

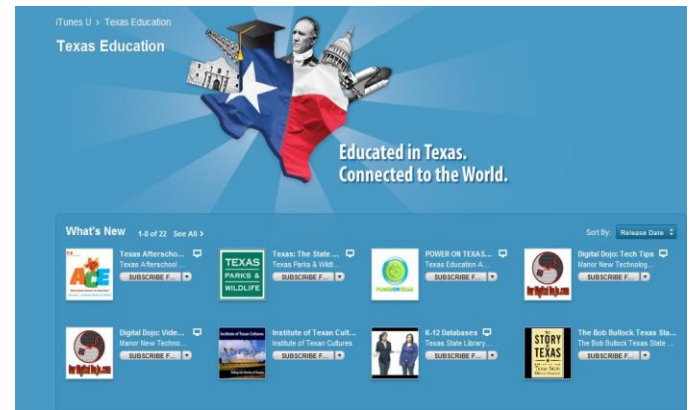


## What Tools and Resources are Available?

Project Share provides educators with opportunities to enhance their learning environment by providing Web 2.0 tools for accessing resources, collaborating, and communicating. iTunesU provides access to multimedia content that can be accessed 24/7 via a variety of technologies. It is often referred to as professional development and educational resources in your pocket. Educators may listen while driving, exercising, or preparing dinner and watch at school or at home.

## What is Project Share?

Project Share is the portal through which teachers and students can communicate, collaborate, and access 21<sup>st</sup> century digital content. Project Share leverages several technology platforms to provide multiple levels of access and flexibility for educators and students across the state.



Project Share also provides access to numerous content repositories including the New York Times Knowledge Network with resources dating back to 1851.

The Project Share website at [www.projectsharetexas.org](http://www.projectsharetexas.org) provides information about the initiative and access to Epsilon and Texas Education at iTunesU. The Epsilon platform combines a suite of tools with a common interface to build and disseminate professional development, to develop and deliver online content, and to expand student assessment and academic networking through ePortfolios. Texas Education at iTunesU provides free multimedia content to educators, students and parents in Texas and around the world. Texas Education on iTunes U will allow teachers to access professional development and support materials, while giving students access to information to help with understanding concepts or conducting additional research on a subject area. Project Share is a partnership between the Texas Education Agency (TEA), Epsilon, The New York Times Knowledge Network, PBS, and Apple Computer. TEA is working with the 20 Regional Education Service Centers (ESCs) to implement Project Share.



In addition, Project Share, through the Epsilon platform, provides access to the state-adopted *Standards2Strategies*, an online resource on the English Language Proficiency Standards (ELPS) for all high school teachers. State level professional development resources, online courses, and educator groups are being implemented in Epsilon for English language arts, math, science, social studies, and CTE with an emphasis on the ELPS, College and Career Readiness Standards, adolescent literacy, and RtI strategies.

## Professional Development Opportunities

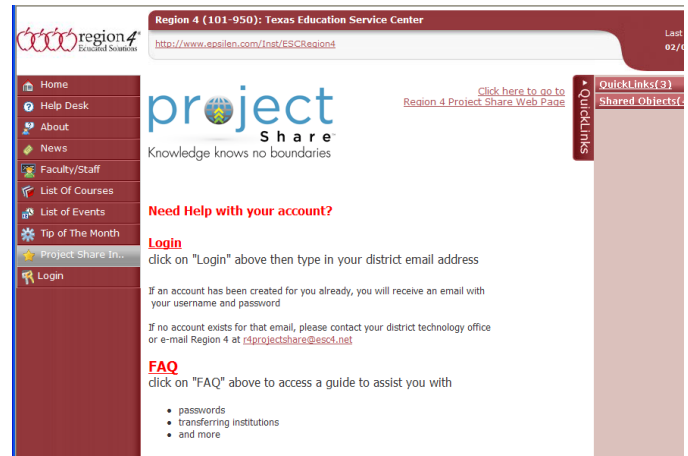
During the summer of 2010, over 47,000 educators received professional development in mathematics, science, English language arts, Career and Technical Education (CTE) TEKS, and the English Language Proficiency Standards (ELPS). These face-to-face professional development opportunities have follow-up online courses, modules, and online support for professional learning communities. Educators that attended summer professional development can continue their learning experience and collaborate with colleagues in their district, their region, and across the state. Educators that were not able to attend professional development can access online courses, resources, and professional learning communities through Project Share. Additional professional development will be available in 2011 for each of the content areas with new end of course assessments. Existing and new courses and resources will be updated as STAAR and end of course assessment data becomes available. Online courses for teachers to be certified and highly qualified to teach CTE courses that satisfy math or science graduation requirements will be available summer 2011.



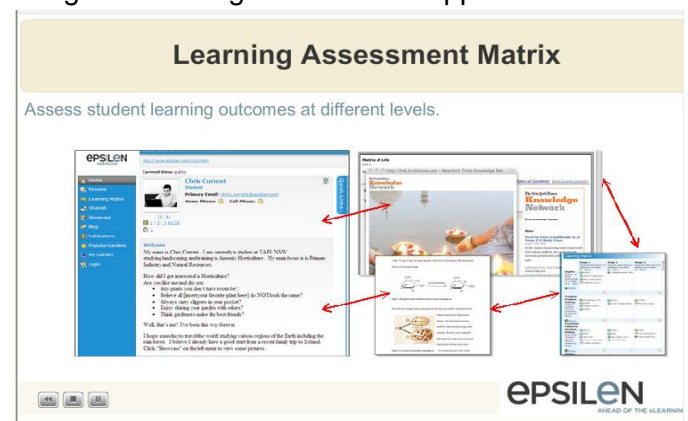
A searchable course catalog of professional development opportunities will be available on the educator page at [www.projectsharetexas.org](http://www.projectsharetexas.org) this spring. Funding for the development and delivery of online professional development is provided through grants that extend to August 2013.

## Project Share Opportunities for Districts

Each district has been provided with a license to the Epsilon platform and instructions and support to provide accounts to educators. To date, over 263,000 accounts have been created. ESCs continue to provide information, training, and support.



Districts and campuses can use Project Share for numerous activities including to create groups, share information, collaborate on lesson creation, develop teacher portfolios, provide training on multiple topics, share information on public pages, create online courses and access digital resources that can be used in the classroom. Information and resources for students will be available this spring along with training and tools to support student use.



To learn more about obtaining a Project Share account, check with your district technology coordinator or your ESC Project Share contact. Visit [www.projectsharetexas.org](http://www.projectsharetexas.org) for more information or email questions to [projectshare@tea.state.tx.us](mailto:projectshare@tea.state.tx.us)