

Submitted Date: Easygrants ID: 63	88
Funding Opportunity: Public Computer	Applicant Organization:
Centers	UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
Task: Submit Application - Public Computer Centers	Applicant Name: Ms. Katherine S. Young

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A. General Application Information

Applicant Information	
Name and Federal ID for Applicant	
DUNS Number	041544081
C C R # (C A G E)	4B808
Legal Business Name	UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
Point of Contact (POC)	SANDRA MOULTON 2172444750 Ext. smoulton@uillinois.edu
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Alternate Electronic Business POC	KATHY YOUNG 2173336323 Ext. gcoaward@uillinois.edu

Name and Contact Information of Person to be Contacted on Matters Involving this Application:

Prefix	Ms.
First Name	Katherine
Middle Name	S.
Last Name	Young



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Suffix	
Telephone Number	217-333-6323
Fax Number	
Email	kyoung@illinois.edu
Title	Director, OSPRA

Additional Contact Information of Person to be Contacted on Matters Involving this Application:

Project Role	Name	Phone	Email
Other Contact	Dr. Jon P., Gant	2173333280	jongant@illinois .edu
Secondary Point of Contact	Dr. Sharon L., Irish	2173337094	slirish@illinois.e du

Other Required Identification Numbers	
Easygrants ID	6388
Funding Opportunity Number	500000
Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number	BTOP CFDA Number: 11.557 BTOP CFDA Title: Broadband Technology Opportunities Program

Organization Classification	
Type of Organization	Non-profit Institution
Is the organization a small business?	No
Does the organization meet the definition of a socially and economically disadvantaged small business concern?	No



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Authorized Organizational Representative	
AOR	Knorr, Walter
Result	Re-Notify

Project Title and Project Description

Project Title: Urbana-Champaign Big Broadband (UC2B) Public Computer Centers

Project Description: UC2B and partner agencies that serve vulnerable populations have come together to expand and/or renovate 12 public computer centers that serve vulnerable populations, along with Wi-Fi access points to serve 60,000 additional users each year. The project will also create two new multi-purpose facilities in existing structures to provide new public computer facilities in underserved areas.

Other Applications

Is this application being submitted in coordination with any other application being submitted during this round of funding?

> Yes

Easygrants ID	Project Title
6392	Urbana-Champaign Big Broadband (UC2B) Sustainable Broadband Adoption
1724	Urbana-Champaign Big Broadband

If YES, please explain any synergies and/or dependencies between this project and any other applications. There are three linked submissions from the Urbana-Champaign Big Broadband Consortium (UC2B). The Middle Mile Infrastructure proposal from Round One was funded. It will provide high-speed connectivity to 143 area community anchor institutions and support fiber-to-the-home in four low-income neighborhoods. Taking advantage of this connectivity requires an expansion in the number of public computer centers for access and training. Parkland College, our local community college, will deliver their established training curricula to 11 additional sites and provide technical support at those sites as well as 5 other locations. The PCC proposal



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leverages and coordinates efforts already in progress in Champaign-Urbana, as well as creating two new facilities in underserved areas of the cities. The SBA will be the engine to continue the momentum of the PCC projects. To continue the automotive metaphor, the PCC provides up-todate vehicles for public use, and the SBA develops skills so that more people can get in the driver's seat and stay there to uplift the cultures and economies of the region. A creative and aggressive campaign to sustain adoption of broadband use to new people or businesses will be simultaneously launched with the public computer center expansions throughout the communities.

Is the Applicant exempt from the Department of Commerce requirements regarding individual background screening in connection with any award resulting from this Application?

> Yes, Applicant is exempt because it is an accredited college or university

If the answer to the above question is "No," please identify each key individual associated with the Applicant who would be required to complete Form CD-346, "Applicant for Funding Assistance," in connection with any award resulting from this Application:

Name	Title	Employer

B. Executive Summary, Project Purpose and Benefits

Executive Summary of the proposed project:

Champaign-Urbana has an acute gap in supporting anchor institutions in our most underserved neighborhoods, which necessitates investment in public computing centers. In 2006, our largest and most important community organization, the Urban League, that served thousands of low-income residents with job development training, technology skill building, and a host of adult and youth educational programming, closed its doors and created a vacuum. Our proposal can specifically strengthen the remaining anchor institutions who need to absorb the thousands of residents who continue to need these resources. Yet, we do have a few organizations that have



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the capacity to proliferate digital literacy in our most vulnerable populations. This proposal can help expand the ability of these organizations to meet the needs of all our our low-income residents. With a population of 113,000, we are home to the University of Illinois (Illinois), the nation's second largest research university (in research dollars). The University of Illinois developed the first graphical Web browser, NCSA Mosaic, the LED, and alumni from our highly-ranked computer science program invented YouTube, PayPal, and more. Illinois is now building the world's fastest supercomputer, Blue Waters.

