

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

January 31, 2025



Broadband for All

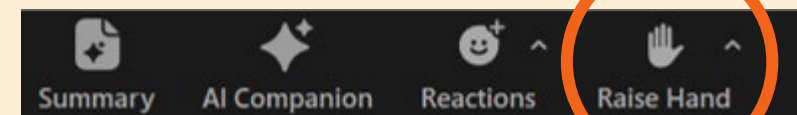
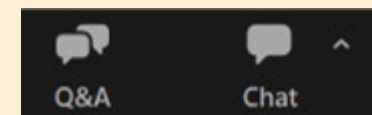
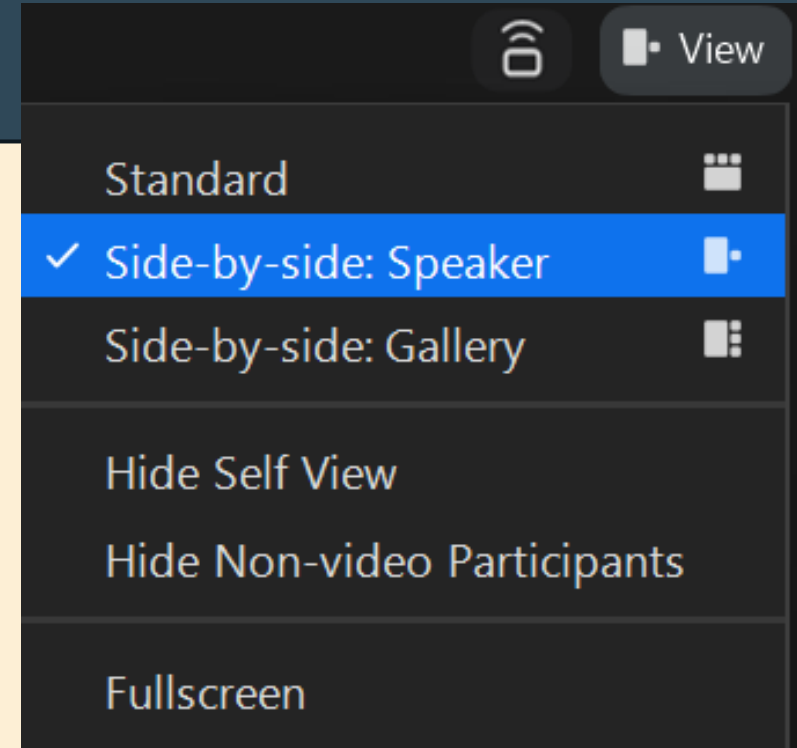
Housekeeping

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/Public Comment**

**DECG Subgrant Technical Assistance
Program**

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)

WELCOME & RECAP

Subgrant Program Context of Other Funding

Other Broadband and Digital Equity Funding Grants

- NTIA DE Competitive Grant
- NTIA Native Entity DE Capacity Grant
- Other Federal Programs
- State Grant Programs (e.g.: CPUC CASF Adoption Grant, Digital Divide, etc.)



WELCOME & RECAP

NTIA Digital Equity Competitive Grant

NTIA recommended 13 California-serving entities be awarded a total of \$129.8 million

Congratulations!

- Bay Area Council Foundation
- California Emerging Technology Fund
- City of Moreno Valley
- Communication Service for the Deaf, Inc.
- County of Orange
- Hispanic Federation Inc
- Hmong American Partnership
- International Rescue Committee, Inc.
- Joint Venture: Silicon Valley Network
- The AI Copeland Foundation
- The Center for Independent Living
- University of California, Davis
- WTIA Workforce Institute DBA Apprentice



WELCOME & RECAP

Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program Round 2

6 California tribes were awarded a total of \$12,096,686

Congratulations!

- Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians of California
- Dry Creek Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians, California
- Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake
- Riverside San Bernadino County Indian Health, Inc.
- Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians, Shingle Springs Rancheria (Verona Tract)
- Bishop Paiute Tribe



WELCOME & RECAP

USDA 2024 Rural Development Broadband ReConnect Program

Congratulations!

Sierra Telephone Company, Inc.

Funded Service Area Households: 146

Award Amount: \$11,685,645

This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to provide high-speed internet. This network will benefit 335 people, three businesses and four farms in Madera County in California.



