

State Digital Equity Plan and Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program Stakeholder Briefing

November 18, 2024



Broadband for All

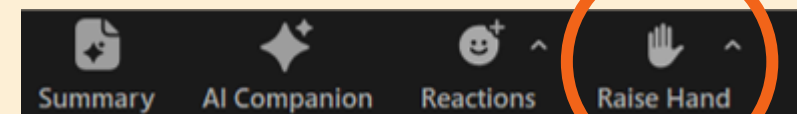
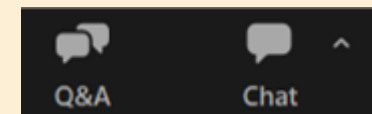
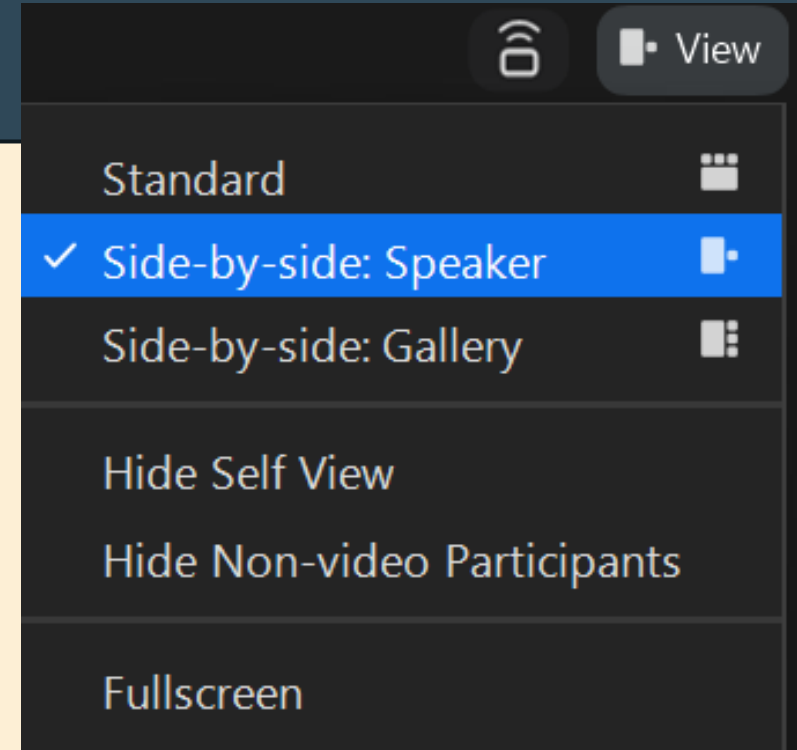
Housekeeping

Select Side-by-Side: Speaker Mode for the best viewing experience when slides are shared and visibility of the ASL interpreters

Closed Captions English closed captions are available. Choose "CC closed caption" on your toolbar and select "show subtitle".

Q&A Box Discussion after each agenda item. Please add your questions in the Q&A Box

