

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

December 16, 2024



Broadband for All

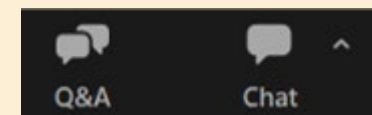
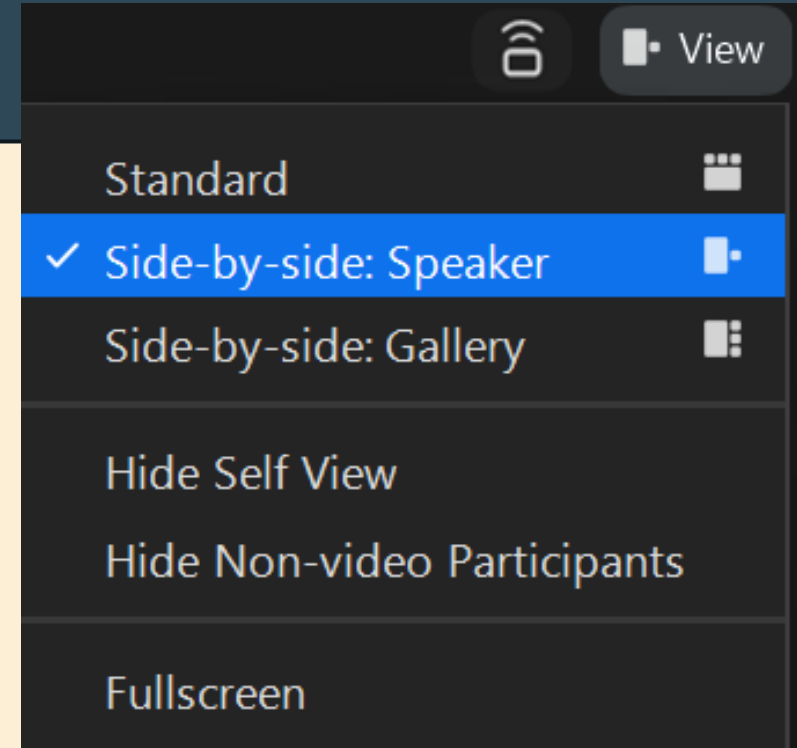
Housekeeping

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

Modifications to Subgrant Program Guidelines

DECG Subgrant Technical Assistance Program

Stakeholder Engagement Opportunities in 2025

Timeline & Next Steps



WELCOME & RECAP

Scott Adams

DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Office of Broadband and Digital Literacy
California Department of Technology

WELCOME & RECAP

Digital Equity Capacity Grant Milestones



March 29

NTIA DECG NOFO
released
CA Allocation of
\$70.2M



May 28

State DECG
Application submitted
to NTIA



May 29 – Oct. 24

NTIA DECG App
Curing & Merit Review
Process



Nov. 4

Receipt of State
Award
(Period of
Performance start
Date is 12/01/24)

Metrics of Engagement



6

SDEP Implementation and Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program Stakeholder Briefings



2

Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program Design Surveys and Questionnaires



117

Market Research Meetings & Listening Sessions



20

Presentations at Stakeholders' Convenings, Conferences, and Summits



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.



Discussion



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MODIFICATIONS TO SUBGRANT PROGRAM GUIDELINES

Alex Banh

Principal

Broadband Equity Partnership

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">◦ Outcome Areas◦ 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 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

MODIFICATIONS TO SUBGRANT PROGRAM GUIDELINES

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)

MODIFICATIONS TO SUBGRANT PROGRAM GUIDELINES

Responses to Public Comment – Program Design

Public Comment Theme	CDT Response & Updates	Status
Application Timeline / RFA Launch	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Extending RFA launch from December 2024 to Q1 2025	Will Modify
Applicant Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clarifying eligibility for entities as long as NTIA criteria met (e.g., Regional Broadband Consortia)	Will Modify
County Subaward Selection	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clarifying criteria to select best application for a given county if there are overlapping applications	Will Modify
Awards per County	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Including option to award more than one application for a given county	Under Consideration
Period of Performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Allowing for flexibility within maximum period of performance	Will Modify

MODIFICATIONS TO SUBGRANT PROGRAM GUIDELINES

Responses to Public Comment – Program Design

Public Comment Theme	CDT Response & Updates	Status
Reporting Timelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Extending post-award reporting deadlines	Will Update
Finalizing Partnerships & 2 nd -Tier Subgrants	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Allowing for Lead Applicants to finalize partnerships & 2nd-tier subgrantees after award	Under Consideration
2 nd -Tier Subgrantee Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clarifying that UEs are only required for Lead Applicant (not 2nd-tier subgrantee)	Under Consideration
Covered Population Definitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Covered Population definitions are based on statute. Cannot revise to include additional groups (Including language on intersectionality and serving groups belonging to multiple Covered Populations)	No Change
Track 2 Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clarifying eligibility for all Covered Populations and Outcome Areas, including Digital Literacy & Inclusion	Will Update