WELCOME & RECAP

DE Capacity Subgrant Program 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



Broadband for All



MODIFICATIONS TO SUBGRANT PROGRAM GUIDELINES/PUBLIC COMMENT

Alex Banh

PRINCIPAL

Broadband Equity Partnership

Purpose & Principles

NTIA State Digital Equity Capacity Grant's Overarching Goal

Support State Digital Equity Plan (SDEP) Implementation through:

- Focus on Covered Populations
- Measurable Implementation Strategies
- Long-lasting & Meaningful Change
- Stakeholder Engagement

Digital Equity Capacity Subgrant Program

Advancing **SDEP Goals 2 & 3 + State Policy Outcomes**

SDEP Goals

- **Goal 1:** All Californians have high-performance broadband available at home, schools, libraries, and businesses.*
- **Goal 2:** All Californians have access to affordable broadband and necessary devices
- **Goal 3:** All Californians can access training and support to enable digital inclusion.

*Goal 1 and its corresponding objectives will be addressed through the continued build-out of existing Broadband for All investments and Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD)-funded projects.

Focus

Covered Populations

1. Individuals living in covered households
2. Aging individuals (60+)
3. Incarcerated individuals
4. Veterans
5. Individuals w/ disabilities
6. Individuals w/ language barriers
7. Members of racial or ethnic minority groups
8. Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas

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

Outcome Areas

1. Education
2. Health
3. Digital Literacy and Inclusion
4. Essential Service, Accessibility, & Civic Engagement
5. Workforce & Economic Development
6. Tribal Collaboration

DIGITAL EQUITY CAPACITY GRANT SUBGRANT PROGRAM

Subgrant Program 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

Allowable Uses of Subgrants



- 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

Responses to Public Comment – Program Design

Public Comment Theme	CDT Response & Updates	Status
Subgrant Name	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Subgrant officially named as California Digital Equity Program (CalDEP)	Modify (PC)
Awards per County	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clarified no more than one subgrant per county will be awarded in Track 1.• Applicants can apply and be awarded for a multi-county regional application.	No Change
Finalizing Partnerships & 2nd-Tier Subgrants	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lead Applicants may finalize partnerships & 2nd-tier subgrantees after award	Modify (PC)
2nd-Tier Subgrantee Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Subgrantee requirements (including UEI) apply to 2nd-tier subgrantees, per NTIA	Modify (NTIA)
Track 1 Funding Formula	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Formula updated with latest 2023 ACS data on lack of broadband adoption	Modify (PC)
Reallocating Unused Funds	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Unused funds will be allocated in subsequent RFA round(s), as needed	Modify (PC)
Indirect / Admin Costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remove 3% administrative cap. Use federal indirect cost policy	Modify (PC)
Payment Invoice Schedule	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Invoice schedule quarterly	No Change
Advanced Payments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Still under consideration	No Change

Discussion



Broadband for All



CalDEP 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

CalDEP Landing Page

CA Official website of the State of California Select Language
CALIFORNIA ALL | Broadband for All Search this website
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Private: California Digital Equity Program (CalDEP)

Related Contents

- [Partnership Coordination Resource](#)

On This Page

- [Program Overview](#)
- [Eligible Applicants](#)
- [Funding Tracks & Description](#)
- [Get Ready Resources](#)
- [Additional Resources](#)

Program Overview

The California Digital Equity Program (CalDEP) builds upon the existing work accomplished by the Broadband for All Initiative, California's commitment to closing the digital divide. CalDEP provides subgrants to Eligible Entities to support the achievement of goals and measurable objectives of California's State Digital Equity Plan (SDEP). CalDEP will help members of Covered Populations overcome digital equity barriers and will support digital inclusion and outcomes related to education, healthcare, career development, and access to essential government benefit programs.

California Digital Equity Program (CalDEP) Grant Guidelines & Request for Application (Coming Soon)

CalDEP is funded through the [California Department of Technology's State Digital Equity Capacity Grant](#) from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration and will be awarded to selected applicants in the form of subgrants.

Below are helpful materials and links to reference as you develop and submit your application. We will continue adding materials, so bookmark this page and check back frequently for updates.

On This Page

- [Program Overview](#)
- [Eligible Applicants](#)
- [Funding Tracks & Description](#)
- [Get Ready Resources](#)
- [Additional Resources](#)

Eligible Applicants

Both Lead Applicants and second-tier subgrantees for CalDEP must be located and operate in the State of California and have an active Unique Entity ID (UEI) number assigned by SAM.gov. Lead Applicants and second-tier subgrantees must come from the following Eligible Entity categories:

- A local political subdivision, agency, or instrumentality of the State of California.
- An Indian Tribe or a Native Hawaiian organization.
- A foundation, corporation, institution, or association that is:
 - a not-for-profit entity; and
 - not a school.
- A community anchor institution.
- A local educational agency.
- An entity that carries out a workforce development program.
- A partnership between any of the entities listed above.
- A Regional Broadband Consortia (as long as they or their fiscal agents belong to an Eligible Entity category as listed above and have an active UEI).