Reactions Raise Hand feature or *9 if you calling into Zoom by phone





Agenda

Welcome & Recap

**SDEP & State Capacity Grant and Subgrant
Program Design Recap**

**DE Capacity Subgrant Draft Guidelines
Public Comment Process**

**DECG Subgrant Technical Assistance
Program**

Next Steps & Closing



WELCOME & RECAP

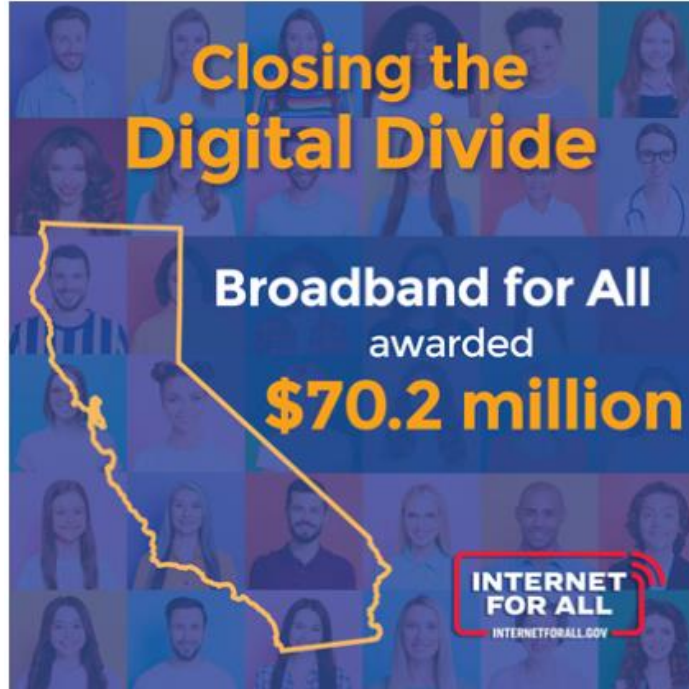
Scott Adams

DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Office of Broadband and Digital Literacy
California Department of Technology

