

## Digital Equity Subgrant Program FAQ

### Questions from the DE Subgrant Overview 3/11/2025:

Are for-profits not eligible?

The lead applicant must be an eligible entity. Eligible entities can work with non-profit partners list them as partners (with Letters of Commitment in their application) or engage the services of for-profit entities.

Are entities who applied for NTIA Digital Equity Grant program (decision on awards have not been made yet) eligible to apply?

Entities that have applied for the Digital Equity Competitive Grant are eligible to apply for subgrants, however the proposed project/program cannot be the exact same. Consider, a different scope for each project. For example, if your program is to host digital literacy classes at four campus locations for the Competitive Grant, maybe the Capacity Subgrant could be to expand that to an additional campus.

Do I understand correctly that funding for this RFP will be dependent on federal approval (in September)? What are the odds of that happening given the current admin's position on DEI and Executive Order 13985?

At this time, the Arizona State Broadband Office and the Digital Equity Program Manager are proceeding forward with our proposed timelines. If changes need to be made in the future, we will address them.

Is there an age range associated with Goal 3?

No.

What type of grant distribution do you anticipate? Reimbursement?

Yes, these will be reimbursement grants. We can draw down for approximately 30 days of activity. However, if an applicant can prove and immediate need we hope to be able to provide funding ahead of the work. For example, if equipment needs to be purchased before a program can start, that would be

Are devices like mobile hotspots and satellite connection systems eligible?

Hotspots would be, but satellite connection systems would not be. Connectivity of an individual Broadband Serviceable Location (BSL) is the purview of the BEAD Program.

What is the time frame for expending funds if awarded? Is it one year?

The State Digital Equity Capacity Grant has a five-year implementation, which started January 1, 2025. Individual projects funded through the subgrants can be of varying lengths and will be defined by the applicant and their organizations' capacity.

Are you able to match subgrants that focus on affordable devices with those that focus on digital literacy skills to encourage collaboration?

Yes. An example of this might be a “learn-to-earn” program, where a participant attends a digital literacy class and the end, is given a laptop or tablet to keep, for example.

For the project budget, can we include a range of amounts tied to multiple deliverables so that we can be considered for a smaller amount if some deliverables are a better fit?

Yes.

Can one organization apply for grants under multiple categories?

Yes.

How many awards do you anticipate giving and what is the total amount you plan on subgranting out of the 16M you received?

The majority of the total allocation will be subgranted, except for the allowable set asides (see NOFO) and the funding for the few projects that will be run through the State Broadband Office (like the Digital Literacy Seal and the Digital Equity Specialists cohort, see the Digital Equity Plan for more information.)

However, the exact amount in this round of subgrants will be dependent on the applications we receive. If, for example, we do not receive enough applications to expend the funds, we reserve the right to offer additional rounds or assess alternatives.

The funding is meant to be used to implement the Digital Equity Plan and Arizona’s main strategy to do that is through the subgrants.

What timeframe is the sub grant for? 1 year? 5 years?

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Are Community Based Organizations that utilize a 501c3 fiscal sponsor eligible to apply?

Yes.

If the plan requires providing certain programs or apps to each participant, is it eligible to include this in the budget?

Please provide as much detail as you can in the application. However, remember – the funding is limited and sustainability of items such as subscriptions should be considered and possible solutions shared.