



Blackboard

Blackboard Learn 9.1 Q2 2018

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Product: Blackboard Learn

Release Date: Apr 30,2018

Upgrade Paths:

Upgrade Paths for Clients Already on Blackboard Learn, 9.1

Existing Blackboard Learn, Release 9.1 clients can upgrade from the following versions to 9.1 Q2 2018 (Build:3400.0.0-rel.44+9fb1e0e):

- Blackboard Learn, 9.1 Q4 2017 (Build: 3300.0)
- Blackboard Learn, 9.1 Q2 2017 (Build: 3200.0)

If you are a self-hosted client on a Blackboard Learn 9.1 release prior to 9.1 Q2 2017 you will need to upgrade to 9.1 Q2 2017 before you can upgrade to Learn 9.1 Q2 2018.

Upgrade Paths for Clients New to Blackboard Learn, Release 9.1

If you are upgrading from one of the releases listed below, please refer to [Install or Upgrade Learn](#) for information to help you plan for this move. There are planning, training, and communication materials available to make this upgrade as smooth as possible. Please reference next steps based on your current release. For those migrating from Blackboard Learn, Release 9.0 or Blackboard Academic Suite, Release 8.0, please ensure you include migrating to a 64-bit environment in your upgrade plans.

- **Blackboard Learn, Release 9.0:** The following paths are supported when upgrading from Blackboard Learn, Release 9.0, Service Pack 7 (Build: 9.0.692.0)
 - Release 9.1, Service Pack 9 (Build: 9.1.90132.0) > Service Pack 12 (Build: 9.1.120113.0) > April 2014 (9.1.201404.160205) > Q4 2015 (Build:9.1.201510) > Q4 2016 (Build:3100.0) > Q4 2017 (Build:3300.0) > Q2 2018 (Build:3400.0.0-rel.44+9fb1e0e)
- **Blackboard Academic Suite, Release 8.0 or lower:**The following paths are supported when upgrading from Release 8.0, Service Pack 7 Hotfix 2 (Build: 8.0.494.35) without needing to upgrade to Release 9.0 first.
 - Blackboard Learn, Release 9.1, Service Pack 9 (Build: 9.1.90132.0) > Service Pack 12 (Build: 9.1.120113.0) > April 2014 (9.1.201404.160205) > Q4 2015 (Build:9.1.201510) > Q4 2016 (Build:3100.0) > Q4 2017 (3300.0) > Q2 2018 (Build:3400.0.0-rel.44+9fb1e0e)
- **Blackboard Learning System CE 8.0 and Vista 8.0 Licenses:** You must be on Service Pack 6 (Build: 18.0.6.116) to effectively use course conversion capabilities.
- **Blackboard Learn, ANGEL Edition:** You must be on any ANGEL 8.0 or ANGEL 7.4 release to effectively use course conversion capabilities.

If you are a self-hosted client on a release that is earlier than Blackboard Learn 9.1 Service Pack 6, and you also use Oracle, there is a pre-upgrade utility that will minimize your downtime during this upgrade. Please consult the 9.1 Service Pack 6 Release Notes and the [Readme for the Pre-Upgrade Utility for Oracle](#) for more information on this utility.

Announcing:

Blackboard is pleased to announce the General Availability of Blackboard Learn™, Release 9.1 Q2 2018 (Build:3400.0.0-rel.44+9fb1e0e).

We are committed to delivering on the vision for Learn across the entire Blackboard Learn product, which consists of our Original and Ultra experience and three deployment options for Self-Hosted, Managed-hosted, and SaaS. The Q2 2018 release for the Original experience is one step towards delivering on the overall vision in several key areas. The first is to ensure the user interface is more modern and responsive with a streamlined design so students and educators have the same experience across their devices. The second is to provide powerful tools that are easy to use, support diverse pedagogical needs and help engage students and educators. We are also focused on improving the accessibility of Learn to help students with disabilities as well as students who seek alternate ways of learning. And lastly, providing seamless integration with Learn products and 3rd party products to provide the best experience. A high level overview of the new features, enhancements and updates for these focus areas is provided below, so please review the entire message. For more details, please see the full release notes on our Help site under [Release Notes for Learn Self- and Managed Hosting](#).

Release Highlights:

Highlights of New Features and Enhancements

Academic Effectiveness

Attendance

Many instructors use attendance data as part of their students' overall grades. Also, some institutions and programs have attendance policies that require instructors to track the number of class meetings students have missed. For each class meeting, instructors can mark whether a student is present, late, absent, or excused. The attendance records for each student appear in a single column next to other grades. On the Attendance page, profile pictures appear so instructors can easily identify students.