SDEP & DIGITAL EQUITY CAPACITY GRANT PROGRAM

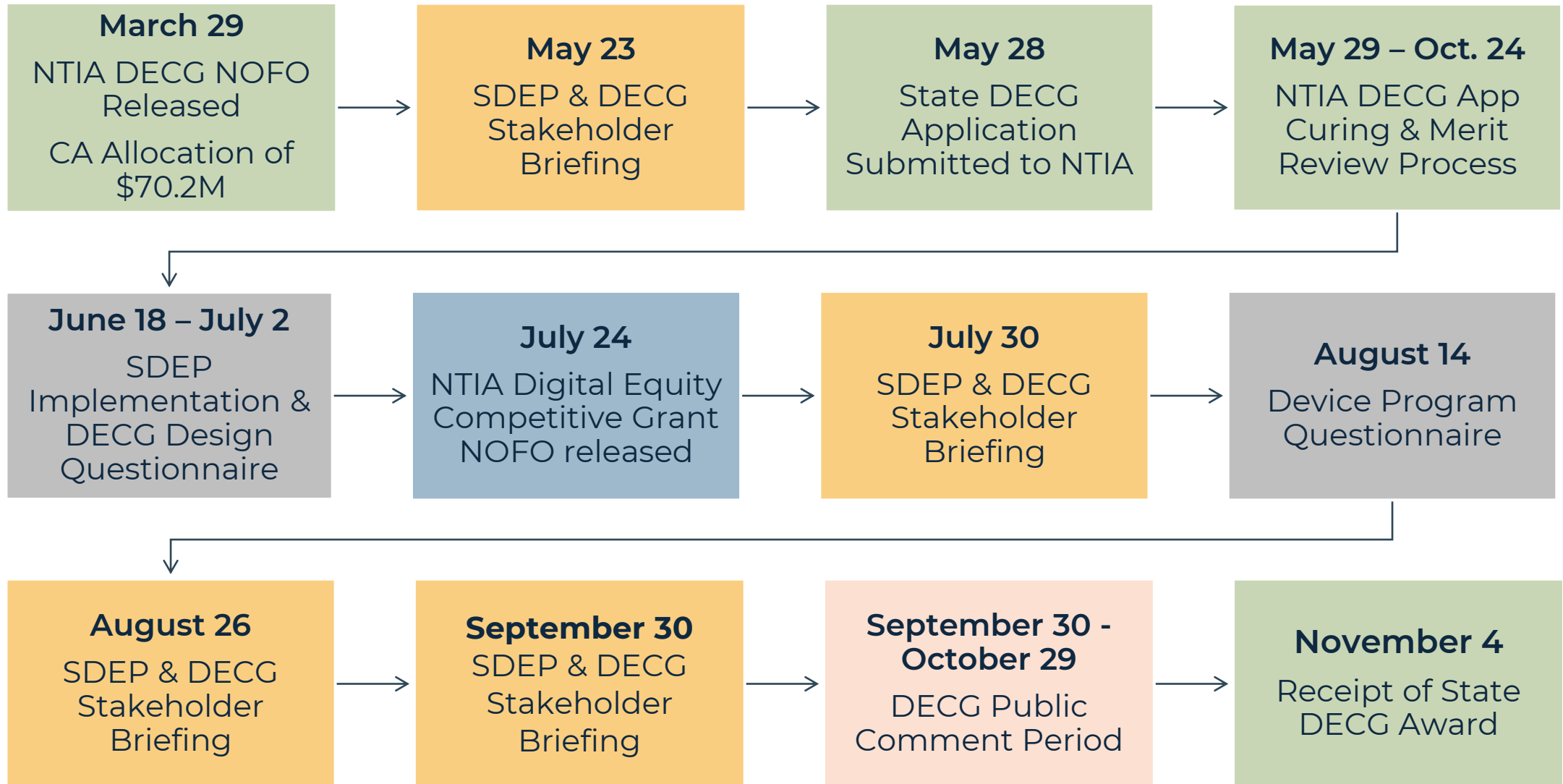
NTIA Award



California was awarded a **\$70.2 million** Digital Equity Capacity Grant by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) to support the implementation of its State Digital Equity Plan.

SDEP & DIGITAL EQUITY CAPACITY GRANT PROGRAM

Recap



Discussion



Broadband for All



SDEP & STATE CAPACITY GRANT AND SUBGRANT PROGRAM DESIGN RECAP

Shawn Daugherty

Director

Broadband Equity Partnership

Focus



SDEP 7 Key Activities

1. Complete BB4All infrastructure investments
2. Convene digital equity stakeholders
3. Refine digital equity data and maps
4. Develop a digital equity capacity subgrant program
5. Fund State-managed digital inclusion programs
6. Develop digital inclusion tools & best practices
7. Promote low-cost service offers & subsidy programs

