



Unique Features List

Below are some of the unique features of Gaggle that can be used as part of your E-rate selection criteria.

Gaggle's Standard Email Accounts (*100% eligible for E-rate discounts*)

1. Automatic content monitoring of student email with questionable messages redirected to educator accounts.
2. Blocked Word List that can be customized at the district or school level so each school can decide exactly what words and phrases are inappropriate for their students' message content.
3. Blocked Address List that can be customized for each school. For example, schools can block mail from all .com addresses but allow mail from the aol.com domain. The school can further decide to block mail from a specific AOL address. All blocked messages are rerouted to an educator for review.
4. Proprietary Anti-Pornography Scanner (APS) that automatically detects and blocks embedded pornographic images, as well as those in attachments, zip files, as linked images or on web sites included as URLs in the message body. Gaggle is the only student email provider to offer a system that uses a three-pronged approach to blocking inappropriate images from reaching your students.
5. Gaggle offers the highest degree of CIPA compliancy of any student email solution on the market. Gaggle meets the CIPA requirement to "block visual depictions that are obscene or are harmful to minors." Other services can only meet this requirement by restricting all attachments and embedded URLs, whereas the Gaggle system actually "reads" the image to determine whether it is appropriate or not.
6. Built in Language Translation feature supporting **forty-three** different languages. Translated text is checked in real time for offensive content and educators are notified when violations occur.
7. Auditory Feedback System (AFS) that supports special needs students requiring multiple learning modalities. Students can listen to inbound and outbound emails, blogs and message board posts as they are read aloud. Converted text is checked in real time for offensive content and educators are notified when violations occur.
8. Seven (7) Gigabytes of storage per email account.
9. District wide Email Search: Gaggle's district wide and user level search indexes make it easy to search for and find any email message or attachment. When you need to find something it's no longer like searching for a needle in a haystack. You have powerful Boolean search capabilities at your fingertips.
10. All mail sent via Gaggle's SMTP servers is filtered according to the same rules as the web based system and all mail is stored on the system for review by appropriate administrators.
11. Visual display of the reason for blocked messages with offensive text shown in red.
12. Controlling EXE's, SCR's, and VB script attachments is easy via Gaggle's Blocked Attachment Type feature. The district can set policies to block specific types of attachments or strip out certain types of attachments from incoming and outbound email. This feature can be applied to both teacher and student accounts.

13. Ability to filter attachments for inappropriate content. Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Excel, PDF, RTF, and TXT documents are scanned for inappropriate words, images, and URLs.
14. Secure password protected login via Secure Socket Layer (SSL) at <https://www.gaggle.net>.
15. Free end user technical support provided from 7 AM to 6 PM CST Monday through Friday via phone or Live Chat. Support is provided to district staff, teachers, and even students. Customer Service is provided in evenings, on weekends and holidays, via email, with an eight-hour maximum response time. Gaggle also offers over 70 short training videos thought the web site and online contextual help.
16. Active Directory and LDAP Authentication allows users to access their Gaggle accounts using the same username and password they use to login to the local network.
17. Multiple integration options: Gaggle easily integrates with most Student Information Systems, including PowerSchool, Skyward, Infinite Campus, NCWise, Genesis, Zangle and others. Gaggle provides integration with Moodle, Blackboard, Angel, SharePoint, and other LMS platforms. Mail and other widgets can be inserted directly into pages with automatic single sign-on. Additionally, Gaggle also integrates with the districts' web hosting/portal system, such as Edline, SchoolWires, SchoolFusion, and FinalSite with cross authentication of users via one login account.
18. Automated Account Generation: This is an automated nightly creation, deletion and updating of user accounts via customized scripts between the district and the Gaggle servers. This feature is Erate eligible and an additional fee applies.
19. Mobile phone version of Gaggle's web applications. The mobile interface has been optimized to work in a low bandwidth environment, on small screen sizes, and with relatively slower processors. Gaggle is compatible with iPads, iPod Touches, iPhones, and Android Phones.
20. Customizable footer message for each school on the system. The bottom of each email can include a disclaimer from your district as well as an address to contact in case of email abuse.
21. Ability to identify an email by user level, school, and district. The Outbound Mail User Identification is added to the bottom of every email.
22. Ability to customize email display name to first name, first name and last initial, full name, or none.
23. The Max Recipients per Email feature can be used to prevent students from sending mass emails to the entire student body. Each outbound message can be restricted to just 1, 3, 5, 10, 25, 35, or 50 recipient addresses.
24. The Max Messages per day allows schools to limit how many messages per day each user may send.
25. Directory Access restrictions can be applied to an entire school or to specific users in order to control which user addresses your students can view. Students can have district wide directory access turned on or off. Even within the students' own school the directory can be limited to just students, just teachers or no access.
26. A graduation year can be set for each student so users can be better organized and graduating students can be easily purged at the end of the school year.
27. Customizable Auto-Reply feature for all non-student users with configurable date ranges.