But our community has the widest digital divide in Illinois and perhaps the nation. Within less than a mile of the university, people do not have access to broadband, to computer workstations, or to the basic digital literacy now critical for jobs and education. We have the fifth largest population below the poverty line in Illinois, and in our public schools 60% of children are federally eligible for free or reduced lunch. We know that roughly 2,000 children in our schools do not have access to a computer at home, and that broadband adoption is below 40% in our target neighborhoods. The population of the project area is 10,660, and compared to the Champaign-Urbana Metropolitan Area, the project area has a higher concentration of Hispanic and African-American residents. While only 2.9% of Champaign-Urbana residents are Hispanic, 4.5% of the project area residents are of Hispanic descent. 48% of project area residents are African-American, representing a much higher concentration than the Champaign-Urbana's overall total of 12%. By placing computing sites within the project area, vulnerable populations such as Hispanics and African-Americans will have better access to the programs offered by this project. With a variety of programs and anchor institutions' involvement, we anticipate a significant broadband adoption, facilitated by public computing access, over the course of the next two years due to the funding of the UC2B Infrastructure Middle-mile Proposal.

Our proposal will have the following impact by:

- employing people as IT support staff
- employing people as trainers and educators
- employing people as administrative staff
- employing community help desk members
- serving people in PCCs, and raising participation
- fostering interest in at-home use that will support sustainable adoption
- leveraging a revenue stream from funding of our UC2B network (funded in Round 1)



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The following data, collected from an area-wide survey of the 11 lowest-income Census Blocks in Champaign-Urbana (2009), show the following:

• an average of 41% of the households in our lowest-income areas (11 Census Blocks) have broadband access, with some blocks having as low as 16.6% and our highest level of penetration at 54.6%

- 38.4% of the households have no computer
- 13.6% have a computer with no Internet access
- 9% have a computer with less connectivity than broadband Internet
- 44.5% have a computer with broadband internet

To support providing access to computing for the 61% of the community without computers and broadband access, we are seeking funds to a) revitalize a major social anchor institution that previously provided community technology support to thousands of residents, b) enhance existing neighborhood-based technology centers at anchor PCCs, libraries, schools and health facilities and c) create a sustainable revenue model within UC2B that directly correlates to the sustainable adoption strategy we have developed.

Our UC2B infrastructure grant was recently funded, and UC2B has a revenue model that will provide PCC support from the network subscriber base. What we need is the ability to launch our PCCs and strengthen them until our network is built and subscribers adopt broadband to sustain the PCCS. PCCs will provide a path to broadband in the home for many, while serving the social and after-school computing needs of youth and community organizations that need public spaces and technology to support their work.

In the midwest, we have the challenges of poor weather conditions for several months of the year, and many low-income residents rely upon a limited service public transportation bus system to get to PCCs. Our goal is to provide proximity to programming to train the emerging digital workforce and user base through a network of critical neighborhood-based partners (see anchor institution list) that includes: the cities of Urbana and Champaign, Parkland College, Champaign Public Library, The Urbana Free Library, the Don Moyer's Boys and Girls Club, and the University of Illinois Graduate School of Library and Information Science (GSLIS). Our public libraries have served over 110,000 computer users in the last 6 months and successfully operate existing public computing centers. Parkland College has a public computer and workforce development training center and an effective program that has already given thousands of people job training in IT skills, resume support, and more. Other key partners



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include the Public Schools, the Urbana-Champaign Independent Media Center, and a group of community centers, churches, and outreach organizations that specifically serve vulnerable populations.

Project purpose:

Project opportunity: Through our PCC programming we will create or save jobs in construction and in staff to deliver these programs, and we expect to create 80 indirect jobs through small business support. We have identified a 40% local/state match for this funding, in addition to leveraging the broadband infrastructure development provided in the 11 Census Blocks in lowincome neighborhoods, funded by the BTOP Infrastructure grant, and other existing grant support.

Funding of our proposal allows for leveraging of the following resources:

• fiber-to-the premises support at the existing PCCs that are in the already funded Infrastructure grant from Round One

- a match of X% from the State of Illinois
- a contribution of \$X from the City of Urbana
- a contribution of \$X from the City of Champaign
- a contribution of X from the Champaign and Urbana schools

Effective solution: Our approach to meeting the needs of our vulnerable populations is three-pronged:

1. Provide easy access to, and outreach for, workforce development training, spearheaded by Parkland Community College; implemented in neighborhood-based locations and on the Parkland College campus.

2. Extend the University's small business incubator services within the PCCs to small, minorityowned and disadvantaged businesses, and provide training on getting their businesses online, on e-commerce, and on common business software from Office to financial management (e.g., Quickbooks).