Focus

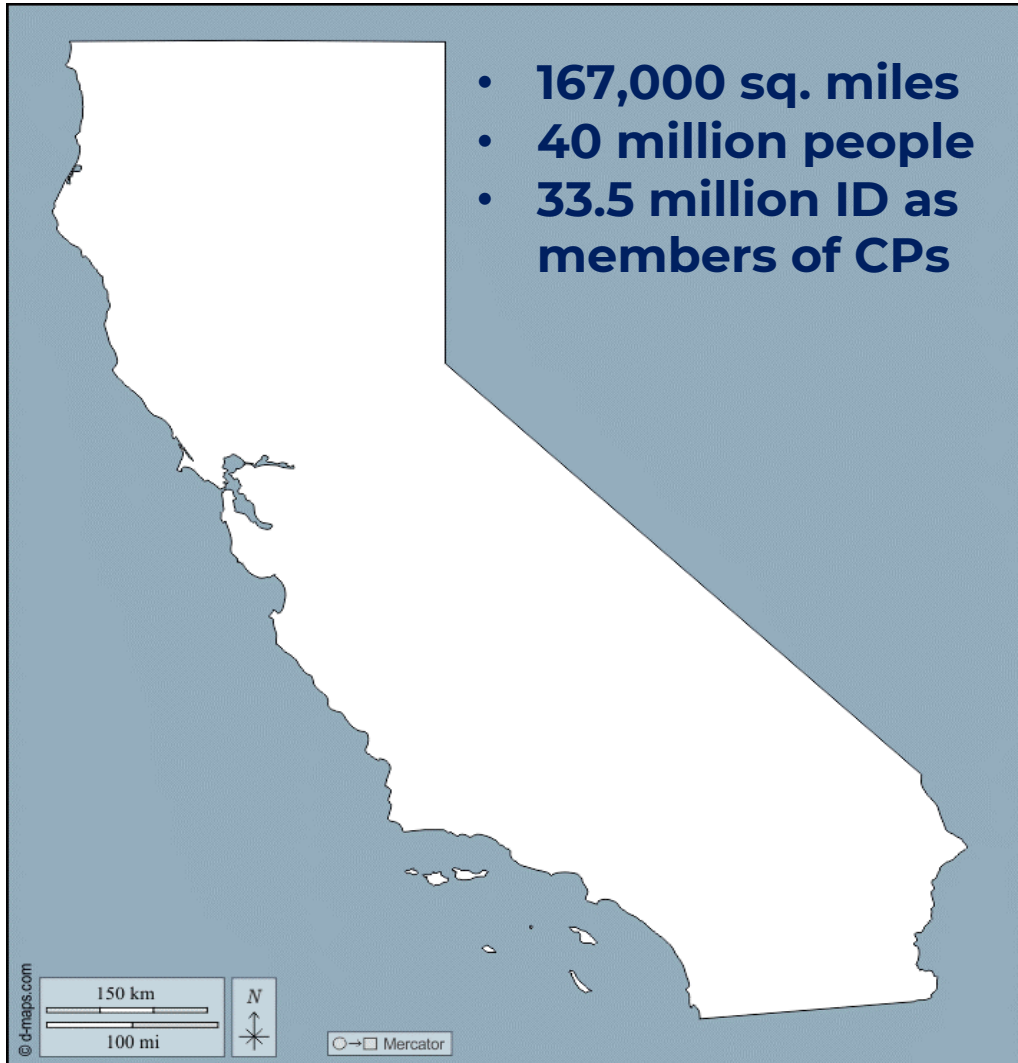


“Capacity Grant funding will be insufficient to accomplish the objectives and meet the targets outlined in this Plan. CDT will support its digital inclusion stakeholders in the state to apply for the Digital Equity Competitive Grant program from the NTIA, expected in late 2024.”

“These existing programs, complemented by numerous existing locally, philanthropically, and privately funded programs, are central to closing digital equity gaps in the state but will be insufficient.”

Source: SDEP Executive Summary page 25 and Section 5.5 page 151

Size & Scale Challenge



State DE Capacity Grant:

\$70.2 Million

Potential Eligible Entities:

