



# Office Hours

Weekly product update webinar

**July 28, 2026**

# About Office Hours



## Who runs them

Office hours are facilitated by the Product team, Customer Success Managers, Support, and the wider team.



## What we cover

Join the Blackboard® team to discuss in detail the latest feature releases, product developments, and emerging current issues.



## Why join

An opportunity to provide feedback and ask questions of the Blackboard Product Management team and fellow clients.

# Today's Webinar

AI

## Recording & notetaking consent

Based on Blackboard's AI Trustworthy Framework, the use of third-party AI generator software for notetaking or recording of this session requires consent from all webinar attendees and prior approval from Blackboard.

# Agenda

**1**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**2**

**Release Updates (August – 4000.21)**

**3**

**Update – Gradebook Grid View – Help Information**

**4**

**Update – New Editor Beta Opt-In Experience**

**5**

**Demo – Video Studio: Customize your recording background**

**6**

**Demo – Display answer-level feedback for selected options**

**7**

**Open Discussion**

# Blackboard LMS Roadmap Webinars

## North America

Wednesday, August 5  
11 a.m. ET

## Business and Government

Tuesday, August 4  
2 p.m. ET

## Aisa-Pacific

Wednesday, August 5  
1 p.m. AEST

## Europe, Middle East and Africa

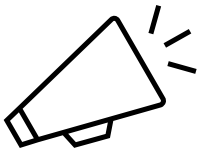
Tuesday, August 4  
2 p.m. GMT

## Latin America and the Caribbean

Thursday, August 6  
11 a.m. ET



# Office Hours Notice



Please note that the Blackboard LMS Office Hours scheduled for **Tuesday, August 4** has been **cancelled** to make way for our upcoming Roadmap sessions.

We hope you'll join us there to hear about what's coming next for Blackboard!

# Institutional Effectiveness Roadmap Webinars

## Option 1

Tuesday, August 11 at  
10:00 a.m. ET

## Option 2

Thursday, August 13 at  
3:00 p.m. ET

**Registration Open Now!**

# Blackboard User Group

Led by your peers, with each session featuring a client or guest speaker. Sessions take place every other Thursday, 11:00am EST (4:00pm BST).

**Thu Aug 6 - Support and Engage Students with Automations and Gradebook Reminder Messages**

Lisa Cady, University of Arkansas Fort Smith (UAFS)

**Thu Aug 20 – *Title TBC***

Dolf Jordan, University of Pretoria

**Thu Sept 3 - AI in Every Program: A Scalable Framework for Institution-Wide AI Curriculum Integration**

Kimberley Connor & Timothy Smith, Lamar University

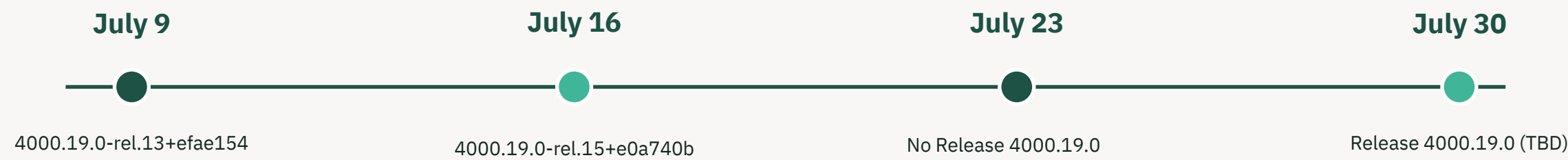
[Register](#) for calendar appointments and reminder emails.

# Release Updates

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# Recent Releases: 2026 Blackboard SaaS

## 4000.19.0 – Blackboard SaaS Production



### Fixes in the upcoming 4000.19.0 Release – July 30, 2026

- There are no fixes to report at this time. Please check the article on Thursday.

*Note: this is a preliminary list; the final list with all fixes will be available in Thursday's article.*

# August Release — V 4000.21 Production

Test / Stage: July 7  
Prod: August 6

## Instructional Design

- Early Access: New Content Editor for Blackboard Documents
- Display nested items in the Learning Object Repository Move-to view

## Gradebook

- New Gradebook Grid View
- Delete unwanted third-party columns in the Gradebook

## Assignments and Tests

- Export question banks
- Display answer-level feedback for selected options only

## Blackboard Admin

- ~~Use built-in guest access for course content in Ultra~~
- Restrict discussion, journal, and blog activity in completed Original courses

## Blackboard Core

- Navigate courses faster with an improved user interface
- Stay on top of deadlines with your top To Dos
- Navigate between courses faster with the updated Home button

## Integrations

- Improved Microsoft Cloud Document experience

## Communication and Collaboration

- Manage Group membership with drag and drop
- Create multiple Groups at once
- Make notifications more accurate and reliable
- Add sorting controls for users in Discussions

