may be initially purchased with SSBA funds along with the hardware, provided such bundling of costs is reasonable and customary; however any future renewals or riders must be funded with other resources.

Multi-year software upgrade plans and extended replacement warranties may be purchased with the SSBA funds at the same time as the initial hardware purchase, if they are required to enable the hardware to operate and to directly support the intended educational purpose(s) of the SSBA plan. Please indicate the length in years of the software upgrade agreement clearly in the appropriate narratives.