



# DIGITAL EQUITY OFFICE HOUR #1

Digital Equity Program Updates

August 24, 2024

[broadband.as.gov](https://broadband.as.gov)



# AGENDA

- 1 Introductions
- 2 Updates
  - Approved AS Digital Equity Plan
  - Digital Equity Capacity Grant
  - Digital Equity Competitive Grant
- 3 Looking Back to Look Forward
- 4 Q&A

# DIGITAL EQUITY PROGRAM

- Administered by National Telecommunications Information Administration (NTIA); Funded under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL).
- Established 3 grant programs to promote digital inclusion and advance equity for all:

## Completed Phase



### State Planning Grant

\$60M formula funding program to develop digital equity plans

- Develop DE Plan

## Current Phases



### State Capacity Grant

\$1.44B formula funding program to implement programs & promote digital inclusion

- Put State DE Plan into Action!
- BCORD apply on behalf of American Samoa



### Competitive Grant

\$1.25B to implement digital equity and inclusion activities

- Develop and carry out digital inclusion activities
- Apply directly to federal govt



# American Samoa BROADBANDiNEI Digital Equity Plan

**VISION:** Ensure that all American Samoa residents have access to affordable, inclusive, accessible and secure resources and opportunities to become an effective part of the digital global village.

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## American Samoa BROADBANDiNEI DIGITAL EQUITY PLAN

April 2024

American Samoa Government



# OUR COVERED POPULATION

## AMERICAN SAMOA DIGITAL EQUITY PLAN



### Covered Households

Individuals who live in a household with an income below 150% of the poverty level



### Individuals with Disabilities

Individuals with a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits life activity



### Rural Residents

Individuals residing in any town with less than 50,000 residents and not an urbanized area next to a town with 50,000 or more inhabitants



### Aging Individuals

Individuals aged 60 years or older



### Individuals with a Language Barrier

Individuals with a language barrier, including those who are English learners and have low levels of literacy



### Racial or Ethnic Minorities

Individuals whose race or ethnicity is non-dominant within the US



### Incarcerated Individuals

Inmates confined in prison or jail, other than those in a Federal correctional facility



### Veterans

Individuals who served and were honorably discharged from the US military

# TERRITORIAL GOALS FOR DIGITAL EQUITY

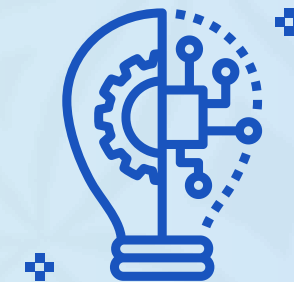
AMERICAN SAMOA DIGITAL EQUITY PLAN



Affordable  
Broadband  
Access



Responsible  
Governance &  
Strong  
Institutions



Technology  
Literacy



Cybersecurity

# State Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program



# State Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program



U.S. Department of Commerce,  
National Telecommunications &  
Information Administration (NTIA) |  
National Funder

U.S. Territory | Administering Entity

Allocation \$2.1 million

local non-profit organizations



# DIGITAL EQUITY CAPACITY GRANT

- Allocation Amount: ~ \$2.1 million
- Estimated max award amounts \$100,000 no floor
- No cost share
- Performance Period:
  - 2024 DE CAP NOFO - Period of Performance: 5 years
    - \* 2025 DE CAP NOFO - Period of Performance: 5 years
    - \* 2026 DE CAP NOFO - Period of Performance: 5 years

# DIGITAL EQUITY CAPACITY GRANT

- Tentative Timeline
  - Application Process - October - November
  - Awards: December - January
- Outreach
  - Tentative Workshops in October

