Indiana's Digital Equity Capacity Grant Allocation Announced by NTIA

INDIANAPOLIS – (April 2, 2024)

The Indiana Broadband Office (IBO), a division of the Indiana Office of Technology, is pleased to announce its tentative allocation of the Digital Equity Capacity Program funds available to Indiana is \$15,096,770.19. The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) released the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for this grant program on Friday, March 29, 2024.

Each state and U.S. territory are eligible to apply for the \$1.44 billion Digital Equity Capacity grant. The IBO will apply for the Capacity Grant Program within the next 60 days.

The Capacity Grant Program is the second of three Digital Equity Act programs, established by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) of 2021. Indiana received \$842,000 in 2022 as part of the Digital Equity Planning Grant and created the state's first digital equity plan. That plan is available at https://www.in.gov/indianabroadband/digital-equity/ in either English or Spanish.

The Digital Equity Act provides \$2.75 billion to establish three grant programs available to all states and U.S. territories to promote digital equity and inclusion. The programs seek to ensure that all people and communities have the skills, technology, and capacity needed to reap the full benefits of the digital economy. The Capacity Grant Program will allow the IBO to oversee the implementation of Indiana's Digital Equity Plan. The State's plan outlines how the funds will be allocated to Hoosiers for better access to the internet, devices, and digital education.

The IBO is thrilled to administer the Capacity Grant Program to ensure that Indiana residents are provided with universal connectivity that is affordable, accessible, reliable, and equitable. The plan not only covers issues with access, but also helps build digitally resilient communities to prosper. If you have any questions about the Digital Equity Act programs and how they relate to Indiana, please email IndianaBroadband@iot.IN.gov.

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