9,000+

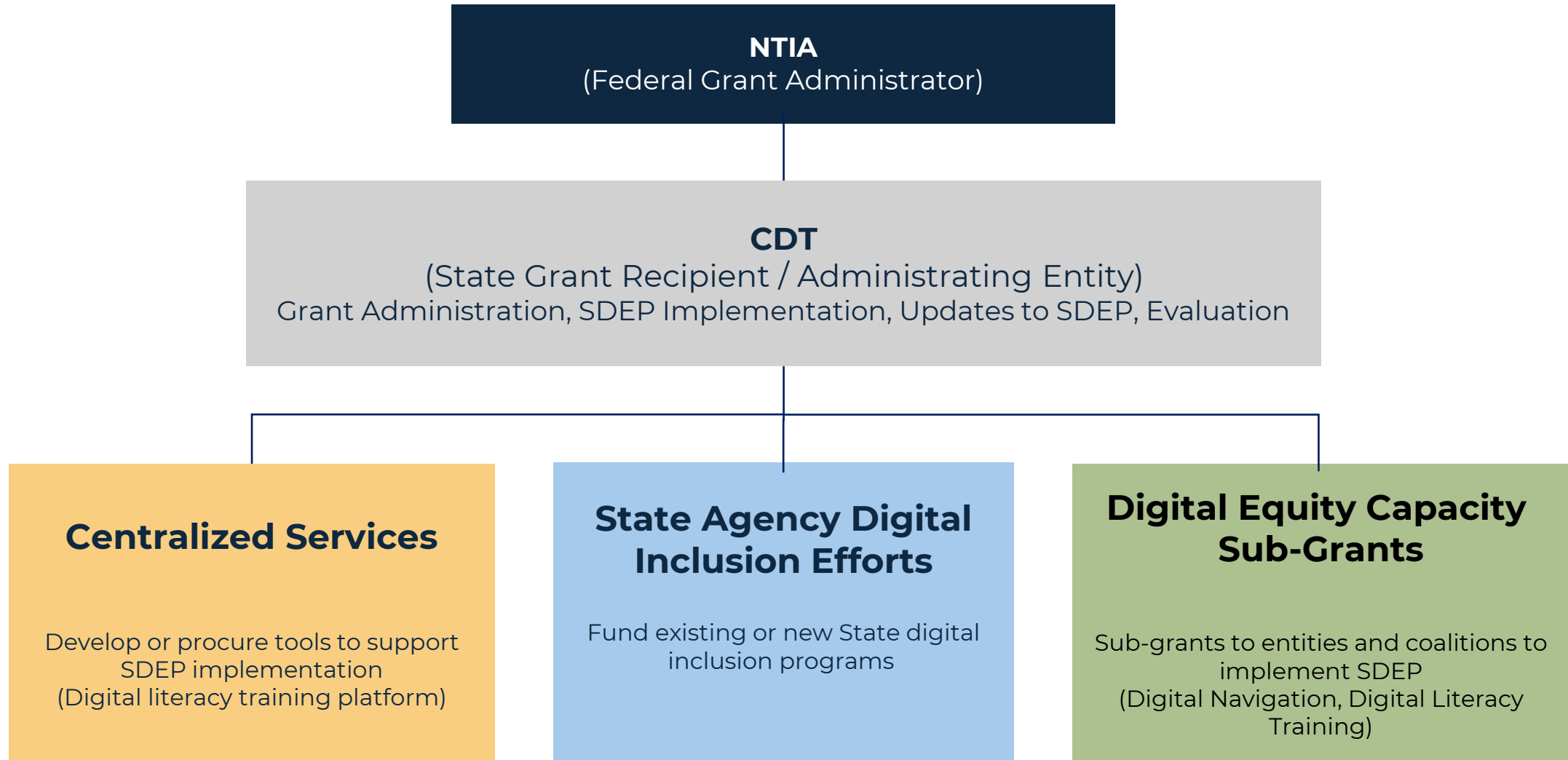
Digital Equity Funding Context

	CPUC CASF Broadband Adoption	NTIA DE Competitive Grant	NTIA Native Entities Capacity Grant	CA DE Capacity Grant
Total Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$36m (annual)* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$750m (one-time) \$37.5m Native set-aside 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$45.3m (tranche 1) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$70.2m (tranche 1)
Grant Size and Match	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <\$100k - \$4m+ 15% match 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$5m - \$12m 10%+ non-federal match 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$500k - \$2 million No match required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TBD No match required
Focus & Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Digital literacy Broadband access 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Digital inclusion & broadband adoption activities for Covered Populations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DE planning & carry out digital inclusion activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement CA SDEP – local DE planning, broadband adoption, digital navigation, training, etc.
Entities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local gov, senior centers, schools, libraries, nonprofits, CBOs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local/state gov, tribes, nonprofits, CAIs, LEAs, workforce programs, partnerships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indian Tribes, Alaska Native Entities, Native Hawaiian Organizations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local/state gov, tribes, nonprofits, CAIs, LEAs, workforce programs, partnerships
Geographic Scope	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Statewide or local 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National, statewide, regional, local 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individual or consortia of Native Entities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Statewide or local

*CPUC authorized to fund CASF up to \$150m annually through 2032. CASF Adoption Account allocation grew from \$20m (2023-24) to \$36m (2024-25)

DIGITAL EQUITY CAPACITY SUBGRANT PROGRAM

Capacity Grant Program Structure



Purpose

The Digital Equity Capacity Subgrant Program will focus on:

- Fund entities to implement the Statewide Digital Equity Plan.
- Address digital equity barriers at local, regional, and state level.
- Develop regional ecosystems and increase capacity.
- Provide digital inclusion funding to trusted messengers.
- Allocate funding across every county.
- Encourage statewide innovation.



DIGITAL EQUITY CAPACITY SUBGRANT PROGRAM

Allowable Uses of Digital Equity Capacity Grant



- Develop local digital equity plans
- Broadband adoption campaigns
- Digital navigation services
- Digital literacy and skills training
- Targeted device distribution
- Workforce development training and apprenticeships

DIGITAL EQUITY CAPACITY GRANT SUBGRANT PROGRAM

Draft Subgrant Design

Two funding tracks designed to focus on regional, local & targeted statewide **ecosystem development**.

	Track 1: Regional/Local Ecosystems	Track 2: Targeted Statewide Ecosystems
Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Formula allocation per county geographic boundary• Encourage one lead applicant per area• Regional/Local Planning + Capacity Grant• Local capacity to be aided by centralized services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Competitive grants for development of statewide ecosystems & innovation for:<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Targeted Outcome Areas◦ Specific Covered Populations
Eligible Entities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leads: Eligible entity within each county geographic boundary (allow multi-county joint applications)• Subgrants: Funds may subsequently be allocated to other implementation partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nonprofits and digital inclusion providers with outcome area, covered population, or statewide reach• Tribes and Tribal consortia and associations

DIGITAL EQUITY CAPACITY GRANT SUBGRANT PROGRAM

Proposed Track 1 Formula

Considered formula allocations per county geographic boundaries.