Cloud Storage Integration*

Instructors can copy files from their favorite cloud storage solutions when authoring Content Items or creating Assignments. Students can submit assignments from their favorite cloud storage solutions. Cloud storage that is supported includes OneDrive, OneDrive for Business, Google Drive including G suite accounts, Dropbox, and Box.

**Feature availability will differ by region. Announcements of specific availability will be made on Help and Behind the Blackboard.*

Anonymous Grading: Grant Additional Attempt

Instructors can now grant an additional attempt for scenarios when the student needs one and the prior attempt can't be cleared because it is in an anonymous state.

Clear a Multiple Choice Selection

Students are now able to clear a selection from multiple-choice questions. This lets students avoid a penalty when they've made an initial selection and negative points are associated with answer choices.

Learner Engagement

Create Recording for Feedback*

An instructor or grader can create personalized feedback recordings for individual gradable item attempts or manual gradebook items. Each recording can be up to 5 minutes long and can be both video and audio. Videos are stored in the cloud and do not utilize hosting storage allocation or local storage.

**Feature availability will differ by region. Announcements of specific availability will be made on Help and Behind the Blackboard.*

Responsiveness and Mobile Optimization: Learn 2016 Theme Updates

Learn 2016 Theme: Brand Configuration Support

All system brand configuration options including color selections, palettes, and navigation behavior can be used when the responsive Learn 2016 Theme is selected.

Learn 2016 Theme: Course Menu Color Configuration

Instructors and course designers can configure the course colors in the course control panel when using the Learn 2016 Theme.

Learn 2016 Theme: Grade Center Improvements

- View full titles of Grade Center columns, making it easier to distinguish between similarly-titled items
- View as many columns as the size of their window will allow
- Enter into Grade Center full-screen mode to make the most of their desktop experience

Learn 2016 Theme: Tests Optimized for Mobile Web Browsers

Students now have greater flexibility to take their tests on the go on their mobile devices with question types that are better optimized for display on smaller devices.

Learn 2016 Theme: Learning Modules Optimized for Mobile Web Browsers

The Learning Modules tool has been optimized for mobile devices when using the Learn 2016 Theme. Regardless of configuration, the table of contents will always be pinned to the bottom of the page and can be expanded or collapsed. Settings such as forced sequence and allowing students to navigate using the table of contents are honored.

Supported Browsers Update

Mobile web browsers have been reclassified as compatible with this release when using the Learn 2016 Theme. See the [supported browsers page on Help](#) for additional details.

Integration and Security

Learning Tools Interoperability (LTI): Names and Roles Provisioning Service

This additional LTI service allows tools to request the class roster in order to create better experiences for end users. For example, an assessment tool might request the roster to present instructors with grading progress information by showing students who have and haven't submitted; an interactive tool might allow creating groups of students from roster information.

REST APIs

This release includes new REST APIs and enhancements to previously-released web services.

- Course Roles
- System Roles
- Course copy
- Course tasks/status
- LTI configure domains
- Gradebook attempts
- Grade schemas
- Other gradebook improvements
- Grading periods

For details, see complete documentation on the [Developer Portal](#).

Update for Gradebook SOAP WSDL

Partners and developers using SOAP web services for integration who leveraged the Gradebook services should recompile using the updated WSDL.

Password Reset Enhancement

When using Learn's password reset function, the password reset URL sent via email expires in 15 minutes for greater security.

Bug Fixes

There are nearly 200 client-reported issues fixed in the release. The top 50 resolved issues list is available for review in Learn 9.1 Q2 2018 Release - Top 50 Bugs Fixed, Article [#48650](#). To see the complete list on Behind the Blackboard, go to Self Service > Known Issues and then under Planned First Fix search by Learn 9.1 Q2 2018 Release. The list can be printed or exported to PDF or Excel.

Accessing the Build:

Change Management Resources

Self-hosted clients may download the latest build on the [Download Files](#) page. Managed Hosting clients may submit a case on Behind the Blackboard to schedule implementation of this release.

For a more detailed explanation of the changes and new features of this release, please reference the [Release Notes](#) and the [Download Files](#) page.

