

E-Learning and M-Learning for Professional Development of Teachers Education

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Abstract

Education a continuous complex and dynamic process. The importance of education has been realized by everyone and every nation. It is quite evident that the strength of the country depends on the strength of education, which in turn depends on the efficiency of teachers and the process of Teaching. Besides this, Arrival of computer and internet in field of education has changed the procedure and patterns of all education. The development of computer technology has resulted in e-learning and M-Learning. also.

The term 'e-learning' in general, refers to learning facilitated and supported through the use of ICT. It is a approach to facilitate and enhance learning through both computer and communication technology. It has the advantage of learning at the learner's pace also and is available on demand so that the learner can access it at any time. Teachers, at one place can teach multiple students at different locations and the students can receive immediate feed back too.

Introduction

Spectrum of E-learning

E-learning involves the creation of Virtual classroom i.e. class room in the cyberspace. Virtual classrooms mean, there are no actual classrooms, no teacher or text books, but it gives the impression of studying in classroom. In E-learning teaching learning process is possible through electronic components like computer and internet. In virtual universities, learning medical including texts, graphics and animation is provided through the internet, after the fees is received by the institution. Thus, there is an innovative application of computer in the teaching and learning process and it provides faster learning at reduced costs, increased areas of learning and clear accountability for all participants in the learning process.

There are a few of the most common areas of E learning.

1. Technology based learning (TQL)
2. Web based Training
3. Computer based Training (CBT)

E-learning has actually opened a wide range of strategies to pick from. It has facilitated the amalgamation of technologies. It not only limits itself to electronic aids but can also bring in the teacher to the virtual classroom. It comprises a lot more than online learning, virtual learning, distributed learning, networked or web-based learning. As the letter 'e' in E-learning stands for the word "electronic", e-learning would incorporate all educational activities that are carried out by individual groups working online or offline and synchronously via networks computers and other electronic devices. Thus it offers a great opportunity to try out a spectrum of instructional strategies.

M-learning

M-learning refers to the "provisions of education and Training involving portable or mobile devices such as smart phone's, personal Digital Assistants palmtop's, ipod's, digital camera's, pocket computer's, mobile phones etc. Thus, M-learning is an extension of e-learning. E learning emphasis' on anywhere any have" learning. M-learning adds the elements of mobility and immediacy to it. It helps the learners learn immediately whenever he is ready to learn. It enables learning experiences that are more collaborative, richly contextualized and continuously accessible. It is considered that M-learning adds feathers to mobility and immediacy to e-learning and puts the elements of e-learning i.e. hardware, software and connectivity into the shell of portability.