28. A Student ID number from your SIS can be set for each user account so it is easy to identify users and better integrate with your other school management systems.
29. Integrated Calendars: Individual and shared calendars integrated with Gaggle's email and homework drop boxes. Users can have multiple calendars as well as delegate view and edit access to other users. Calendars are compatible with standard formats such as iCal and Cal-Dav.
30. The ability to run customized usage reports on a school or district wide basis. Tracked activities include Sent Email, Unblocked Email, Spam Received, Read Email, Email Blocked, User Logins, Audio Feedback Used, Translator Used, and Email Received. Usage Reports are also available for most of the Gaggle Student Web Hosting Tools.
31. The ability to Mass Delete Mail: In the event that a user sends incorrect or inappropriate content to multiple users. Administrators can perform an advanced search for the message across the school or district. The Mass Delete Mail feature will delete all instances of the message in each individual account.
32. The ability to perform a Mass Recovery of Mail: In the event that a user inadvertently deletes a message a Mass Recovery can be performed. The Mass Recover Mail feature will restore all instances of the message in each individual account.
33. Outlook Directory Integration: Allows users to search the user directory on Gaggle through Microsoft Outlook or other LDAP clients.
34. Portal Links are a way to customize Gaggle's interface so that users can easily go to other sites and other web-based services the school or district is utilizing. Students can access other services or research sites without having to remember multiple website addresses and login information.
35. Automated Phone Based Account Retrieval allows users to retrieve their user name and password from Gaggle without any human involvement. Users enter their home phone or mobile number on the Gaggle website, which then looks up the user account associated with that phone number.
36. District wide user Admin Search allows you to quickly locate users by first name, last name, username, and student ID using partial string matches.
37. Email Routing Rules allow users the flexibility to designate different actions when specific emails are received. Routing Rules in the Gaggle system are: Delete, Mark as read, Star it, Mark as spam, Move to specific folder or Forward it to another email address. Rules can be based on Name, Sender, Receiver, if there is an Attachment, or specific words within the email.
38. Customizable home tab and interface themes. Users can choose from ten Gaggle widgets and twenty 3rd party widgets for the home tab and select one of over 60 different themes.
39. Twenty-one different user access levels including District Master, School Master, Teacher, Staff, Parent, Student, Send to School Only, Suspended, and many others.
40. Query based sending allows district level users to create email lists based on database queries such as graduation year, school name, access level and more.

Student Web Hosted Tools (95% eligible for E-rate discounts)

1. Filtered, monitored, teacher-controlled Blogs with all student content filtered.
2. Blogs with access controls including the choice to restrict access within the class, school or district, and the ability to make public with or without password protection.
3. The ability to restrict who can comment on the Blogs, hide full names and email addresses, prevent pictures, and more.
4. Blog entries are logged to comply with new CIPA and eDiscovery requirements.
5. Filtered and Monitored Social Wall application where teachers and students can update and monitor their social wall by texting from their cell phone or a computer.
6. The ability to create private social wall groups and limit access based upon class, school or district.
7. 7GB of Digital Locker space with the ability to control the sharing and editing of files based upon specific users, user groups, classes, schools or the district with a complete version history and the ability to revert to a prior version.
8. Access to files deleted from the Digital Locker by the administrators for at least 30 days from the upload date.
9. Filtering of files saved or shared in the Digital Locker. All files blocked by the filters are viewable only by the teacher until the teacher chooses to unblock or delete the file.
10. Boolean search capability in the Digital Locker. File content as well as searching by name, file type, creation date, and last modification date with the ability to search all files within a school or the entire district.
11. Files uploaded to the Digital Locker are automatically scanned for viruses on both the upload/download, protecting the school/district computers and networks from potential viruses.
12. The ability to provide YouTube™ access while still allowing the district to block direct access to YouTube™ content. All YouTube™ access logged, filtered, monitored, and can be controlled at the teacher and student level.
13. Controls for access to YouTube™ including: search filtered, view approved, or completely turned off. The ability to restrict the number of searched videos a student can view per day is also provided.
14. Ability to integrate filtered YouTube™ content into teacher and student Blogs, Message Boards, Homework Drop Boxes, and the Social Wall.
15. The ability to tag and organize YouTube™ content without utilizing file storage.
16. The ability for students to upload videos and submit them for teacher approval. Access to student videos can be set by administrators to school, district, or submission to YouTube™.
17. Submission of videos to YouTube™ under a generic, school controlled account which can be pulled back at the discretion of the school.
18. Users can share locker files with specific individuals, whole classes, the entire school or district with access rights which can be set to “View Only” or “View and Edit” for collaboration.

19. The ability to edit multiple file formats including Microsoft Word™ (.doc and .docx), Microsoft Excel™ (.xls and .xlsx), Microsoft PowerPoint™ (.ppt and .pptx), OpenOffice™ (.sxw), Open Text Document (.odt), Rich Text Format (.rtf), Text Files (.txt), and HTML.
20. Integrated Homework Drop box with the ability create multiple drop boxes or one drop box with multiple class assignments.
21. Option for automated calendar entries emails whenever new assignments are created or homework is turned in.
22. The ability to create assignments in advance and schedule the delivery to students on a future date and time.
23. Homework Drop boxes with integrated homework correction, commenting, and return capabilities. Options for annotations like comments, highlighting, and a free-form drawing tool.
24. SMS Texting with all incoming and outgoing text messages filtered and logged with individual phone numbers hidden with only Gateway information displayed.
25. Automated calendar reminders delivered via email and SMS Text.
26. Message boards accessible by class, a specific group of users, the school or the entire district.
27. Moderated Chat Rooms with passive filtering. After three attempted posts of offensive content, Gaggle automatically revokes the student's chat privilege and denies access to the room.
28. Instant Messaging controls allow student access to be restricted to the district, school, class, or just teachers, and live-time monitoring, filtering, and logging.
29. Instant Messaging tool lets teachers see who is currently logged into the System and initiate chat with students.
30. Permanent log of IM conversations are stored in each user's account and accessible to administrators.
31. The ability of teachers and administrators to monitor the instant messaging chats of all students in their class or school, in live time.
32. Mobile phone compatible version of Gaggle's desktop web applications with via tablets, iPads, iPhones, iPod Touches, Android Devices, and Blackberrys.
33. Class Pages combine the communication and collaboration of a class social group with class information. Students have easy access to announcements, due dates, class message boards, shared files, and Homework Drop Boxes via a dashboard view.
34. Instant Messaging Tool integrates with popular third party systems such as GoogleTalk and Facebook Chat.