

Funding Programs for Education & Healthcare

QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

USDA RUS-DLT Grant Program

Award Amount: \$50,000 - \$500,000

Opens: Mid-March 2017

Due Date: est. May 2017



Program Purpose: The Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program (DLT) is designed specifically to meet the educational and health care needs of rural America. Through this grant program, advanced telecommunications technologies connect rural sites to content or service providers, helping to provide enhanced learning and health care opportunities for rural residents, in an effort to bridge the Digital Divide.



Eligible Organizations: PK-12, Community and Technical Colleges, 4 Year Colleges & Universities, Libraries, Head Starts, Departments of Health and other State & Local agencies, Hospitals, Clinics, Non Profits, For Profits. Almost every organization except sole proprietorships and federally funded sites may apply for this grant program. Applicants must (propose to) provide or receive distance learning and/or telemedicine content and services.



Rurality Requirement: A minimum Rurality score of 20 is likely required. In 2017, Rurality will be determined by “population of place”. The PGAP Team is happy to provide assistance in determining the Rurality for your project.

Match Requirement: 15% Match is required; however, points for Leverage are not obtained until you reach the 30% match plateau. As higher match plateaus are reached, more points are obtained, with the highest points going to projects matching at 100% or greater. While Cash Match is desired, In Kind match is allowed assuming it aligns completely with the Scope of your proposed project.

Eligible Use of Funds: The gamut of distance learning and telehealth technologies are eligible for use with both grant and matching funds. Eligibility is based less on specific technologies and more on the ways the technologies are used in support of true distance learning and telemedicine. Technologies may include: room based videoconferencing, video on demand, streaming, video to the desktop, carts, monitors, interactive whiteboards, PCs, Tablets and other peripheral devices required to deliver content and images between sites, telehealth carts, digitally connected scopes and other telehealth devices, video and audio bridging, firewall traversal, scheduling and management, and other telecommunications infrastructure.