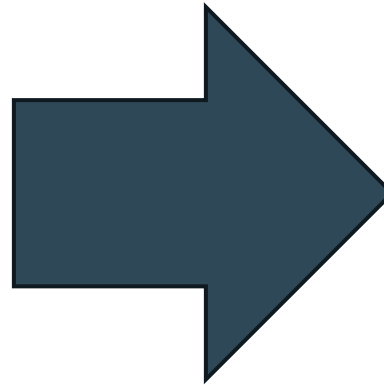
Digital Equity Act State Allocation Formula

50%: size of total population within the state

25%: size of total Covered Populations within the state

25%: comparative lack of broadband availability & adoption relative to other states

Every state is ensured a minimum allocation of **0.5%** of total funding pool.



Alternative Formula (informed by public input)

75%: size of total Covered Populations within county geographic boundary

25%: comparative lack of broadband availability & adoption relative to other county geographic boundaries

Every county geographic boundary is ensured a minimum allocation of **0.5%** of total funding pool.

Discussion



Broadband for All



DE CAPACITY SUBGRANT DRAFT GUIDELINES PUBLIC COMMENT PROCESS

Chae Kim

Senior Analyst

Broadband Equity Partnership

Content of Draft Guidelines

1

Program Background

2

Goals of the Capacity Subgrant Program

3

Definitions

4

Eligible Applicants

5

Eligible Use of Funds and Program Requirements

6

Who This Benefits

7

Proposed Allocation & Award Formula

8

Funding Restrictions

9

Information Requested from Applicants

10

Selection Information

11

Post-Award Expectations

12

Proposed Schedule of Activities

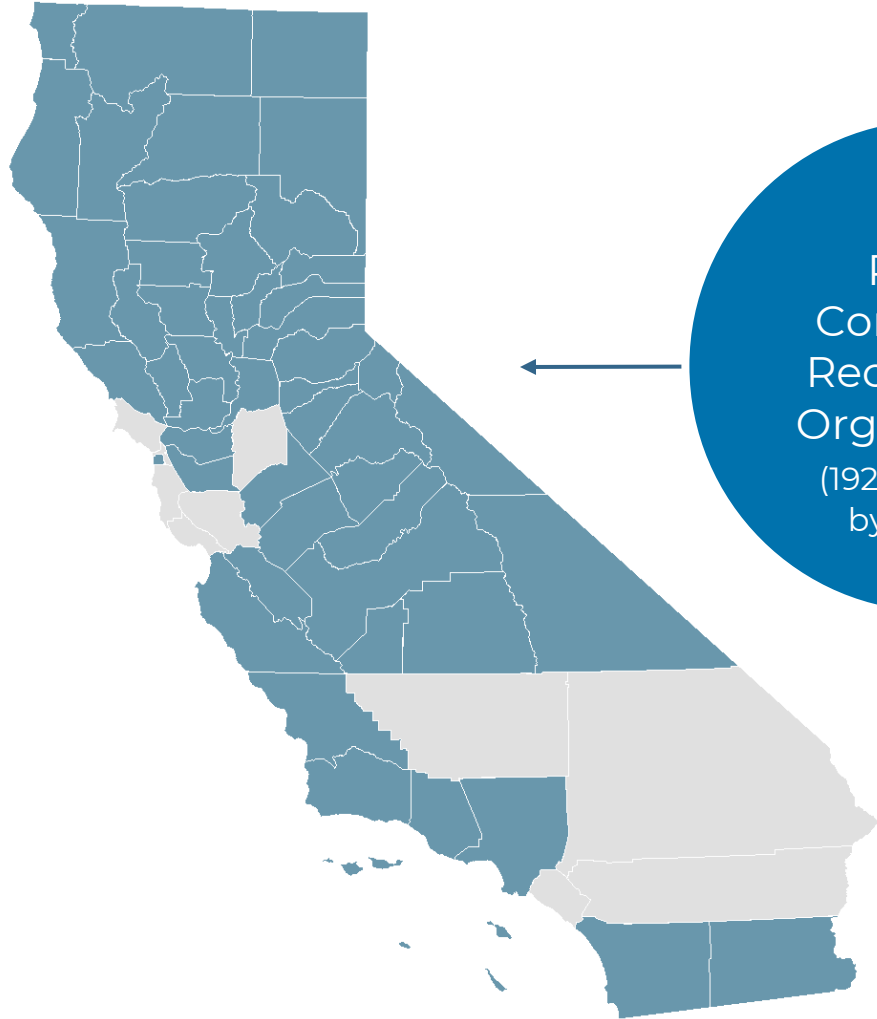
Public Comment Process Overview

- 30-day public comment period
- September 30 – October 29
- Online via the Broadband for All Portal
- Accessibility Features:
 - Text translation in multiple languages
 - HTML for screen reading capabilities
 - Voice-to-text ability to submit comments
- Comments posted as submitted within two business days, find submitted comments by scanning QR code



DIGITAL EQUITY CAPACITY SUBGRANT DRAFT GUIDELINES

Public Comment Summary



66
Public
Comments
Received by
Organization
(192 comments
by section)

Public
Comments
Received from
Organizations
Representing
49
Counties

79% (52)
Commenting
Organizations
Interested in
Applying

- | | | | | | | |
|--------------|-----------|-------------|----------|-----------------|------------|----------|
| Alameda | Del Norte | Kings | Merced | Plumas | Shasta | Tehama |
| Alpine | El Dorado | Lake | Modoc | Sacramento | Sierra | Trinity |
| Amador | Fresno | Lassen | Mono | San Benito | Siskiyou | Tulare |
| Butte | Glenn | Los Angeles | Monterey | San Diego | Solano | Tuolumne |
| Calaveras | Humboldt | Madera | Napa | San Francisco | Sonoma | Ventura |