MODIFICATIONS TO SUBGRANT PROGRAM GUIDELINES

Responses to Public Comment – Funding & Costs

Public Comment Theme	CDT Response & Updates	Status
Track 1 Funding Formula	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reviewing formula and data sources• Will remain consistent with Digital Equity Act, NTIA NOFO, and prior stakeholder input	Under Consideration
Reallocating Unused Funds	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reviewing options for reallocating unused funds within NTIA 9-month timeline	Under Consideration
Allowable vs Unallowable Costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preparing allowable cost guidance on topics mentioned in comments (staff training, coalition-building)	Will Modify
Indirect / Admin Costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reviewing 3% administrative cap and federal indirect cost policy	Under Consideration
Devices & Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increasing device cost cap to \$400 per device, and up to 25% of total budget• Clarifying planning caps apply on a per-county basis	Will Modify
Advanced Payments & Reimbursement Schedule	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reviewing options for: reimbursement (quarterly vs. monthly) or advance payment (10% vs. 25%)	Under Consideration

MODIFICATIONS TO SUBGRANT PROGRAM GUIDELINES

Responses to Public Comment – Related Programs & TA

Public Comment Theme	CDT Response & Updates	Status
Information on Centralized Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adding more information on Centralized Service types• Clarifying ability to use alternatives to meet local needs	Will Modify
Requirements for DE Survey / DEEM Tool	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Including opportunities for subgrantee/stakeholder input on next iterations of DE Survey and DEEM Tool	Will Modify
Info on SDEP & Capacity Grant Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Updating Information on Broadband for All Portal, as applicable	Will Modify
Partnership Support for Local Entities & CBOs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Including as part of Technical Assistance offerings	Will Modify
Guidance on Outputs & Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Providing Information as part of TA	Will Modify

Discussion



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DECG SUBGRANT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

James Spencer

Broadband Administrative Manager

Office of Broadband and Digital Literacy
California Department of Technology

Program Components



Written Resources

Written resources to assist in the application development process



Webinars and Video Content

Presentations on specific topics regarding the RFA and the application process



Partnership Coordination

Resource webpage for applicants to identify potential partners



Office Hours

Opportunities to ask the CDT team generalized questions about the RFA and the application process



Q&A Cycles

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

Discussion



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STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN 2025

Anh Nguyen

Engagement and Operations Manager

Office of Broadband and Digital Literacy
California Department of Technology

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES OF 2025

Overview

- **Public Meetings (California Broadband Council and Middle Mile Advisory Committee)**

- **Stakeholder Briefings and Webinars**

- **Statewide Implementation Group**

- **Outcome Area Communities of Practice**

- **Broadband for All Portal**

- **Broadband for All Email Monthly Update**



Discussion



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TIMELINE & NEXT STEPS

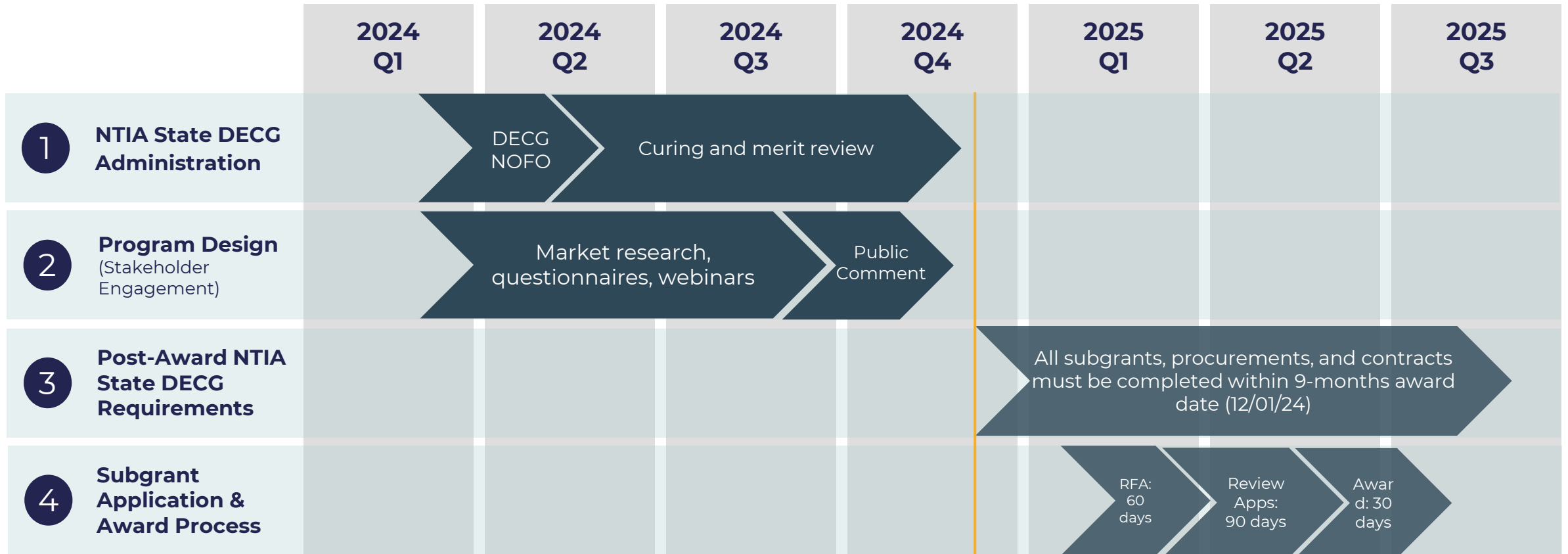
Scott Adams

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California Department of Technology

DIGITAL EQUITY CAPACITY GRANT PROGRAM

Tentative Timeline



Period of Performance began on 12/01/2024

Note: Tentative timeline subject to revision and change

THANK YOU!

Sign up:

Broadband for All Email Update

Website:

BroadbandForAll.cdt.ca.gov

Contact:

DigitalEquity@state.ca.gov

