



## STUDENT SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

### Funding Application – Step 1

Please submit this completed application and any relevant supporting documentation by the deadline listed on the SSC website to [Sustainability-Committee@Illinois.edu](mailto:Sustainability-Committee@Illinois.edu). The Working Group Chairs will be in contact with you regarding any questions about the application. If you have any questions about the application process, please contact the SSC at [Sustainability-Committee@Illinois.edu](mailto:Sustainability-Committee@Illinois.edu).

### General Information

**Project Name:** E-Ink Tablets for the CBTF

**Total Amount Requested from SSC:** \$4,000

**Project Topic Area(s):**  Energy       Education       Food & Waste  
 Land       Water       Transportation

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### Contact Information

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Project Team		
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## **Project Information**

Please provide a brief background of the project, the goals, and the desired outcomes:

We want to replace the 100,000 sheets of scratch paper used per year in the Computer-Based Testing Facility (CBTF) with re-useable e-ink tablets.

The Computer-Based Testing Facility (CBTF) has grown rapidly in the four years since it started. Last semester (Fall 2017) it ran 52,000 exams for 6,000 students in 22 courses from 7 engineering departments. The CBTF is currently an 80-seat computer lab in the basement of Grainger Library, which is proctored for exams 12 hours per day, 7 days per week. The facility also utilizes an additional 100-seat lab in DCL during finals week.

Scratch paper is made available for students at all times. Last year students used approximately 100,000 sheets of paper. For exam security, all paper must be discarded inside the lab, which generates a lot of waste. While the CBTF does recycle all the scrap paper, it would be much more sustainable to not use it in the first place.

We want to replace scratch paper with an e-ink tablet at each student workstation in the CBTF. This will almost entirely eliminate paper waste in the CBTF, other than a few cases where paper will still be required (e.g., DRES accommodations or special exams).

We will use the NEWYES NYWT850 – 8.5 inch Graphics Tablet. This costs \$40 per tablet and so 100 tablets (enough to allow breakage and extra capacity for DRES students) can be purchased for a total of \$4,000. This tablet was selected by student and faculty focus groups and it provides a large writing surface and stylus that mimics paper and pencil well.

Please provide a brief summary of how students will be involved in the project:

The students using the CBTF are the direct beneficiaries of this project. Students taking the exams will be able to personally use the tablets to eliminate scratch paper waste, giving them a direct personal method of improving sustainability. Student focus groups will also be involved in designing branding on the tablets to promote the Student Sustainability Committee.

Please provide a brief summary of the project timeline:

Preliminary research was already undertaken in November 2017. Different models of tablets were tested with student and faculty focus groups and the best model of tablet was determined (NEWYES NYWT850 – 8.5 inch Graphics Tablet).

Spring 2018: Once funds are released, we can procure the tablets and deploy them in the CBTF as soon as the appropriate branding on them is completed (four weeks total deployment time).

### Additional comments

The CBTF and the Student Sustainability Committee can work together to come up with branding that can be placed on each tablet that promotes this initiative and its sponsor.