

Ensuring a Successful Transition from Blackboard to D2L Brightspace

Without a thoughtful plan, change can feel overwhelming for institutions. With student, faculty and staff success at stake, having a strong change management plan is crucial in order for people to adapt successfully. Let's take a look at how D2L can encourage your campus community to move from Blackboard to Brightspace and welcome a brighter future.

A successful LMS transition starts with a clear plan and the right partner. At D2L, we know that faculty adoption, student success, and institutional momentum depend on more than just technology. That's why our change management approach goes beyond implementation to drive real transformation.

With D2L, you don't just switch platforms. You bring your entire community forward—confidently, collaboratively, and without disruption.

Our Approach

Data shows that projects with good change management are more successful and more effective at delivering benefit. From project kickoff to launch and beyond, our teams are ready to support you with recommendations and deliverables to support your migration to Brightspace.

RECOMMENDATIONS	DELIVERABLES
Change management to begin early in the project and run beyond go-live	Comprehensive tailored deliverables (i.e. governance structure, communication and training plans)
Include the individual/leaders responsible for the change	Responsiveness, best-practices, empathy, coaching
Respect culture with open dialogue and sharing of expertise	Confidential experience-based feedback and suggestions

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There is a very dynamic and effective workflow between D2L and the Bentley technical team implementing Brightspace. They've been able to keep the faculty and students top of mind and so we've been able to navigate those pieces I think—very well. All those pieces I think have worked very well and so we're very pleased with that.

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Aaron Jackson, senior associate dean of business, Bentley University

Our Process

Our comprehensive process goes far beyond ensuring Brightspace is set up correctly. We'll help you with strategic change management guidance, integrations, training and support to guarantee a successful migration from Blackboard.

IMPLEMENTATION PHASE	KICKOFF	DISCOVER & DESIGN	TRAIN & COACH	PREPARE FOR LAUNCH
	Align on goals, identify working team and build the project plan	Define and validate use cases to build an optimal solution	Guide stakeholders through the execution of the rollout strategy	Execution of change management strategy through to successful launch
CHANGE MANAGEMENT DELIVERABLES	VISION & STAKEHOLDER MANAGEMENT	CREATE PATH TO SUCCESS	EXECUTE & COMMUNICATE	TRANSITION & ADOPTION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create & socialize project vision Identify key stakeholder groups Assess readiness, training needs, resistance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify Champion network Design Communication plans & assets Ensure Exec Sponsor goals are known & aligned to project goals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Execute communication plans Deliver persona-based training Track change readiness & adjust as needed Engage stakeholders & resolve resistance Enable champions with a voice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognize & celebrate successes Measure adoption & training effectiveness by persona Additional training to overcome resistance or adoption Ensure readiness to handoff Provide ongoing support

The D2L Transition Advantage

Migrating to a new LMS is more than a technical change—it's an opportunity to improve how your institution teaches, supports, and scales. That's why our approach is built around what truly matters: a smooth transition, empowered faculty, and long-term results.

Here's how we help you succeed:



WORRY-FREE MIGRATION

Ensure a seamless switch with automated tools and expert-led migration that preserves your content structure, accuracy, and integrity down to the last quiz question.



SEAMLESS INTEGRATION

Avoid the rebuild. D2L connects effortlessly with your SIS, SSO, and edtech tools, saving your IT team time and eliminating platform patchwork.



BUILT-IN CHANGE MANAGEMENT

Drive adoption from day one. With stakeholder alignment, tailored training, and communication templates included, change isn't a barrier; it's a strength.



FACULTY-FIRST EXPERIENCE WITH AI

Give instructors what they need to thrive. With Creator+ and Lumi, they can build rich, accessible content in minutes, not hours.



INSIGHT THAT DRIVES RESULTS

Turn data into impact. Brightspace delivers real-time dashboards, outcome tracking, and predictive alerts that support retention, accreditation, and success.

Ready for a change?

As an extension of your team, we follow an implementation process centered around your goals and objectives, easing the burden on faculty, staff and students—even when the pressure is on.

With D2L, you get more than a platform. You get a partner committed to a seamless transition that empowers educators and elevates the student experience.