

# APPENDIX C: Funding Resources

| Program  | Type of Assistance   |
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| <p><b>State Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program</b></p> <p><a href="https://www.internetforall.gov/program/digital-equity-act-programs#">https://www.internetforall.gov/program/digital-equity-act-programs#</a></p>   | <p>A \$1.44 billion formula grant program for states, territories, and tribal governments. Funds an annual grant program for five years in support of digital equity projects and the implementation of digital equity plans:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Develop, implement, and oversee DE plans + make awards to other entities help develop DE plans.</li> <li>2. Improve online accessibility &amp; inclusivity of public resources.</li> <li>3. Implement DE plans and digital inclusion activities.</li> <li>4. Provide digital literacy and skills education to covered populations.</li> <li>5. Facilitate adoption of high-speed internet by covered populations.</li> <li>6. Fund annual grant programs for five years to implement digital equity projects.</li> </ol> |
| <p><b>State Digital Equity Competitive Grant Program</b></p> <p><a href="https://www.internetforall.gov/program/digital-equity-act-programs#">https://www.internetforall.gov/program/digital-equity-act-programs#</a></p>  | <p>A \$1.25 billion competitive grant program to fund annual grant programs for five years to implement digital equity projects. Several types of entities can apply for these funds.</p>  |
| <p><b>Municipal Digital Equity Implementation Program</b></p> <p><a href="https://broadband.masstech.org/digital-equity-implementation">https://broadband.masstech.org/digital-equity-implementation</a></p>   | <p>Funding to mobilize, start-up, and implement digital equity activities locally to access a one-time grant up to \$100,000 per municipality to execute a project (or projects) defined in their local digital equity plan or related document that MBI deems of sufficient standard. Project implementation will increase access and usage of the internet for the populations most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>   |
| <p><b>Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program</b></p> <p><a href="https://broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov/funding-programs/broadband-equity-access-and-deployment-bead-program">https://broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov/funding-programs/broadband-equity-access-and-deployment-bead-program</a></p> | <p>Expand high-speed internet access by funding planning, infrastructure deployment and adoption programs. This program builds high-speed Internet infrastructure where needed. It also supports efforts to teach the skills and provide the equipment needed so everyone can use the Internet.</p>  |
| <p><b>Community Compact Municipal Fiber Program</b></p> <p><a href="https://www.mass.gov/municipal-fiber-grant-program">https://www.mass.gov/municipal-fiber-grant-program</a></p>   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Implementation of fiber optic networks that connect remote municipal assets to improve municipal operations and/or improve disaster recovery and resiliency.</li> <li>2. One time capital needs- fiber optic cabling, hardware, software and implementation services.</li> <li>3. (Centralized management of IT infrastructure, enterprise approach to network monitoring, cybersecurity, records management, and backup and recovery.)</li> </ol>   |
| <p><b>GAP Networks Grant Program</b></p> <p><a href="https://broadband.masstech.org/gap-networks-grant-program">https://broadband.masstech.org/gap-networks-grant-program</a></p>  | <p>The \$145 million Gap Networks Grant Program will fund the deployment of broadband infrastructure in areas that currently lack broadband service. The Program aims to expand access and connectivity in unserved and underserved locations throughout the Commonwealth to bridge the digital divide.</p>  |

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| <b>E-rate: Universal Service Program for Schools and Libraries</b><br><a href="https://www.fcc.gov/general/e-rate-schools-libraries-usf-program">https://www.fcc.gov/general/e-rate-schools-libraries-usf-program</a> | The schools and libraries universal service support program, commonly known as the E-rate program, helps schools and libraries to obtain affordable broadband.  |
| <b>Lifeline program for Low-income consumers</b><br><a href="https://www.fcc.gov/lifeline-consumers">https://www.fcc.gov/lifeline-consumers</a>   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Discount on phone or broadband service for qualifying low-income consumers.</li> <li>2. 2. Promote access to Wi-Fi enabled devices and hotspot functionality to close the homework gap</li> </ol> Note: A family that qualifies for Lifeline also qualifies to receive EBB  |
| <b>Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)</b><br><a href="https://www.fcc.gov/acp">https://www.fcc.gov/acp</a>   | The Affordable Connectivity Program is an FCC benefit program that helps ensure that households can afford the broadband they need for work, school, healthcare and more. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. \$30 discount per month for internet service for eligible households; \$75 discount for qualifying Tribal lands</li> <li>2. One time \$100 discount to purchase a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet if the contribute between \$10 to \$50 toward purchase price.</li> </ol>  |
| <b>Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) Outreach Grant</b><br><a href="https://www.fcc.gov/acp-grants">https://www.fcc.gov/acp-grants</a>  | The ACP Outreach Grant Program provides eligible governmental and non-governmental entities with the funding and resources needed to increase awareness of and participation in the ACP among those eligible households most in need of affordable connectivity.  |
| <b>Community Compact IT Grant Program</b><br><a href="https://www.mass.gov/community-compact-it-grant-program">https://www.mass.gov/community-compact-it-grant-program</a>  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. This is a competitive grant program focused on driving innovation and transformation at the local level via investments in technology.</li> <li>2. Grant to support implementation of innovative and transformative IT projects by funding one-time capital needs- tech infrastructure and/or purchases of equipment/ software.</li> <li>3. One-time planning, design, installation, implementation, and intial training</li> </ol>   |
| <b>Efficiency and Regionalization (E&amp;R) Grant Program</b><br><a href="https://www.mass.gov/efficiency-regionalization-grant-program">https://www.mass.gov/efficiency-regionalization-grant-program</a>            | Provide financial support for governmental entities (planning and implementation activities are eligible).  |
| <b>Telecommunications Industry Registered Apprenticeship Program (TIRAP)</b><br><a href="https://www.tirap.org/">https://www.tirap.org/</a>   | A competency-based apprenticeship aimed at growing the productivity of the workforce as directly as possible. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Career development of telecommunications workforce through cash and in-kind support.</li> <li>2. Funding to design curricula and deliver training to develop qualified applicants for placement in middle- to high-skilled jobs</li> <li>3. To target veterans, transitioning service members, military spouses, women, people og color, unemployed, underemployed, incombent workers, and underrepresented populations.</li> </ol> |
| <b>Economic Adjustment Assistance Grant</b><br><a href="https://www.eda.gov/economic-adjustment-assistance">https://www.eda.gov/economic-adjustment-assistance</a>  | EAA provides a wide range of technical, planning, and public works and infrastructure assistance in regions experiencing adverse economic changes that may occur suddenly or over time.   |

