



OFFICE OF EQUITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Digital Equity Grants





Our grants team



Magan Do
ESJ Grants Manager



Senayet Negusse
Language Equity
Program Manager



Cheryse Ishii
Immigration and Language
Access Coordinator

Special thanks to our interpreters:

- ASL Interpreters – Drs. Jackie Bruce & Antonio Goodwin @ [CDJ-Interpreting LLC](#)
- Spanish Interpreters - Mercedes & Etienne @ [Adam's Interpreting LLC](#)

\$2 Million in grants to increase digital equity in communities most impacted by COVID-19

OESJ



Topics

- Housekeeping
- Purpose
- Eligibility
- Allowable Usage of Funds 
- Grant Details
- Selection Criteria
- How to Apply
- Grant Timeline
- Technical Assistance 
- Q&A
- Resources



Housekeeping

- This webinar is being recorded. Recording will be uploaded within 72 hours.
- All participants' mics and cameras are turned off.
- To send a private message to Hosts and Panelists, use **Chat**  function.
- To speak, use **Raise Hand**  function. Host will unmute you .
- To ask a question, click **Q&A**  button and type your question in the window (questions are public but can be sent anonymously)
- Our American Sign Language (ASL) interpreters will be spotlighted.
- Spanish interpretation is also available. Please click on **Interpretation**  button and Select the Spanish language channel. You can adjust audio setting to English and Spanish or Spanish only.

\$2 Million in grants to increase digital equity in communities most impacted by COVID-19

OESJ



Purpose

The purpose of this grant is to provide support to organizations that:

- Promote digital equity in communities that face barriers to accessing digital services;
- Serve communities that have been disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic

These communities include but are not limited to:

- Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC);
- Seniors;
- Limited English Proficient (LEP)/Linguistically Diverse (LD) residents;
- Individuals with disabilities and communication barriers
- Low-income;
- Unemployed and underemployed residents;
- those experiencing homelessness; OR
- those residing in rural areas.

\$2 Million in grants to increase digital equity in communities most impacted by COVID-19

OESJ



Eligibility

To be eligible for this grant, applicants must:

- Be a 501(c)(3) or be fiscally sponsored by a 501(c)(3) based in King County; and
- Demonstrate experience and proximity and serving priority populations

Applicants may include but are not limited to following:

- Community- or faith-based organizations;
- Ethnic/Community media organizations;
- Community, senior, or ethnic centers;
- Disability service providers;
- Local education agencies;
- Volunteer literacy agencies;
- School, libraries, or other anchor institutions;
- Public housing authorities;
- Consortiums or coalitions of agencies, organizations, institutions, libraries, and authorities listed above;
- Partnerships between employers and an entity described above.

\$2 Million in grants to increase digital equity in communities most impacted by COVID-19

OESJ



Eligibility (Cont.)

IMPORTANT:

If you are currently receiving any federal funding to expand digital access from another government or pass-through entity, you **may** not be eligible to receive funds through this grant program.

To learn more about duplication of benefits (DOB), please review [FEMA's DOB Fact Sheet](#) (Posted 7/24/20).

Please contact our Digital Equity Grants team at OESJgrants@kingcounty.gov if you have any questions or concerns about eligibility before proceeding with the grant application.

\$2 Million in grants to increase digital equity in communities most impacted by COVID-19

OESJ



Allowable use of funds

Eligible expenses and activities include but are not limited to:

Technology, interactive media, and services:

- Purchasing Wi-Fi; new or refurbished Internet-enabled devices; subsidized or pre-paid services plans; software, etc.

Technical Assistance and Training:

- Staffing; purchasing teaching equipment, technology to help individuals with disabilities, translation of existing curricula and outreach materials; distance-learning tools and platforms; storage devices, etc.

Administrative and other direct costs:

- Staffing and personnel for instruction or volunteer recruitment and management; purchasing personal protective equipment (PPE) for in-person or on-site services; proper ventilation, physical barriers, etc.; acquisition and ongoing maintenance of hardware and software, etc.