Funding Tracks and Description

Funding Track	Program Description
Track 1: Regional/Local Ecosystems	Subgrants to (1) develop and refine regional and local digital equity plans, and (2) provide capacity to implement digital equity activities directly or through second-tier subgrants to local Eligible Entities.
Track 2: Targeted Statewide Ecosystems	Subgrants to support ecosystem development, planning, and innovation for a specific State Outcome Area or Covered Population which may be served more effectively in statewide, rather than regional or local, ecosystems.

Get Ready Resources

Get tips on how to prepare for the upcoming funding opportunity. More resources will be provided once they are available.

CALDEP TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Partnership Coordination Resource

Official website of the State of California

Select Language

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CALIFORNIA ALL | Broadband for All

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Private: Partnership Coordination Resource for California Digital Equity Program (CalDEP)

Related Content

- [California Digital Equity Program \(CalDEP\)](#)

In response to public comment and other stakeholder input requesting partnership facilitation, the California Department of Technology (CDT) has created this Partner Coordination Resource to enable potential lead grant applicants and interested partner entities to find and connect with each other prior to the CalDEP Request for Application period open to identify and form potential partnerships.

The Partnership Coordination Resource is a tool that applicants may use to identify other organizations they might wish to partner with on an application. Organizations share their information in the Partnership Coordination page by completing the form below. Note that information submitted for inclusion in the Partnership Coordination page will be made available to those submitted a response via a confirmation email.

Participation is completely optional. Submitting information to the Partnership Coordination Page, and the contents of the information submitted, have no effect on an application.

**Fields marked with an asterisk are required, and all other fields are optional.*

Organization Name *

Partnership Preference *

Lead Applicant

Funding Track *

Both

Track 1 – Digital Equity Activities

- Local/Regional Digital Equity Planning
- Broadband Adoption
- Digital Navigation Services
- Device Distribution
- Digital Literacy Training
- Public Computer Labs
- Workforce Development
- Ecosystem Building
- Implementation of State Efforts
- Other

Track 2 – Digital Equity Activities related to Covered Populations

- Individuals in households at or below 150% of the federal poverty line
- Aging individuals
- Incarcerated individuals
- Individuals with disabilities
- Veterans
- Individuals with a language barrier
- Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group
- Individuals who primarily reside in a rural area

Track 2 – Digital Equity Activities related to Outcome Areas

- Education
- Healthcare access
- Workforce development
- Essential services
- Tribal collaboration
- Digital literacy and inclusion

Which county(s) will your organization serve? *

<input type="checkbox"/> All 58 Counties	<input type="checkbox"/> Alameda	<input type="checkbox"/> Alpine
<input type="checkbox"/> Amador	<input type="checkbox"/> Butte	<input type="checkbox"/> Calaveras
<input type="checkbox"/> Colusa	<input type="checkbox"/> Contra Costa	<input type="checkbox"/> Del Norte
<input type="checkbox"/> El Dorado	<input type="checkbox"/> Fresno	<input type="checkbox"/> Glenn
<input type="checkbox"/> Humboldt	<input type="checkbox"/> Imperial	<input type="checkbox"/> Inyo
<input type="checkbox"/> Kern	<input type="checkbox"/> Kings	<input type="checkbox"/> Lake
<input type="checkbox"/> Lassen	<input type="checkbox"/> Los Angeles	<input type="checkbox"/> Madera
<input type="checkbox"/> Marin	<input type="checkbox"/> Mariposa	<input type="checkbox"/> Mendocino
<input type="checkbox"/> Merced	<input type="checkbox"/> Modoc	<input type="checkbox"/> Mono
<input type="checkbox"/> Monterey	<input type="checkbox"/> Napa	<input type="checkbox"/> Nevada
<input type="checkbox"/> Orange	<input type="checkbox"/> Placer	<input type="checkbox"/> Plumas
<input type="checkbox"/> Riverside	<input type="checkbox"/> Sacramento	<input type="checkbox"/> San Benito
<input type="checkbox"/> San Bernardino	<input type="checkbox"/> San Diego	<input type="checkbox"/> San Francisco
<input type="checkbox"/> San Joaquin	<input type="checkbox"/> San Luis Obispo	<input type="checkbox"/> San Mateo
<input type="checkbox"/> Santa Barbara	<input type="checkbox"/> Santa Clara	<input type="checkbox"/> Santa Cruz
<input type="checkbox"/> Shasta	<input type="checkbox"/> Sierra	<input type="checkbox"/> Siskiyou
<input type="checkbox"/> Solano	<input type="checkbox"/> Sonoma	<input type="checkbox"/> Stanislaus
<input type="checkbox"/> Sutter	<input type="checkbox"/> Tehama	<input type="checkbox"/> Trinity
<input type="checkbox"/> Tulare	<input type="checkbox"/> Tuolumne	<input type="checkbox"/> Ventura
<input type="checkbox"/> Yolo	<input type="checkbox"/> Yuba	

Organization Email *

Organization Phone

(201) 555-0123

Please ensure that you are comfortable with this disclosure before submitting any information. After the 120-day period, the information will no longer be accessible to the public unless otherwise stated. *

I acknowledge that by submitting information on this website, the details provided may be shared publicly for a period of 120 days.