3. Implement a comprehensive community approach to broadband access, engagement, and sustainable adoption through a) providing fully integrated services and programs such as K-12 education and healthcare in the PCCs, b) re-instituting a major community anchor institution that serves the broadest public in need in North Champaign, and which will serve as an integrator of services throughout the community using broadband technology, and c) providing easily



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accessible public computer access points (most of which are for youth, homeless, women, low literacy, disabled, etc.).

Our Public Computing Center proposal includes:

• Expanding and renovating a network of 20+ public computer centers to provide access, training and business development, in the neighborhoods that need it most. The 20 centers include 3 libraries, a major social anchor institution, and 15 not-for-profit agencies that serve vulnerable populations. Up to 200 additional workstations and laptops along with wifi access points to serve 60,000 additional users each year is planned.

• Delivering training to 4,000 people in IT-related job skills such as word processing and computer repair, providing resume support, and delivering workforce development to re-train unemployed and underemployed populations.

• Sustaining some of the staffing after the term of the grant through the commitments of the partners (Parkland College and Public Libraries) to continue operating and upgrading these public computer centers on an ongoing basis, which can be done by leveraging state technology grants that currently are awarded to Parkland Community College.

• Expanding our successful "Lighted Schoolhouse" model to 3 additional elementary schools to create family resource centers where adults can get online to check their children's homework and grades and coordinate with teachers. This will serve x number of students, parents and teachers.

Involving teens in social networking and multimedia productions using an existing mobile airstream trailer project funded by the University, which will also serve as a mobile community IT help desk and computing center. We know that over 5,000 local teens will be impacted by this programming due to the mobile nature and sustained funding for the trailer.
Creating and translating materials into Spanish

Replicable solution: The University of Illinois, a key partner and home of the veteran community networking initiative PrairieNet, has a 20-year history of building and sustaining PCCs. We have a sustainable revenue model that is tied to our infrastructure grant and to the uptake we expect if our sustainable adoption proposal is funded, in addition to UC2Bs revenues from building an open network. This model can be openly used by other communities. We have the capacity to archive and disseminate solutions online for other emerging communities.

Serving the Underserved: Our PCC effort is designed to address the 61% of our most underserved community members who do not have access to computers and broadband. The most significant PCC resource we have had in this community, the PCC provided by the Urban



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League, closed in 2006. It served thousands of local low-income residents from vulnerable neighborhoods. What we have learned since its closure, as one prominent local leader recently said, is that we need a real, physical address and a virtual address where technology can be used to build skills, submit online resumes, and support technology-adoption. Our aim is to provide a recognizable, familiar physical address for all of our residents who need the technology support that has been eroded by lack of funding and support in the past three years. This must be in close proximity to the 11 census blocks that have low broadband penetration. Our plan is to re-open the Urban League PCC as part of this effort, which will work as C-U SBA in our SBA application.

The UC2B Public Computer Center proposal will create or save 130 jobs and advance 4 of the 5 statutory purposes of BTOP:

1. Increasing broadband takeup in underserved areas (currently evidencing <40%)

2. Increasing broadband awareness and access and providing broadband training, equipment, and support to anchor institutions and vulnerable populations.

3. Expanding broadband for public safety agencies.

Recovery Act and Other Governmental Collaboration:

A significant UC2B infrastructure project (\$22,534,776) has been awarded to construct 187 miles of fiber-optic broadband and connect 143 anchor institutions throughout Champaign and Urbana. This funding will also provide fiber-to-the-home to four low-income neighborhoods. The institutions that will be networked include 40 K-12 schools, 17 social service agencies, 14 health care facilities, nine youth centers, four public library systems, and two institutions of higher education. The fiber-to-the-home pilot project will serve 2500 low-income households, enabling the purchase of an affordable high-speed Internet service plan from commercial providers. The UC2B infrastructure project directly supports this Public Computing effort, and vice versa. On the one side, a robust broadband infrastructure provides the connectivity pipeline through which training and services to support increased digital literacy can be delivered. On the other side, improved access to high-speed Internet and to computing resources further feeds the demand and need for accessible, targeted digital literacy training. This infrastructure project will create a demand for skilled workers who can install fiber, provide network troubleshooting, and provide fiber-to-the-premises in identified underserved neighborhoods. An improved



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computing centers. It is essential that we have a robust network of sites that can handle the thousands of residents that are going to need to learn ways of working with technology. As sustainable adoption ensues through the low-cost pricing of the UC2B network, residents need resources to provide training for young people, elderly parents and other vulnerable populations as governments, businesses, hospitals, public safety units, transportation centers, schools, libraries and other key institutions are provided broadband. Our public computing centers need to be able to withstand increased demand for help and skill-building. Through this proposed PCC project, UC2B could provide that increased support until we have our sustainable revenue stream in place from adoption.