| Colusa | Imperial | Mariposa | Nevada | San Luis Obispo | Stanislaus | Yolo |
| Contra Costa | Inyo | Mendocino | Placer | Santa Barbara | Sutter | Yuba |

Public Comment Overall Themes

Program Design

Application Structure

Application Timelines

Covered Populations

Funding & Costs

Funding Allocation

Allowable Costs

Cost Caps

Related Programs & Services

Centralized Services & Data Collection

SDEP & Capacity Grant

Technical Assistance (TA)

Public Comment Detailed Themes

Program Design

Application Structure

Partnership Structures

of Subawards per County

Timelines

Application Timeline

Reporting Timelines

Finalizing Partnerships & Second-Tier Subgrants

Covered Populations

Covered Populations

Intersectionality with Native Entities, Foster Youth, & LGBTQ+

Public Comment Detailed Themes

Funding & Costs

Funding Allocation

Funding Formula

Allocations
by Track

Allowable Costs

Clarification on
Allowable
vs
Unallowable
Costs

Cost Caps

Indirect / Administrative

Device / Planning / Subsidies

Advanced Payments &
Reimbursement Schedule

Public Comment Detailed Themes

Related Programs & Services

Centralized Services & Data Collection

Information on
Centralized Services

Requirements
Related to
DE Survey / DEEM Tool

SDEP & Capacity Grant

Information on
SDEP Progress

Information on
Capacity Grant Progress

Technical Assistance (TA)

Partnership Support
for **Local Entities & CBOs**

Guidance around
Allowable Projects & Entities

Guidance around
Outputs & Outcomes

Discussion



Broadband for All



DE CAPACITY SUBGRANT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

James Spencer

Broadband Administrative Manager

Office of Broadband and Digital Literacy
California Department of Technology

Technical Assistance Support



Get Ready Resources

Written and pre-recorded video content to assist in the application development process



Q&A Cycles

A dedicated email inbox for submitting written questions and a regular schedule for posting responses



Webinars

Presentations on specific topics regarding the RFA and the application process

Values: Consistency, Transparency, Timeliness

How To Prepare



Get Organized

- Create or verify an active SAM.gov registration and Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) number
- Complete your Federal/State audit
- Sign Up for Broadband for All email update
- Bookmark Broadband for All Portal for when application portal opens