Submit

Discussion



Broadband for All



TIMELINE & NEXT STEPS

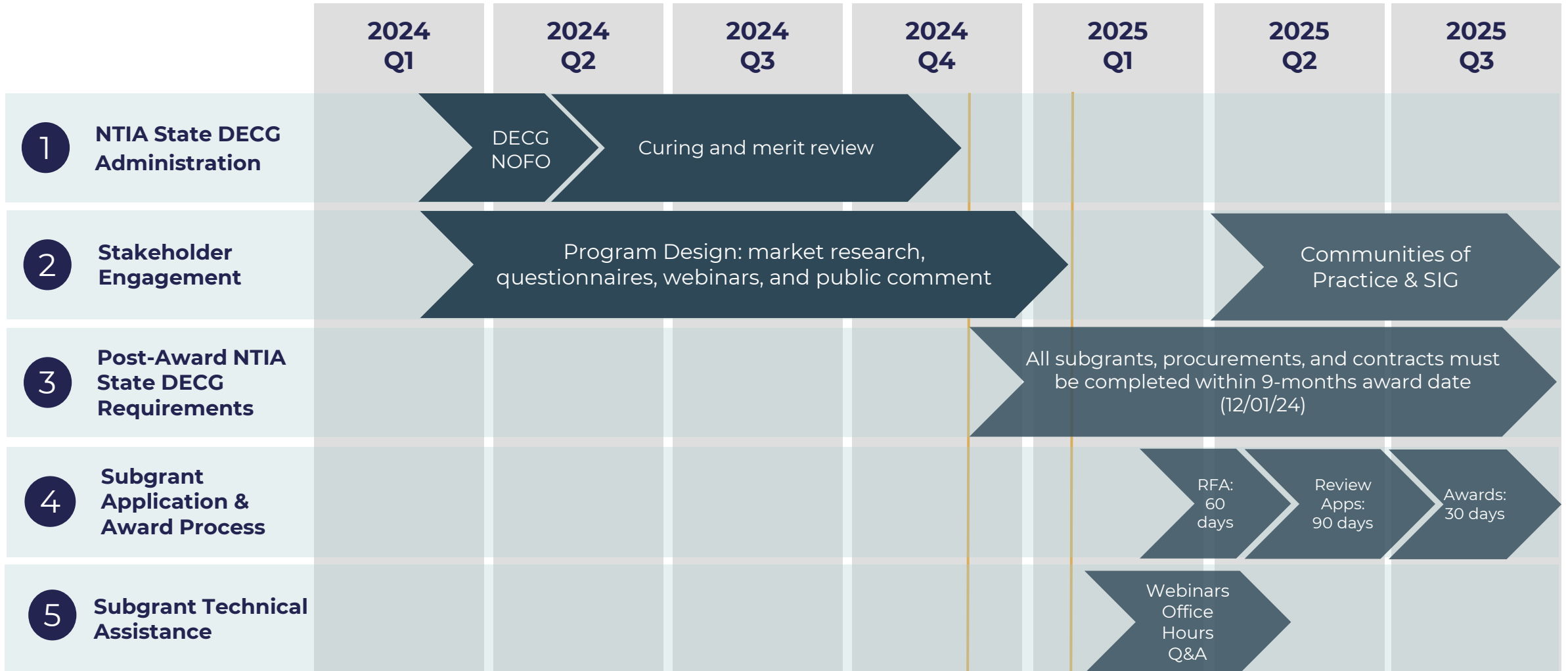
Anh Nguyen

ENGAGEMENT & OPERATIONS MANAGER

Office of Broadband and Digital Literacy
California Department of Technology

SDEP & DECG PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

Tentative Timeline



Note: Timeline subject to change pending federal guidance

Period of Performance began on 12/01/2024

Today

Next Steps



**Quarterly Public Meetings
(California Broadband Council &
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



THANK YOU!

Sign up:

Broadband for All Email Update

Website:

BroadbandForAll.cdt.ca.gov

Contact:

DigitalEquity@state.ca.gov

