• Respondus Lockdown Browser is a custom browser for Windows or Mac computers that locks down the testing environment in Blackboard courses.
• When students use Respondus Lockdown Browser they are unable to print, capture screen content, go to other URLs or access other applications.
• This prevents students from using instant messaging programs, search engines or any other digital resource during the test.
• Upon startup up Respondus Lockdown Browser goes directly to the institution’s login page for Blackboard.
• Students then login by entering their Blackboard user name and password.
• Respondus Lockdown Browser is similar to a standard web browser, but several features have been removed.
• Such as: the menu bar, the address field for entering URLs, the start button in windows and the system tray.
• Only the back, forward, stop and refresh buttons are retained.
• The right mouse button has also been disabled, along with keyboard operations such as: function keys and task-switching keystrokes.
• The source code for the web page can’t be viewed either.
• Once the student selects the Blackboard course, the assessment is then located and selected.
• If the setting for the test requires that Respondus Lockdown Browser be used and if the student is using Respondus Lockdown Browser, then everything will appear as normal.
• However, if the student attempts to start the test using a browser other than Respondus Lockdown Browser, as is now being shown, the screen will display a message indicating that the test can only be taken with Respondus Lockdown Browser.
• Once the assessment begins, student are prevented from exiting the browser until the assessment is submitted for grading.
• Not only are students are prevented from going to other websites or switching to other applications, they are also prevented from accessing other areas in blackboard while taking the assessment.
• Test questions can include images, flash files or PDF files, just as with a standard browser.
• The equation editor and other exam tools can also be used as normal.
• If a question contains a link to another URL, it will open a new locked window that won’t allow navigation beyond that initial page.
• So for example, if the content in the new browser window happens to include a link to a search engine, students will be unable to access the search link from that new page.
• When ready, the student will submit the test for grading.
• It is now possible to exit the browser, all other applications that were running prior to the start of Respondus Lockdown Browser, will be available at this time.
• To learn more about Respondus Lockdown Browser, please contact your respondus representative or go to www.responus.com.