## Mastery and Learning Pathways

- Set release conditions based on journal submissions

## Learner Progression & Personalized Experience

- Configure the “From” name for automation messages

## Upgrade to Ultra

- Duplicate items on the Course Content page
- Display warning banner in Original courses
- Import external course packages as Ultra courses
- Restrict copy into completed courses

## Course Catalog (requires Catalog license)

- Use Mercado Pago to pay for courses

## Video Studio (requires Video Studio license)

- Customize your recording background
- Resume video playback



# Update

**Gradebook Grid View – Help Information**



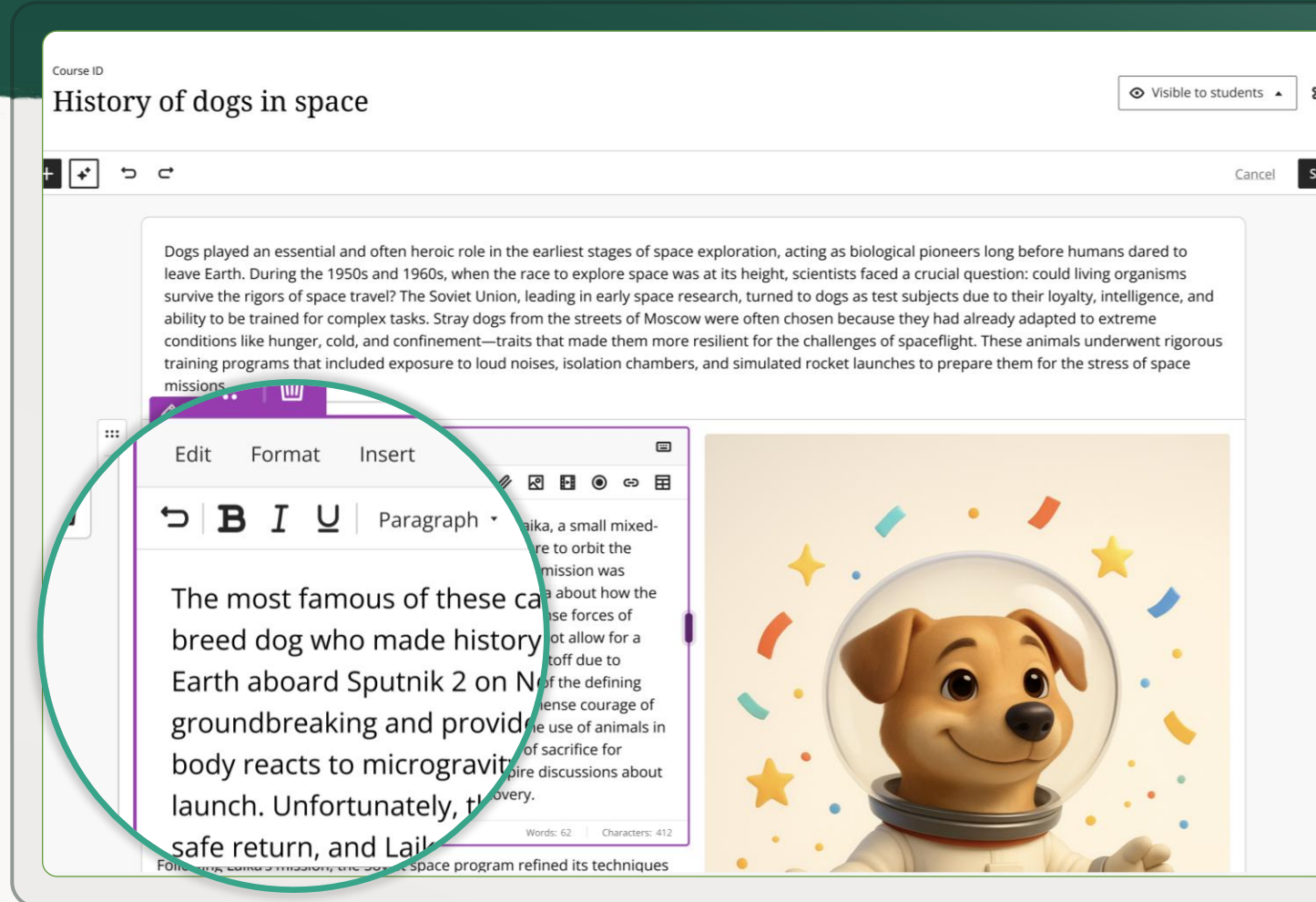
# Update

**New Editor Beta Opt-in Experience**

# Easier Formatting at Your Fingertips

A better, more accessible, and consistent content editor across Blackboard

- **Simpler to use** — reorganized menus and a streamlined toolbar make editing tools easy to find
- **More powerful formatting** — better lists and tables, closer to the tools you use every day
- **Accessible and future-ready** — stronger keyboard navigation, modern shortcuts, and a platform built to keep improving