[Download Files](#)

[Release Notes](#)

[Supported Technologies](#)

[Browser Support](#)

Recent Issues

Article Number	Component	Service Pack(s)	Issue Description	Target Fix Release	Patch Available
000050100	Data Management & Integrations, Content Management, Course Tools	Learn 9.1 Q2 2018 (3400.0.0), Learn 9.1 Q4 2018 (3500.0.0), Learn 9.1 Q2 2019, SaaS	If a Content Area and a Subheader have the exact same name, then any Archive made from that Course which is Restored will not contain anything from the Content Area.	Future Reference	No
000050094	Data Management & Integrations, Course Tools, Extensions	Learn 9.1 Q2 2018 (3400.0.0), Learn 9.1 Q4 2018 (3500.0.0), Learn 9.1 Q2 2019, SaaS	LTI Placement Tools have been removed from System Admin > Tools. This means they can not be rolled out globally or via the LCH.	Future Reference	No
000050117	Language Packs	Learn 9.1 Q4 2017 (3300.0.0), Learn 9.1 Q2 2018 (3400.0.0), Learn 9.1 Q4 2018 (3500.0.0), Learn 9.1 Q2 2019, SaaS	When setting the System Language Pack to zh_CN and running a System Report the Legend Key data is not displayed correctly. Note that this only occurs on Linux based environments.	Future Reference	No
000050115	Course Tools, Extensions	Learn 9.1 Q4 2017 (3300.0.0), Learn 9.1 Q2 2018 (3400.0.0), Learn 9.1 Q4 2018 (3500.0.0), Learn 9.1 Q2 2019, SaaS	When creating matching questions, Instructors receive IndexOutOfBoundsException: Index: 4, Size: 4 error message if reuse a question.	Future Reference	No
000050011	Content Management, Course Tools	Learn 9.1 Q4 2017 (3300.0.0), Learn 9.1 Q2 2018 (3400.0.0), Learn 9.1 Q4 2018 (3500.0.0), Learn 9.1 Q2 2019, SaaS	Pasting from Word into Safari yields broken Images.	Future Reference	No
000042828	Notifications, Extensions	Learn 9.1 Q2 2017 (3200.0.0), Learn 9.1 Q4 2017 (3300.0.0), Learn 9.1 Q2 2018 (3400.0.0), Learn 9.1 Q4 2018 (3500.0.0), Learn 9.1 Q4 2016 (3100.0.0-rel.107+401e, SaaS, Learn 9.1 Q4 2015 (9.1.201510.1171621), Learn 9.1 Q2 2016 (3000.1.0-rel.52+991d)	The "To Do" module displays both old and new Due dates for Assignments when the instructor changes the due date, then does a course copy. This was in KB article 329339 but issue is not resolved when the due date is changed using the Date Management tool instead of editing the assignment directly.	Learn 9.1 Q2 2018 Release <p>SaaS - Fixed (v3500.10.0)	No
000049876	Course Tools	Learn 9.1 Q2 2018 (3400.0.0), Learn 9.1 Q4 2018 (3500.0.0), SaaS	When viewing a Discussion Board Post that contains a link ending in "sessions/", an error occurs.	Learn 9.1 Q2 2019 Release <p>SaaS - Fixed (v3500.8.0)	No
000043073	Database	Learn 9.1 Q2 2017 (3200.0.0), Learn 9.1 Q4 2017 (3300.0.0), Learn 9.1 Q2 2018 (3400.0.0), Learn 9.1 Q4 2018 (3500.0.0), Learn 9.1 Q4 2016 (3100.0.0-rel.107+401e, SaaS, Learn 9.1 Q2 2016 (3000.1.0-rel.52+991d)	A high number of database deadlocks are observed on the XY_CACHED_PRINCIPALS table.	Learn 9.1 Q2 2019 Release <p>SaaS - Fixed (v3500.8.0)	No
000048200	Communication Tools, Course Tools	Learn 9.1 Q4 2017 (3300.0.0), Learn 9.1 Q2 2018 (3400.0.0), Learn 9.1 Q4 2018 (3500.0.0), SaaS	Administrators are not able to see Announcements in Courses that are unavailable.	Learn 9.1 Q2 2019 Release <p>SaaS - Fixed (v3500.10.0)	No
		Learn 9.1 Q2 2017 (3200.0.0), Learn 9.1 Q4 2017 (3300.0.0), Learn 9.1	When you click on a Content area and then add a Tool Link the tools	Learn 9.1 Q2 2019 Release	

000043729	Course Tools	Q2 2018 (3400.0.0), Learn 9.1 Q4 2018 (3500.0.0), SaaS	are listed twice. The issue doesn't happen from the Course Home Page.	<p>Saas - Fixed (3500.10.0)	No
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