



Digital Opportunity Subgrantee Selection Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Q: When will the Digital Opportunity subgrantee application period open?

A: The Indiana Broadband Office (IBO) will open the [Digital Equity Capacity Grant](#) subgrantee application period **on April 30, 2025. The application window will remain open for 45 days, closing at 11:59 p.m. on June 13, 2025.** Prospective applicants are encouraged to prepare their submissions in advance to ensure timely completion.

Q: Who is eligible to apply for the Digital Opportunity Capacity Grant?

A: To accurately convey the eligibility criteria for the Digital Equity Capacity Grant, it's essential to refer directly to the [National Telecommunications and Information Administration's \(NTIA\) Notice of Funding Opportunity \(NOFO\)](#). The NTIA specifies that eligible applicants include:

- **Political subdivisions, agencies, or instrumentalities of the State**, such as local government units and agencies responsible for adult education, literacy, or public housing.
- **Foundations, corporations, institutions, or associations** that are not-for-profit entities and not classified as schools.
- **Community anchor institutions**, excluding schools.
- **Local educational agencies.**
- **Entities that carry out workforce development programs.**
- **Partnerships** between any of the entities described above.

Applicants must have an active registration in the System for Award Management ([SAM.gov](#)) and possess a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI). Detailed eligibility criteria are outlined in the NOFO, available on the [Indiana Broadband Office's Digital Opportunity webpage](#).

Q: Are National Organizations permitted to apply for the grant?

A: Yes, National Organizations are permitted to apply for the grant, however according to the NTIA, "Located in the state" means that the entities to whom the recipient wishes to make subgrants are either physically located within the state or registered to do business with the Secretary of State of the recipient's state, or the comparable agency located in the State or Territory. Eligible subgrantees located in the state must use the funds received to benefit the covered populations in the state that received the funds.



Q: How can I apply for the Digital Opportunity Capacity Grant?

A: Applications must be submitted electronically through the eCivis Grants Portal. To access the application, visit the [Indiana Broadband Office's Digital Opportunity webpage](#) and follow the link to the eCivis portal. **(The link will not be posted and live until 4/30/2025).** Detailed instructions on the application process are provided within the portal.

Q: What is eCivis, and how is it used in the application process?

A: eCivis is a comprehensive grants management system utilized by the State of Indiana to streamline the application, management, and reporting of grants. For the Digital Equity Capacity Grant, all applications and subsequent grant management activities will be conducted through the eCivis portal. More information about eCivis can be found on the [Indiana State Budget Agency's website](#).

Q: Will there be technical assistance webinars available for applicants?

A: Yes, the Indiana Broadband Office will host two technical assistance webinars to guide applicants through the application process and address any questions. The schedule for these webinars will be posted on the [IBO's Digital Opportunity webpage](#). **(The link will not be posted and live until 4/30/2025).** Participation is highly recommended to ensure a thorough understanding of the application requirements.

Q: Will the IBO have Office Hours/Help Sessions?

A: The Indiana Broadband Office (IBO) will host two Technical Assistance Webinars in May and June 2025 to support applicants in understanding the Digital Opportunity subgrantee application process. To ensure fairness and transparency, all guidance and assistance provided will be made equally available to all eligible entities. The IBO will not offer one-on-one office hours; instead, we will provide shared resources, publicly accessible FAQs, and recorded webinars to ensure that all applicants have access to the same information and support.

Q: How will applications for the Digital Opportunity Capacity Grant be evaluated?

A: Applications will be evaluated based on their responsiveness to the requirements outlined in the program's [Notice of Funding Opportunity \(NOFO\)](#). The Indiana Broadband Office is developing a clear and equitable methodology for reviewing and selecting subgrantees in alignment with federal guidance. Final selection decisions will be made in accordance with federal guidelines. More information about the evaluation process will be shared before the application opens.

Q: When will award decisions be announced for the Digital Opportunity Capacity Grant?



A: Award announcements are anticipated to be made following the completion of the application review and selection process. The Indiana Broadband Office will communicate official award notifications directly to selected subgrantees and will post a public announcement once all decisions are finalized.

Q: Does the Capacity Grant have a match component?

A: No, there is no match associated with this grant.

Q: Will there be minimum/maximum award amounts?

A: No, there are no predefined minimum or maximum award amounts for this funding opportunity.

Q: How long do subgrantees have to draw down their award?

A: All drawdowns will be on a reimbursement basis and must be completed by the final day of the period of performance of the subgrant contract, but no later than August 30, 2029.

Q: What kind of projects do we expect to see?

A: According to the NTIA, the following are examples of program focus areas that States and Territories may choose to implement in alignment with the objectives outlined in 47 U.S.C. §1723(c)(1)(B). This list is not exhaustive. States and Territories are encouraged to design and pursue strategies tailored to their communities' unique needs. Example focus areas include Digital Literacy and Skills Training, E-Government and Civic Engagement, Device Distribution Programs, Economic Development, Online Access to Health and Mental Wellness Services, Online Accessibility, and Affordable Broadband Access. For more detailed information, please refer to the [Digital Capacity Grant Notice of Funding Opportunity \(NOFO\)](#) (**Pages 34 & 35**) where each of these focus areas is further described.

Q: Can this grant be used to purchase or build new infrastructure to use as a computer lab or training hub?

A: No, there is no infrastructure component associated with this grant.

Q: How will funds from this grant be distributed?

A: Funds will be distributed by reimbursement only.

Q: Are entities who are awarded able to apply for future rounds of funding?

A: Yes. Entities may apply for future rounds of funding even if awarded during the first round. There is no limit on the number or amount of awards an entity can receive.

Q: How often will awardees be required to report to the IBO on their progress?

A: Twice a year, semi-annually and annually.



Q: Is there any guidance available on eligible vs. ineligible costs?

A: According to [the NOFO](#): Grant recipients may only use federal award funds to pay for allowable costs under the Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program. Allowable costs are determined in accordance with the cost principles identified in 2 C.F.R. Part 200, including Subpart E of such regulations and in the grant program's authorizing legislation. In addition, costs must be reasonable, necessary, allocable, and allowable for the proposed project, and conform to generally accepted accounting principles. Grant funds may be used to cover only eligible costs incurred by the recipient during the period of performance, and for allowable costs incurred by the recipient during the grant closeout process.