Identify Partners and Build Coalitions

- Assess opportunities and priorities in your communities and where does your organization provide the best expertise
- Meet & discuss



Research and Assessment

- Identify if your region has existing Digital Equity Plans and review
- Market Research for potential contractors and vendors
- Review the State Digital Equity Plan

Poll & Discussion



Broadband for All



NEXT STEPS & CLOSING

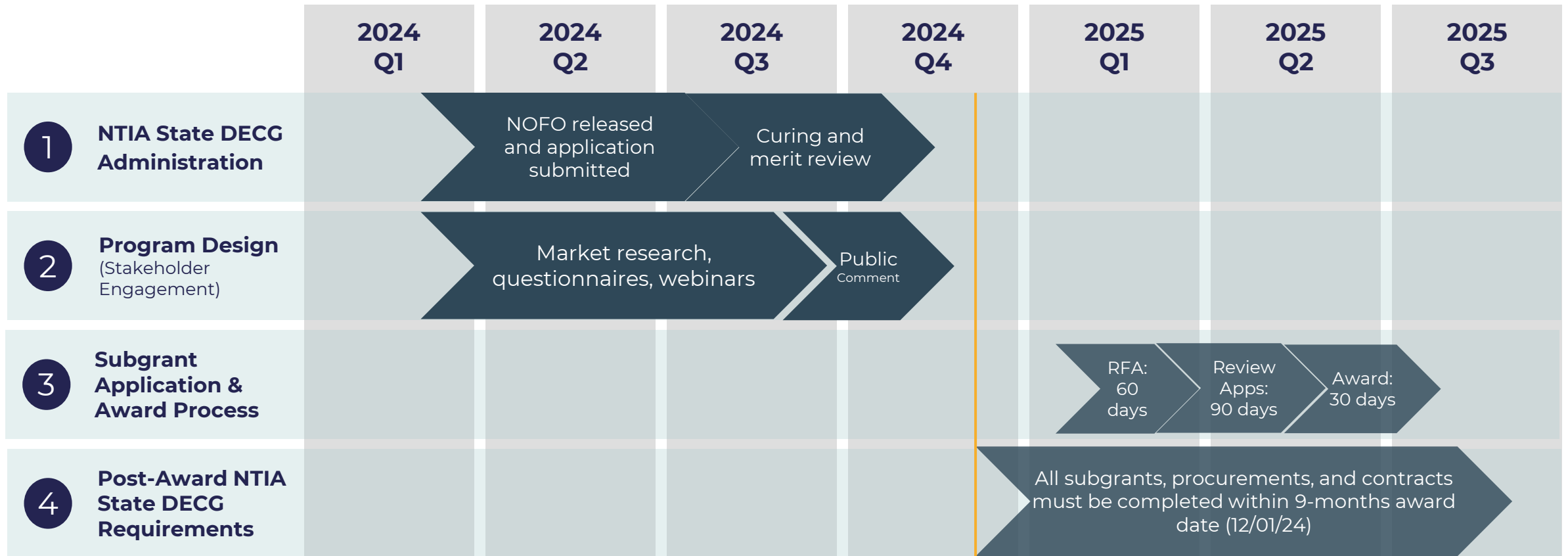
Scott Adams

DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Office of Broadband and Digital Literacy
California Department of Technology

DIGITAL EQUITY CAPACITY GRANT PROGRAM

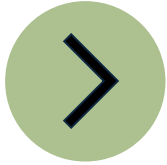
Tentative Timeline



**Period of
Performance
Begins
12/01/2024**

Note: Tentative timeline subject to revision and change

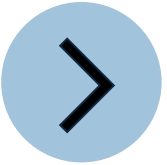
Next Steps



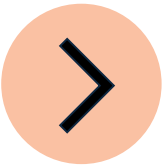
**December SDEP Implementation
& Digital Equity Capacity Grant
Program Stakeholder Briefing**



**Centralized Services and State
Agency Digital Inclusion Efforts**



DE Competitive Grant Award



**DE Native Entity Capacity Grant
(Closes February 7)**



THANK YOU!

Sign up:

Broadband for All Email Update

Website:

BroadbandForAll.cdt.ca.gov

Contact:

DigitalEquity@state.ca.gov

