

# vCourses

## Professional Services Overview



Professional services for PLATO vCourses were designed with the flexibility to meet your unique program needs. They are delivered by experienced experts in virtual learning and instruction who share your commitment to creating a learning environment that maximizes student achievement.

### 1 vCourses Program Consulting

These service sessions support the development and design of your program that will result in a smooth implementation and ongoing success.

#### Offerings

- Program Planning
- Custom Resources Development
- Program Performance Review

### 2 vCourses Professional Development

These practical professional development sessions prepare your program instructors and administrators to thrive in a virtual learning environment.

#### Offerings

- Instructor Best Practices Training
- Classroom Modeling and Curriculum Exploration
- Data-driven Instruction Training

### 3 vCourses Administrative Services

Course customization and technical support sessions will help you personalize learning and provide responsive, effective support to your students and teachers.

#### Offerings

- Course Customization
- Administrator Technical Support Training

# 45%

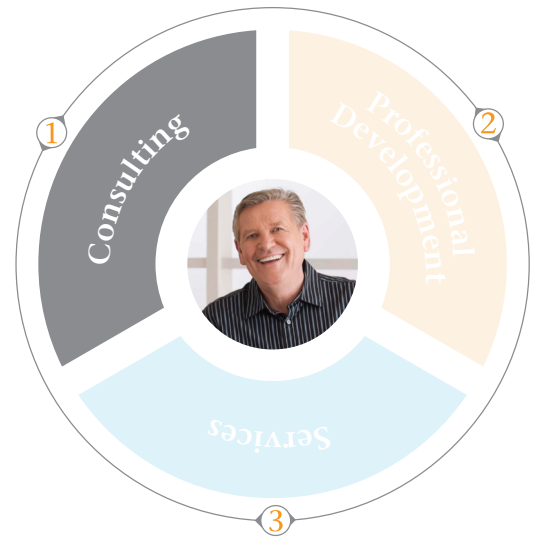
When teachers interested in teaching online were asked to identify incentives that would motivate them, 45% cite “understanding requirements for teaching effectively online.”<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Learning in the 21st Century: 2011 Trends Update, Project Tomorrow, 2011.



# 1 Program Consulting

Who's the right partner to help you plan and launch a successful virtual learning program?

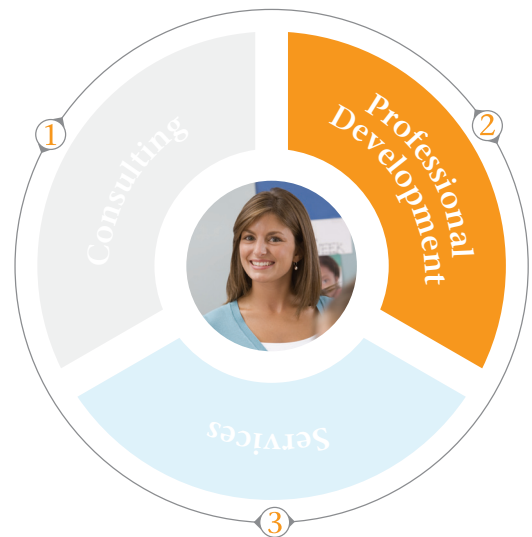


A well-designed virtual program requires careful planning. That includes identifying needs, defining roles, developing effective support and monitoring systems, and much more. PLATO consulting services ensure successful planning, and that leads to a successful program. With PLATO, you have a partner that knows the importance of effective preparation. These sessions are ideal for vCourses administrators as well as other program leaders.

Session:	Description:
Program Planning	PLATO will assist your leaders in planning for successful development and implementation of your online program. Every online program is different, and PLATO will work with you to develop a program based on best practices to address the unique needs of your learners and teachers.
Custom Resources Development	A PLATO consultant will partner with administrators to customize or create new and unique program resources and documentation as requested. Examples of custom resources that PLATO may partner with you to develop include student guides, student and parent orientation materials, and program handbooks.
Program Performance Review	A PLATO consultant will help you develop a culture of continuous improvement in your program by meeting with administrators and leaders to formally review implementation progress at the end of the school semester. PLATO will conduct analysis of formative and summative data and online instructional interaction metrics to evaluate learner and teacher development.

# Professional Development

How can you make sure your teachers are prepared for a virtual learning environment?



The quality of a virtual learning program is a direct result of the quality of the professional development and training of its teachers and administrators. PLATO professional development services provide practical, hands-on activities and best practices demonstration and implementation to ensure teacher success by ensuring they are prepared for a virtual environment.

Session:	Description:
Online Instructor Best Practices Training	Online instruction has unique communication and pedagogical demands. A variety of hands-on activities and best-practice discussions and training will provide your instructors with a comprehensive understanding of how to instruct and manage their students in an online learning environment.
Online Classroom Modeling and Curriculum Exploration	In this lesson-modeling session, a PLATO educational consultant will demonstrate skillsets and the application of best practices for teaching in a virtual learning environment. The consultant will facilitate conversations before and after each modeled lesson to encourage teachers to focus their planning and instruction and refine their understanding of best practices.
Data-driven Instruction Training	Data-driven decision making has created new opportunities for continuous improvement. This session will demonstrate how instructors and administrators can use program data to make more informed decisions on individualized learning needs, boost overall program performance, and improve student achievement.

# Administrative Services

How can I support my instructors with the right course content and students with the right tech support?



Today's schools exist in a climate of constant and increasingly rapid change. Programs with effective management and resources are more likely to survive and prosper. The PLATO professional services team can help you keep your virtual program optimized through course customization and technical support training.

Session:	Description:
Course Customization	Online learning program needs vary widely, and PLATO will work with you to customize course content to meet the learning outcomes unique to your curriculum requirements. Administrators will work with a PLATO educational consultant to engage in course correlation and in adding, removing, or reordering course content as necessary to meet your needs.
Administrator Technical Support Training	Instructors need quick access to helpful technical resources to keep students engaged in online instruction. This vCourses administrator technical training provides the knowledge and skills your staff needs to effectively respond to student and instructor support needs while learning and teaching in the vCourses environment.



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