# How We're Rolling Out the New Editor

May 2026  
Early Access

August 2026  
Beta Opt-In

Sept. – Nov. 2026  
Continuous Releases

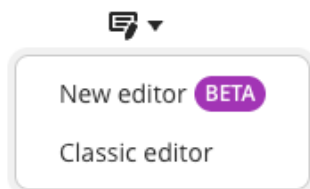
December 2026  
Release Everywhere

*Target dates and subject to change*

## Creating SMART Financial Goals



Select a type of content to add a block



HTML

Knowledge check

File upload

Cloud upload

Content Collection

Audio / Video

Divider

Convert a file



Setting clear financial goals is a key step toward achieving financial stability and success. The SMART framework ensures your goals are actionable and realistic. SMART goals are **Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-Bound**, ensuring that each financial objective you set is clear and well-defined. Here's how to create SMART financial goals:

## Blackboard's New Editor

Your institution has enabled early access to our new editing experience.

### What's new:

- **Simpler, more intuitive layout** with clearly organized tools
- **Improved formatting** for lists, tables, and structured content
- **New capabilities** like table resizing, merge/split cells, and code snippets

### A few things to know:

The new editor is still evolving, and some features are not yet available:

- Adding files from Content Collection
- Uploading files from cloud storage providers
- Adding images from a URL
- Adding Videos from the YouTube Integration
- Creating equations using LaTeX

If you need any of these features, you can



Edit Format Insert



Paragraph ▼



Setting clear financial goals is a key step toward achieving financial stability and success. The S ensure your goals are actionable and realistic. SMART goals are **Specific, Measurable, Achiev** ensuring that each financial objective you set is clear and well-defined. Here's how to create S

Cancel

Save



## Block Converted

Your block has been converted to use the new editor.

If something doesn't look right or you run into issues, you can use the **Undo** button at the top of the Document to revert the block back to use the previous editor.

**Please note that if you save your changes, you will no longer be able to undo the conversion. Be sure that everything has converted as expected before saving.**

This allows you to quickly recover from any conversion problems. Keep in mind, any changes you made in the block with the new editor will be lost.

If you experience any issues, please submit feedback so we can investigate and improve the conversion experience. Thank you!

### 1. Specific

A goal needs to be clear and specific so you know exactly what you are working towards. A vague goal like "save more money" isn't very motivating or precise, such as:

**Example:** "Save \$5,000 for an emergency fund."

### 2. Measurable

For a goal to be motivating, it must be measurable. Being able to track your progress will keep you focused and make it easier to achieve. Set a goal that is close to reaching your target.

**Example:** "I will save \$200 per month until I reach my \$5,000 goal."

# Creating SMART Financial Goals



Edit Format Insert Submit Feedback

Undo Redo Bulleted List Bold Italic Underline Paragraph

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## 2. Measurable

## New Editor Feedback

To help us improve and troubleshoot the new editing experience, we are collecting limited information including page URL and your document edits. This is not linked to you unless you use the "Submit Feedback" option.

When you submit this form, it will not automatically collect your details like name and email address unless you provide it yourself.

\* Required

### Share your experience

How was your experience using the new editor? Did it work as expected, or did you encounter any issues? \*

Enter your answer

### Blackboard page URL

Please do not delete. This captures the URL you were on when you submitted the feedback. This helps us triage any problems you reported and fix anything that didn't work as expected.

[https://ultra-next.bbpd.io/ultra/courses/\\_40970\\_1/document/\\_426958\\_1?li](https://ultra-next.bbpd.io/ultra/courses/_40970_1/document/_426958_1?li)

# New Editor Beta Opt-In Resources



- [Turning on the New Editor Beta \(Administrators\)](#)
- [New Editor Experience \(Instructors\)](#)
- [Editor Comparison Table \(Instructors\)](#)

**Notice:** The New Editor is still under active development. As part of our Early Access program, you may encounter bugs, notice that some functionality is not yet available, or see changes from one release to the next.

If you'd like to help shape the future of the editor, we encourage you to submit feedback using the in-product feedback form whenever the editor is enabled. You can also participate in our standard Early Access program by signing up here.

[Rich Content Editor: Early Access – Fill out form](#)



# Demo 1

**Video Studio: Customize your recording background**



# Demo 2

**Display answer-level feedback for selected options only**

# Open Discussion



Any additional thoughts on content shared today?



What are you looking forward to?



Any clarifications needed?



Any questions about the release updates?



What are your current challenges?

# Idea Exchange



**Any other ideas? Post them on the Idea Exchange**

[anthology-teachingandlearning.ideas.aha.io](https://anthology-teachingandlearning.ideas.aha.io)



# Thank you

Blackboard delivers the digital environment for transformational teaching and learning.