# State Digital Equity Competitive Grant Program

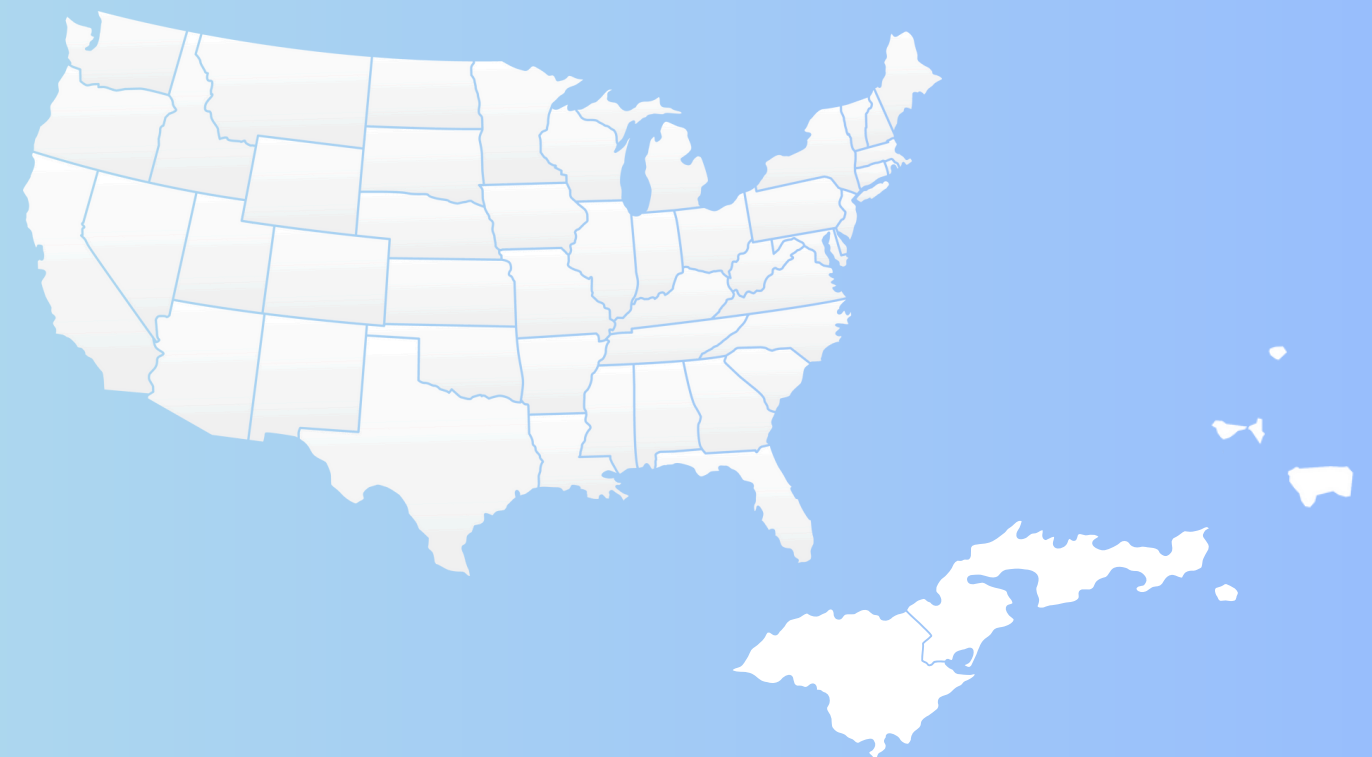


# Digital Equity Competitive Grant Program



**\$1.25 billion**

**U.S. Department of Commerce,  
National Telecommunications &  
Information Administration (NTIA) |  
National Funder**



**National Pool**

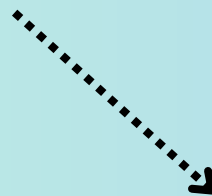


# Digital Equity Competitive Grant set aside for U.S. Territorial Governments



**\$1.25 billion**

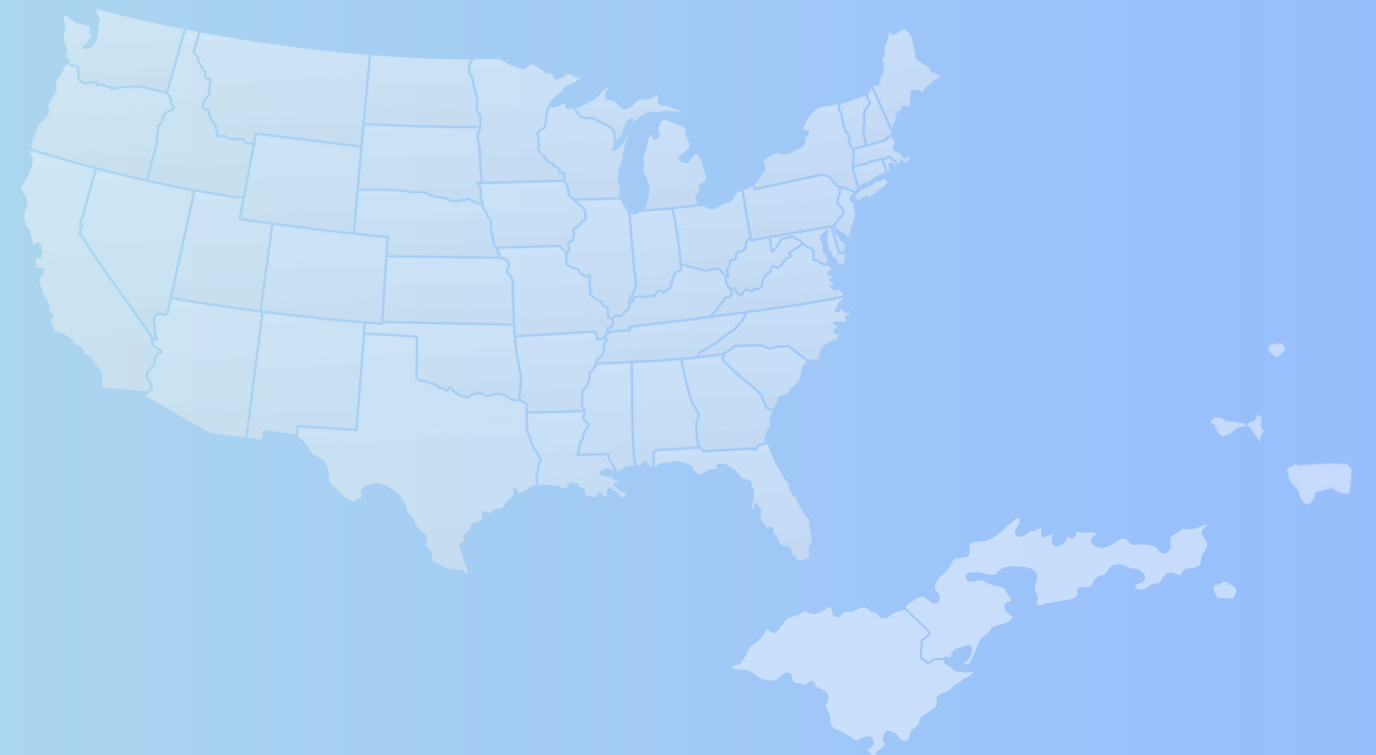
**U.S. Department of Commerce,  
National Telecommunications &  
Information Administration (NTIA) |  
National Funder**



**\$7.5 million**

**U.S. Territorial Governments**

- American Samoa
- CNMI
- GUAM
- U.S. Virgin Islands



**National Pool**

# DIGITAL EQUITY COMPETITIVE GRANT

- ~\$1.25 Billion
- Cost Sharing/Matching Requirement: 10%
- Expected award range: \$5m and \$12m
- This funding range is not a required minimum or maximum, but Eligible Entities requesting award amounts outside that range must explain why
- 5 year performance period

**QUESTIONS?**



# Fa'afetai Lava!

Petti Matila  
**Director of Commerce**

Michael McDonald  
**Assistant Director of Commerce**

Kirk Aab  
**Broadband Coordinator**

Gloryana Akapo  
**Digital Equity Coordinator**

Jessie Faleafine  
**Program Assistant**



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[bcord@doc.as.gov](mailto:bcord@doc.as.gov)



Pago Pago, American Samoa



