

News Release

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Blackboard Achieves AWS Education Competency Status

WASHINGTON, June 14, 2017 – Blackboard Inc., a leading education technology company for teaching, learning and student engagement, today announced that it has achieved [Amazon Web Services \(AWS\) Education Competency](#) status. This designation recognizes that Blackboard has demonstrated technical proficiency and success building cloud-hosted educational solutions for clients.

The AWS Education Competency designates Blackboard as an AWS Partner Network (APN) member that has successfully used AWS architectural best practices to help identify areas of improvement for its cloud-hosted products. Partners must demonstrate a deep AWS expertise and undergo an assessment of the security, performance, and reliability of their solutions to receive the distinction.

“We are proud to achieve AWS Education Competency status,” said Blackboard Chairman, CEO and President Bill Ballhaus. “Our teams are dedicated to helping educational institutions achieve their goals by leveraging the agility of the AWS Cloud. Working with AWS to manage the infrastructure piece will enable us to focus on continuing to develop and deliver world-class products.”

The AWS Cloud enables scalable, flexible, and cost-effective solutions from startups to global enterprises. To support the seamless integration and deployment of these solutions, AWS established the [AWS Competency Program](#) to help customers identify consulting and technology APN Partners with deep industry experience and expertise.

Blackboard is the leading global education technology company, providing a robust portfolio of teaching and learning, analytics, student success and services solutions for clients in 90 countries around the world. In 2016, Blackboard [worked with AWS](#) for cloud services, giving Blackboard increased flexibility to develop and deliver new products and innovative features more quickly.

“The transition to the cloud-deployment of Blackboard Learn has eliminated downtime for faculty and students,” said William McKinney, Blackboard System Administrator at Baylor College of Medicine. “The latest features in Blackboard Learn SaaS have enhanced our faculty, staff and students’ experience while using the new tools like drag-and-drop, communities and the grading rubric. Word has spread within the college and more users are adding it to their education toolbox.”

About Blackboard

Our mission is to partner with the global education community to enable learner and institutional success, leveraging innovative technologies and services. With an unmatched understanding of the world of the learner, the most comprehensive student-success solutions, and the greatest capacity for innovation, Blackboard is education's partner in change.