

## Visual Text Box Editor Difficulties:

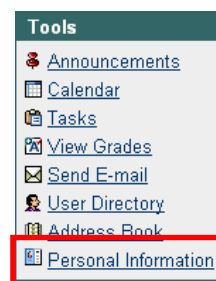
The Visual Text Box Editor allows the user to add formatting to text input into a text field such as an e-mail Discussion Board posting or a short answer/essay question in an assessment. This formatting can include bold, underline, italics, font, and font colour. In addition, the Visual Text Box Editor in Blackboard 7.3 also allows the user to add images, Flash movies, add HTML formatting and hyperlinks to the body of their message.

If you are trying to send an e-mail or post to the Discussion Board and find that there is no place to type your message. In the case of Windows XP, this problem is the result of a corruption in the module that connects Internet Explorer to Microsoft Word. In the case of Windows Vista, the module that previously connected Internet Explorer 7 to Microsoft Word does not exist. The quick and easy solution in both cases is to make the Visual Text Box Editor unavailable.

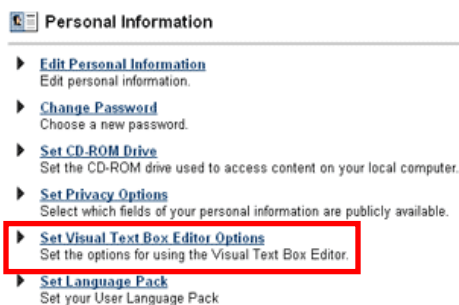
To adjust the availability of the Visual Text Box Editor:

1. Log into Blackboard

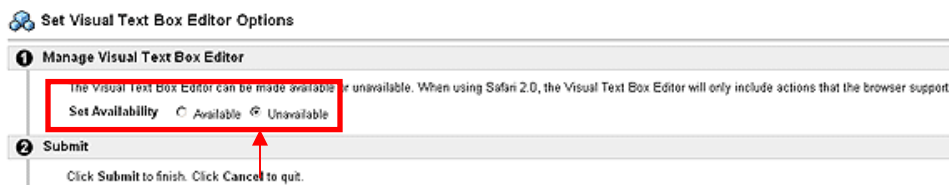
2. Click on "**Personal Information**" in the "**Tools**" menu located on the left side of the welcome screen; or click the "**Tools**" button in the course menu of any course in which you are enrolled.



3. Click on "**Set Visual Text Box Editor Options**"



4. Click the radio button marked "**Unavailable**"



5. Click "**Submit**" then "**Ok**"

This will allow you to type messages in the Discussion Board, e-mail (in Blackboard) and answers in essay questions in Microsoft Internet Explorer but without the text formatting tools from Microsoft Word.