GridEd Affiliate University FAQ

Q: What is GridEd?

A: GridEd is a workforce development initiative that seeks to develop and train the next generation of power engineers and data scientists so that they can help shape the electric grid of the future by anticipating and fulfilling the needs of changing requirements. The GridEd collaborative consists of the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), four Partner universities (Stony Brook University, University of California – Riverside, Virginia Tech, and Washington State University), and utility and industry sponsors. EPRI is extending participation in GridEd to additional Affiliate universities who are nominated by utility and industry sponsors. GridEd leverages electric industry research to educate a future electric grid workforce by empowering new and continuing education students not only to become competent and well-informed engineers but also to participate and influence major technological, social, and policy decisions that address critical global challenges. GridEd was created in 2013 through funding from the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Solar Energy Technology Offices (SETO) through a 5-year project known as Grid Engineering for Accelerated Renewable Energy Deployment (GEARED). GridEd continues to leverage DOE funding through a new 5-year award called GREAT with Data. More information can be found about GridEd at http://grided.epri.com.

Q: What is GREAT with Data?

A: GREAT with Data stands for Grid-Ready Energy Analytics Training (GREAT) with Data and is a 5-year initiative launched in June 2019 and funded by the Department of Energy through the Solar Energy Technology Office (SETO). The objectives of the GREAT with Data project are:

- Identify and incorporate high-level digital power systems/smart grid related research already being performed within the partnering institutions into educational products with regional engagement.
- Develop credentials and standards for key roles, set in consultation with priorities identified by technical and human resource utility advisors for the benefit and development of all aspects of their diverse workforce.
- Identify effective delivery and engagement methods for professional training courses at the intersection of power systems and digital systems through an evaluation pilot.
- Create a variety of custom tailored professional short courses, tutorials, workshops, and other methods of instructional and experiential delivery while providing new and revised courses in regular university programs.
- Grow a robust training program to increase awareness of data uses, communication protocols, cyber security, analytic techniques, and related job opportunities in the electric power industry while building strong regional bonds among stakeholders.
- Expand the number of universities, students, and professionals who engage in education and training at the intersection of power systems and digital systems.
- Sustain a workforce development program that assures the design and operation of the future grid will embrace solar PV and other distributed energy resources (DER) technologies through a well-developed workforce.

Q: How can a university become an Affiliate of GridEd?

A: A university may become an Affiliate university of GridEd through nomination and sponsorship via a supporting utility or industry partner of GridEd.

Q: What are the benefits of being a GridEd Affiliate University?

A: There are many benefits including:

1. Access to a growing library of under/graduate course materials being developed by GridEd Partner universities. (i.e. syllabi, power point slides, problem sets, manuscripts, etc)
2. Invitation (including a stipend for up to 2 professors) to attend the annual GridEd University Tech Transfer workshop where the GridEd university network shares information such as new/revised curriculum, the role of labs, distance learning, engaging students, needs from the industry, etc.
3. Access to GridEd funding for undergraduate student design projects. Awards are made annually to Affiliate universities for up to $5k for qualifying projects.
4. Invitation to GridEd professional training courses including free registration via a waitlist.
5. Engagement with GridEd's network including: notifications of relevant internships and coops, invitations to student poster exhibits at industry conferences, periodic webinars with GridEd updates.
6. University brand recognition via GridEd website and publications

Q: What are the roles and responsibilities of an Affiliate university and their respective supporting utility?

A: The roles and responsibilities of Affiliate universities and supporting utilities are as follows:
Affiliate Universities

- Designate a primary point of contact
- Attend tech transfer events and seminars
- Provide feedback and input on activities including curriculum review and core course content & material
- Apply for GridEd funding for undergraduate student design projects

Utilities

- Designate and sponsor Affiliate universities
- Maintain the primary relationship between GridEd and its Affiliate universities

Q: Is there a cost associated with joining as an Affiliate university?

A: There are no direct costs for Affiliate universities to join this activity. There is also no funding to Affiliate universities except for a travel stipend to an annual tech transfer workshop and funding for undergraduate student design projects. Each Affiliate university will be responsibility for all other out of pocket costs associated with involvement and participation.

Q: Are there special offers for EPRI reports for universities?

A: EPRI has a vast reservoir of research results and reports on a plethora of topics related to electricity generation, transmission, distribution, end-use and environmental impacts. Many of these reports are completely FREE and available to the public. To search relevant reports and research results, go to www.epri.com and search via keywords in the search bar. Of the reports that are fee based, EPRI often avails many of these to US universities at a discounted price of $250 for copyright only reports and $450 for software and licensed reports. Several universities in the past have taken advantage of this pricing to use books and reports published by EPRI as textbooks. Universities are not guaranteed this price for ALL reports as they must be approved by an EPRI VP or Director Delegate. To inquire about university

pricing, a university should submit a written request on university letterhead stating use for teaching and/or dissertation purposes. Requests can be sent to askepri@epri.com.

Q: How can GridEd learn from the power engineering and data science educational expertise and programs at Affiliate universities which may be beneficial to other universities?

A: GridEd is excited about the fact that many Affiliate universities have active power engineering and data science programs along with vast expertise from which GridEd and its associated universities can benefit. Affiliate universities with knowledge to share on their programs should contact Steven Coley (scoley@epri.com) or Tom Reddoch (treddoch@epri.com) to discuss first steps.