

APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

Broadband Infrastructure Improvement Grant



IDAHO STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
TECHNOLOGY SERVICES | BROADBAND PROGRAM

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ABOUT THIS GRANT

The Broadband Infrastructure Improvement Grant (“B.I.I.G.”) was created by [Idaho Statute 33-910](#). B.I.I.G. commits up to 10% of **E-Rate eligible** special construction costs on proposals that build modern fiber infrastructure to eligible Idaho schools and libraries. The eligible use of the fiber infrastructure must be either Direct Internet Access (DIA) or Wide Area Networks (WAN) in accordance with E-Rate program rules at eligible Idaho schools and libraries.

The State of Idaho awards this grant to an applicant that has 1) developed a Request For Proposal (RFP) in collaboration with the Broadband Program, and 2) completed a competitive bidding process in collaboration with their governing bodies that resulted in a successful contract award.

If the state award letter is included on the applicant’s FCC Form 471, and if the application is approved, E-Rate will increase the entity’s discount percentage equal to the percentage awarded by Idaho; this increase does not apply to any other E-Rate application submitted by the entity.

Applicant E-Rate Discount	40%	50%	60%	70%	80%	90%
B.I.I.G. Award	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	5%
FRN discount adjusted	50%	60%	70%	80%	90%	95%
Total Funded with B.I.I.G.	60%	70%	80%	90%	100%	100%

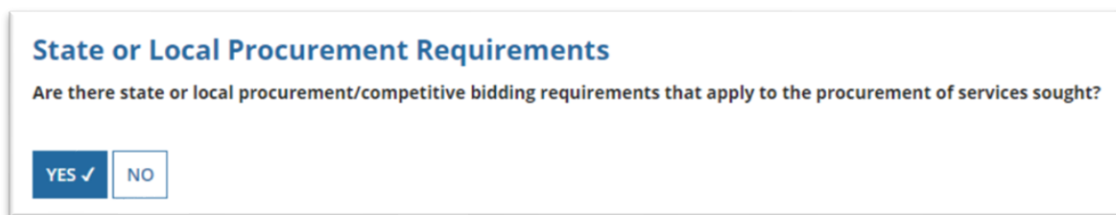
APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

- E-Rate eligible entities per Idaho [33-5602](#), which are...
 - Idaho public schools grades K-12
 - Idaho Digital Learning Academy,
 - Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections' education programs
 - School for the Deaf and the Blind
 - Idaho public libraries.

Compliance Certification on FCC Form 470

B.I.I.G. applications and E-Rate funding requests that do not document and retain evidence of the following items may not be considered for funding in accordance with Idaho statute and E-Rate program rules as enforced by the Universal Services Administrative Company (USAC).

When you complete the FCC Form 470 to request bids, you must answer this question:



State or Local Procurement Requirements

Are there state or local procurement/competitive bidding requirements that apply to the procurement of services sought?

☒ YES ✓ ☐ NO

Answering “Yes,” means your administration considered the estimated value of this contract prior to creating an RFP and followed the requirements of Idaho statutes [67-2806 \(Procuring Services\)](#), [67-2806A \(Request For Proposal\)](#), and [60-106A \(Electronic Publication of Legal Notices By Newspapers\)](#).

Applicants must provide documentation that the statutory requirements were completed in accordance with the appropriate price tier on the following page prior posting a Form 470.

Compliance Checklist ([Idaho 67-2806](#))

LEAs must consider the expected value of the services and property sought before accepting proposals. If the project is expected to...

☐ **Exceed \$250,000.**

- Sealed bid process is required.
 - RFP must include date and time for bid opening.
 - Written objections to specifications or bidding procedures must be received up to 3 business days before bid opening date and time.
- (2) notices soliciting bids must be published in the official newspaper of the LEA.
 - First notice published at least two weeks before the bid opening date.
 - Second notice published at least one week (7 days) before bid opening date.
 - If the appropriate newspaper only distributes electronically, that is allowable.
- LEA may require bidders to provide bid security equal to 5% of total value of bid.
 - If the winning bid fails to execute services, the bid security would be forfeited.

☐ **Exceed \$150,000, but will not exceed \$250,000.**

- Send RFP to a minimum of three vendors inviting them to submit proposals.
 - Document must describe bid submission process, date and time bids are due.
 - Written objections to specifications or means of delivery must be accepted until 1 business day before end of bidding period.
- If it not possible to receive at least (3) responses...
 - The political subdivision may acquire the property in any manner the political subdivision deems best from a qualified vendor quoting the lowest price.
 - Must memorandize “description of the efforts taken.”

☐ **Not exceed \$150,000.**

- E-Rate program rules and best practices still apply.
- Bidding process must be open and fair.
- Bidding window must be 28-days minimum.
 - Broadband office suggests 45-days minimum, 60-days for special construction.
- RFPs should include...
 - Full timeline for bidding, awards, where vendor answers will be publicly posted.
 - Scoring matrix of at least 5 factors or more
 - The highest-scoring factor must be the cost of eligible goods and services.
- You may invite any vendor to submit a bid.
- For any E-Rate RFP templates, proofreading, and suggestions contact the E-Rate Coordinator Daniel Vogt dvogt@edu.idaho.gov.