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| <b>Local Planning and Technical Assistance Programs</b><br><a href="https://www.eda.gov/sites/default/files/filebase/files/programs/eda-programs/FY21-23-Planning-and-LTA-NOFO_FINAL.pdf">https://www.eda.gov/sites/default/files/filebase/files/programs/eda-programs/FY21-23-Planning-and-LTA-NOFO_FINAL.pdf</a>                                      | Planning and local technical assistance investments to support economic development, foster job creation, and attract private investment in economically distressed areas.   |
| <b>Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)</b><br><a href="https://www.mass.gov/info-details/community-development-block-grant-cdbg#how-to-apply-">https://www.mass.gov/info-details/community-development-block-grant-cdbg#how-to-apply-</a>   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Conduct broadband needs assessment.</li> <li>2. Install wiring, fiber optic cables, and permanently affixed equipment.</li> <li>3. Provide digital literacy classes.</li> </ol>  |
| <b>Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)</b><br><a href="https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/grants/apply">https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/grants/apply</a>   | Digital literacy- use of technology to improve teaching, learning, professional development, skill development and abilities, career guidance, supportive services, job search workshop, referral to jobs or training, workers' rights and complaint system information.   |
| <b>English Language Acquisition State Grants</b><br><a href="https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oese/oss/technicalassistance/elstar-user-guide-state-support-network.pdf">https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oese/oss/technicalassistance/elstar-user-guide-state-support-network.pdf</a>   | Enhance instruction for English learners with digital resources  |
| <b>CommCorps YouthWorks Funding</b><br><a href="https://commcorp.org/program/youthworks/">https://commcorp.org/program/youthworks/</a>  | YouthWorks is a state-funded youth employment program that helps teens and young adults develop the skills and experience needed to find and keep jobs.  |
| <b>Early Intervention Program for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities</b><br><a href="https://www2.ed.gov/fund/data/award/idea/index.html">https://www2.ed.gov/fund/data/award/idea/index.html</a>   | Assist with implementation of statewide systems of coordinated, comprehensive, multidisciplinary, interagency programs and extending early intervention programs.  |
| <b>Determination of Need (DoN)</b><br><a href="https://www.mass.gov/determination-of-need-don">https://www.mass.gov/determination-of-need-don</a>   | The goal of DoN and the framework for analysis by the Department of Public Health is to promote population health and increased public health value.   |
| <b>USDA Community Connect Program</b><br><a href="https://www.rd.usda.gov/community-connect">https://www.rd.usda.gov/community-connect</a>  | <p>The purpose of the Community Connect Program is to provide financial assistance in the form of grants to eligible applicants that will provide, on a "community-oriented connectivity" basis, broadband service that fosters economic growth and delivers enhanced educational, health care, and public safety benefits.</p> <p>Rural communities- extend access where broadband service is least likely commercially available</p> |
| <b>USDA Telecommunications Infrastructure Loans &amp; Loan Guarantees)</b><br><a href="https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/telecommunications-programs/telecommunications-infrastructure-loans-loan-guarantees">https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/telecommunications-programs/telecommunications-infrastructure-loans-loan-guarantees</a> | This program provides financing for the construction, maintenance, improvement and expansion of telephone service and broadband in rural areas.  |
| <b>High Cost Program (including Connect America Fund, Rural Digital Opportunity Fund and 5G Fund)</b><br><a href="https://www.usac.org/high-cost/">https://www.usac.org/high-cost/</a>  | The federal universal service high-cost program is designed to ensure that consumers in rural, insular, and high-cost areas have access to modern communications networks capable of providing voice and broadband service, both fixed and mobile, at rates that are reasonably comparable to those in urban areas.  |