\$2 Million in grants to increase digital equity in communities most impacted by COVID-19

OESJ



Break

We'll pause here for a 3 minute break.



Grant details

Grants will range from \$25,000 to \$100,000 and determined based on:

- Size of request
- Capacity of the organization
- Geographic priority
- Total application turnout and alignment with the program intent

Council appropriated funds through December 31, 2022

- All grant activities must take place between March 3rd, 2021 and December 31st, 2022.
- Funds must be expended by December, 31st 2022.

\$2 Million in grants to increase digital equity in communities most impacted by COVID-19

OESJ

Selection Criteria (100 pts)



Scope of Work (30 points)

- Alignment with the goals and objectives in the program SOW

Equity (30 points)

- Approach ensures equitable outcomes and access

Feasibility (20 points)

- Feasibility to carry out activities and produce intended outcomes

Evaluation Plan (5 points)

- Clearly articulates how it achieve program outputs and outcomes

Collaborative Elements (10 points)

- Plan to partner or collaborate with other community organizations

Budget (5 points)

- Budget is complete, aligns with proposed activities

\$2 Million in grants to increase digital equity in communities most impacted by COVID-19

OESJ



How to Apply

The grant will be accepted through a grant management tool:



Request for Application (RFA): [Digital Equity Grant](#)

Registration: In order to access the application, all applicants must first register an eCivis account - [Register](#)

Deadline: Tuesday, November 30th, 2021 @ 4:59pm PST

Language Assistance: Application is currently available in English and Spanish. If you would like to request another language, please email oesjgrants@kingcounty.gov

\$2 Million in grants to increase digital equity in communities most impacted by COVID-19

OESJ



Grant Timeline

Open Application:	Friday, October 20th, 2021
Application Deadline:	Tuesday, November 30th, 2021 @ 4:59pm PST
Award Notification:	Mid-January 2022
Contracting:	January - February 2022
Implementation:	March 3rd, 2021 - December 31st, 2022

Important:

- Funds will be disbursed to through a reimbursement process based on a monthly or quarterly invoices and supporting documentation.
- Recipients are responsible for meeting administrative, financial record keeping, and programmatic reporting requirements (2 CFR 200).
- Advance payments for equipment purchases can be made available but must be negotiated on a case-by-case basis and permitted in the signed agreement.

\$2 Million in grants to increase digital equity in communities most impacted by COVID-19

OESJ



Technical Assistance

Questions and assistance with application completion will be provided as requested. Agencies and community groups can request support via email.

- [English Application](#)
- Spanish Application (coming soon)
- [eCivis Portal Guide](#)
- Email: OESJgrants@kingcounty.gov
- Website: [Digital Equity Grants - King County](#) | [Español](#)

\$2 Million in grants to increase digital equity in communities most impacted by COVID-19

OESJ



Break

We'll pause here for a 3-minute break.



Q&A

We'll open the floor for questions.

Reminders:

- Click on **Q&A**  button and type your question in window (questions are public but can be sent anonymously).
- To ask a question out loud, please use **Raise Hand**  to speak.
- Please speak clearly, in a normal tone, and at a natural pace for our interpreters.
- You may also use the **Chat**  function to send a private message to Hosts and Panelists.

\$2 Million in grants to increase digital equity in communities most impacted by COVID-19

OESJ



Resources

- Digital Equity Grants - King County | [Website](#) | [Español](#)
- Current COVID-19 Relief Grant Programs - King County | [Website](#)
- Digital Equity and Inclusion Initiative - King County | [Website](#)
- 2020 Broadband Access Study - King County | [Website](#)
- Digital Equity - Tech - Seattle.gov | [Website](#)
- King County Equity and Social Justice Strategic Plan | [Website](#)
- Language and Communications Access - King County | [Website](#)
- COVID-19 Data Dashboards - Public Health | [Website](#)
- Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds | [Website](#)
- SLFRP Fact Sheet - Treasury.gov | [PDF](#)

\$2 Million in grants to increase digital equity in communities most impacted by COVID-19

○ ESJ



OFFICE OF EQUITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Thank you!