PROJECT ELIGIBILITY

For the purposes of the E-Rate program, special construction charges are the upfront, non-recurring costs of deploying new or upgraded network facilities to E-Rate eligible entities. Direct Internet Access (DIA) and/or wide-area network (WAN) special construction projects that meet the FCC's long-term capacity targets, identified in the [Second E-Rate Modernization Order](#) are eligible.

FCC Target for Direct Internet Access (DIA) Capacity

Entity	Long-Term Capacity Target
School District	Scalable to 1 Gbps per 1,000 users
Library (less than 50,000 patrons)	At least 100 Mbps
Library (more than 50,000 patrons)	At least 1 Gbps

FCC Target for Wide Area Network (WAN) Capacity

Entity	Long-Term Capacity Target
School District	Scalable to 10 Gbps per 1,000 users
Library (less than 50,000 patrons)	Scalable to 10 Gbps
Library (more than 50,000 patrons)	Scalable to 10 Gbps

Recommended Bandwidth for LEAs (Automatic State Reimbursements)

Applicants should also consider the current state reimbursement methodology as voted by the Educational Opportunity Resource Committee in June of 2022. Bandwidth that exceeds the recommendations may not be eligible for state reimbursement without additional approval.

User Count (Students + Staff)	Recommended Minimum	Recommended Maximum
499 Users or below	100 Mbps	Up to 1 Gbps if the monthly cost is: 1) equal to or less than \$2,000/mo, AND 2) equal to or less than \$2.00 per Mbps
At least 500	1 Gbps	1 Gbps
At least 1,500	1 Gbps	2 Gbps
At least 3,000	1 Gbps	5 Gbps
At least 6,000	1 Gbps	Up to 10 Gbps, or 1Mbps/User
At least 15,000	1 Gbps	Up to 20 Gbps, or 1 Mbps/User
At least 35,000	1 Gbps	Up to 40 Gbps, or 1 Mbps/User

APPLICANT DOCUMENTATION

E-Rate Funding Year	2026 (beginning 7/1/2026)
Entity Name:	
Address:	
Superintendent:	
Email and phone	
Technology Director	
Email and Phone	
Business Manager	
Email and Phone	
Students/Patrons:	
Staff/Employees:	
Total Users:	

Project 1 Narrative (DIA or WAN)

- 1. Please provide a detailed description of your current infrastructure:**
- 2. Please describe the limitations of your current infrastructure; what issues or barriers did your entity face due to these limitations?**
- 3. Please provide a detailed description of the project, the proposed infrastructure, and the expected estimated timeline to complete it:**

Project 2 Narrative, if Applicable (DIA, WAN)

1. Please provide a detailed description of your current infrastructure:

2. Please describe the limitations of your current infrastructure; what issues or barriers did your entity face due to these limitations?

3. Please provide description of the project, the proposed infrastructure, and the expected estimated timeline to complete it:

APPLICATION FORM

Project 1 Information

Description	Answer
1. Type of Project (DIA, WAN, other):	
2. Form 470:	
3. Provider:	
4. Expected E-Rate Discount Percentage:	
5. Monthly Recurring Cost (MRC):	
6. Eligible Special Construction Cost:	
7. Ineligible Special Construction Cost:	
8. Other Non-Recurring Costs (NRC):	
9. B.I.I.G. Funds Request (5% or 10% of Line 6):	

Project 2 Information (if applicable)

Description	Answer
1. Type of Project (DIA, WAN, other):	
2. Form 470:	
3. Provider:	
4. Expected E-Rate Discount Percentage:	
5. Monthly Recurring Cost (MRC):	
6. Eligible Special Construction Cost:	
7. Ineligible Special Construction Cost:	
8. Other Non-Recurring Costs (NRC):	
9. B.I.I.G. Funds Request (5% or 10% of Line 6):	

Attachments and Certifications

Please include digital copies of the following attachments with your final submission:

Description	Notes
1. Compliance with Idaho state law (pg. 3)	
2. Copies of all bids received	
3. Scoring materials and relevant board minutes	
4. Mapping data (if available)	

Final Certifications

I understand and agree that E-Rate rules require the LEA to retain all relevant documentation of request and services that receive E-Rate funding for a minimum of 10 years (beginning from the final date of contracted service).

Final Date of proposed services:
Documentation must be retained through:

I have fulfilled all requirements to the best of my ability, in good faith, and with consultation of the Idaho State Board of Education Broadband Program.

I understand a state award does not guarantee E-Rate funding and should not be accepted as an order to proceed with installation and services.

Signatures

Superintendent/Director

Signature/Date: _____

Business Manager

Signature/Date: _____

Technology Director

Signature/Date _____