

About the Beta

Welcome!

You're passionate about connecting with other Blackboard users, and we want to make sure you have the tools you need to be successful. That's why we created the Blackboard Community site, our first official platform for collaboration, conversation, and engagement. We've created this site to make it easier for you to find answers, provide feedback and strengthen connections with your peers and with Blackboard.

Today we are proud to announce that we are launching a beta phase of a new community platform on community.blackboard.com. We are so excited to share this first version with you. The Beta is rolling out with some great features, allowing users to locate information, submit community questions, share best practices and easily engage and collaborate with peers. And we already have some valuable enhancements coming in the next few months, like single sign-on, improvements in visual integration and cross-site search and navigation.

But we need your help! As some of our most valued users, your input is invaluable in shaping this new site to be the best in class. Your feedback and suggestions will equip us with the insights we need to optimize the site for a Q3 full launch. By joining this beta you will be invited to participate in future usability tests that will be used to ensure the content published and created is in line with community needs and expectations. These requests for feedback will come in various formats: focus groups, discussions, polls, surveys and direct outreach. Any and all feedback is welcome!

In the meantime, we invite you to connect, share, learn and have fun on the forums. Get to know your fellow community members and enjoy all that the discussions page has to offer. Thank you for continuing to be one of our greatest supporters, and for helping us design a site that will provide a place for the community to shine, grow and above all else, learn!

Happy exploring!

Marissa Dimino, Blackboard Community Manager

	Features	What's Available Today? (Beta)	Phase 1 and Beyond!
	Search content within Jive	Search content within Jive; testing to open search across Help, BtBb and Blackboard.com	Integrated search across Help.blackboard.com , Behind the Blackboard and Blackboard.com
	Exemplary Course Program	ECP testing and feedback	Continued growth of the ECP space

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	Developer Community	Feedback gathered on content/user experience	Continue to build Developer Community content
	Discussions	Test discussions format based on role vs. institution type	Full launch of discussions
	Ability to ask and search questions and answers	Ask the MVP forums content migration begins	Ask the MVP forum data conversion complete
	Ideation	Test idea submission process and voting mechanism	Launch ideation page
	Ability to create group spaces with various permission levels	User Group analysis and migration	Launch of User Groups in the Community Site and continued User Group analysis and migration
	Community Program shells for testing	Create all existing community program spaces on Site	Launch existing and new community programs in community programs space
			Community is "live" and accessible via Blackboard channels
			Webinars showcasing Community