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| <b>USDA Distance Learning &amp; Telemedicine Grants</b><br><a href="https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/telecommunications-programs/distance-learning-telemedicine-grants">https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/telecommunications-programs/distance-learning-telemedicine-grants</a> | DLT program helps fund distance learning and telemedicine services in rural areas to increase access to education, training, and health care resources that are otherwise limited or unavailable.   |
| <b>YouthWorks Funding</b><br><a href="https://commcorp.org/program/youthworks/">https://commcorp.org/program/youthworks/</a>   | Youth employment program that supports skills training for youth up to age 25 from households earning less than 200% of the federal poverty rate.   |
| <b>Massachusetts Community Health and Healthy Aging Funds - Determination of Need (DoN)</b><br><a href="https://mahealthfunds.org/">https://mahealthfunds.org/</a>   | This program aims to enhance the capacity of multi-sector collaboratives to authentically engage residents and work together to remove barriers to health. Funding can establish training opportunities for local consumers regarding tracking medical records  |
| <b>Residential Internet Retrofit Program</b><br><a href="https://broadband.masstech.org/retrofit">https://broadband.masstech.org/retrofit</a>  | Initiative to equip public and affordable-housing units across the state with high-speed internet for current and future residents by upgrading in-building telecommunications wiring, equipment, and infrastructure within older housing developments.   |
| <b>Lead for America - America Connection Corps</b><br><a href="https://www.americanconnectioncorps.org/">https://www.americanconnectioncorps.org/</a>  | The nation's premier AmeriCorps service experience, advancing economic prosperity in rural and emerging communities. 15 American Connection Core Members are being recruited and placed in full-time, year-long fellowships to serve as Massachusetts-based, "boots on the ground" support at local host site organizations to help with expanding broadband awareness and digital adoption.  |
| <b>Connect Humanity</b><br><a href="https://connecthumanity.fund/">https://connecthumanity.fund/</a>   | Digital equity connectivity plan<br>1. Community engagement, survey work and mapping, technical design, and financial modeling.<br>2. Support community connectivity providers to get "investment ready".<br>3. Grants for enabling solutions- digital skills, relevant content, workforce development.<br><br>Promote a diverse broadband sector<br>1. Research on financing and operating models for community connectivity providers<br>2. Fund training to promote skills to build and maintain community broadband |
| <b>Centri-Tech Foundation Digital Integrators Pilot Program</b><br><a href="https://www.digitalintegrators.org/">https://www.digitalintegrators.org/</a>   | CBOs can use the funding to apply the Community Development Framework for Digital Advancement to local digital equity and inclusion efforts. Organizations can use the tool for program design, implementation, and evaluation.   |

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| <p><b>Bank foundations</b></p> <p><a href="https://www.digitalequity.us/resources/cra-funding-guide-for-digital-equity/">https://www.digitalequity.us/resources/cra-funding-guide-for-digital-equity/</a></p>   | <p>Bank foundations can provide funding for the following digital equity-related programs and services: broadband, hardware/devices, tech support, librarian assistance, digital skills.</p>  |
| <p><b>Patrick J. McGovern Foundation</b></p> <p><a href="https://www.mcgovern.org/grants/?exposed_mf_search&amp;exposed_taxonomy_focusarea%5B0%5D=22&amp;exposed_grant_approval_date_sort=date_desc&amp;FZEWGNafiqRBuoy=0dfbn.rMQwW&amp;iwNIhrR=VSj-dZGI9sn5FUH&amp;mb_nJCugrtsAIHc=%5BG3illaOL0vuBdj">https://www.mcgovern.org/grants/?exposed_mf_search&amp;exposed_taxonomy_focusarea%5B0%5D=22&amp;exposed_grant_approval_date_sort=date_desc&amp;FZEWGNafiqRBuoy=0dfbn.rMQwW&amp;iwNIhrR=VSj-dZGI9sn5FUH&amp;mb_nJCugrtsAIHc=%5BG3illaOL0vuBdj</a></p> | <p>This foundation has awarded new grants for innovative data- and AI-driven approaches that support digital transformation of health systems and healthcare across the globe.</p>  |
| <p><b>Project UP by Comcast</b></p> <p><a href="https://corporate.comcast.com/impact/project-up">https://corporate.comcast.com/impact/project-up</a></p>  | <p>Connectivity &amp; adoption: Connecting people to the internet, technology, and resources needed to succeed in a digital world.</p> <p>Skills &amp; creativity: Creating opportunities and new career pathways in media and technology and opening doors for new voices to be heard and stories to be shared.</p> <p>Entrepreneurism: Equipping entrepreneurs and small business owners with the skills, digital resources, and opportunities they need to thrive.</p> |
| <p><b>Tech Goes Home</b></p> <p><a href="https://www.techgoeshome.org/">https://www.techgoeshome.org/</a></p>   | <p>Programs for adults, families- Partner with social service org to deliver courses focused on fundamental digital skills. Offered in libraries, community centers, public housing, and other nonprofit org.</p> <p>TGH Connect- partner with cities, libraries, CBOs, schools, health care centers, and faith-based org to disseminate critical info and help community access online resources.</p>  |