Additionally, we are leveraging a State of Illinois Digital Divide grant at Parkland College (\$55,000 funded in FY09) that supports workforce development and training to underemployed workers and access to public computing. Parkland College has reapplied for another grant for FY10. This will support services at the physical location of the local unemployment office, and extend directly to meet the needs of people who cannot find work that requires technology skills. This program, its staff and resources are a large part of our PCC strategy to train and support the emerging workforce.

We also have an NSF grant to Parkland College, whereby \$30,000 is being leveraged to teach digital literacy. This is in addition to:

- a match of X% from the State of Illinois
- a contribution of \$X from the

Technology Strategy:

Our PCC technology strategy is based on maximizing 24/7 access with easy to use and maintain software and hardware.

Our technology deployment plan is based on using a cost effective system for maintaining Apple iMacs in dual boot mode, so that with one piece of hardware, we can offer both Windows and Apple-based operating systems. Should a user do something that damages the software, our IT Help Desk can remotely wipe the machine and reinstall a fresh system and software load in minutes (as long as the building has fiber connectivity.)

We will utilize Parkland Community College staff and student workers at a host of locations who will work on-site to manage/supervise the labs. We use this core technology model for all PCC labs because it minimizes labor costs and allows technology to do most of the heavy lifting. We plan to have the grant buy new Apple computers to initially stock the PCC's and then in years 5 and beyond, recycle 3-year-old computers from the University's labs into the community labs.



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Our goal is to hire and train community members to manage the labs and work for a department at the University of Illinois that currently services all on-campus labs. This model also allows for a large number of students to work part-time to manage computer labs within an existing infrastructure that can provide training and extended support.

UC2B Public Computer Centers's solution has 2 further elements:

• upgrading and leveraging the 23 existing or planned public computer centers or targeted access sites (all serving underserved areas and vulnerable populations) with a robust technology curriculum implemented by Parkland College

• leveraging the Infrastructure grant made to UC2B so that the fiber deployed in the 11 lowest-income Census blocks will be used to maximum capacity by wiring every PCC facility and providing wireless network coverage (within a limited range) to premises within range of the PCCs

A final aspect of our technology deployment plan is to allow community members access to the University's labs during off-peak times on campus. That would not be a substitute for having PCCs, but would merely expand availability. In anticipation of our grant proposal being successful, Apple is prepared to sell the initial set of computers at an attractive price, and if the computers technically are purchased by the University in the UC2B partnership, then most of the application software would be covered by existing site licenses, which would further reduce costs for implementation off-campus.

For our Sustainable Adoption technology strategy, UC2B can offer a similar package of software support for home-based computers that are serviced remotely from a Community Help Desk, managed by a vendor that can provide large-scale ticket management and remote help for up to 200,00 users. We have already identified a local company that can provide such services in the area, although the grant as administration process will ensure that we open to bid and actively encourage minority, women and disadvantaged businesses to apply to provide such services. We believe that this help desk function deployed remotely through the existing households served through the Infrastructure grant we have already received will be instrumental in furthering broadband and technology adoption. The PCCs will provide a gateway to sustainable adoption, technology "house calls" and marketing and advertising at-home services that complement social computing.



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More specifically on the equipment, peripherals and software tools themselves, UC2B will rely on the following guidelines:

Our strategy with equipment and peripherals includes enabling a comprehensive range of text and multimedia uses and operating systems, stable over more than several years. Maintenance will rely on face-to-face reimaging as needed, supplemented by extended warranties and collaboration with local staff at the public computer centers.

File storage for individuals will be available through free, commercial cloud computing options, such as Google Docs or other tools that users may opt to try at their own discretion. Green practices will be encouraged through the encouragement of electronic storage rather than encouraging printing when other options to meet the needs of users are viable.

Community webspace traffic will be managed by combining UC2B resources with widely accepted commercial resources. For instance, the UC2B web server will serve the community listservs, podcasts, audio quicktime streams, blogs, static pages, and images, while people who wish to post video will be directed to Google Video, YouTube, and other such services, especially linked with UC2B "channels" at these sites.

Our technology strategy is also about creating a proper mix of public space with multiple uses. This will include some traditional "classroom" style sites like that at the library or the IMC, but also "cyber-lounges" and unique social spaces for organizations to meet and use technology to support their work.

These technology strategies and policies, and the updates that will be needed, will be part of UC2B staff training and evaluation. They will also be inserted into the curriculum and support offered to underserved areas and vulnerable populations through the entire network of public computer centers.

Public Availability:

The UC2B network of public computer centers across the underserved areas of the two cities will offer near-open availability of broadband-connected hardware and software. This is because it is a network that includes general access centers and advanced training facilities, as well as more limited access centers serving a specific vulnerable population. None of the public computer centers charges specifically for use of computers or broadband.



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Our primary goal is to create as much access to technology as we can, particularly within the main anchor institutions that serve the public. Because this effort is a collaboration of municipal government and a state-agencies, Parkland Community College and the University of Illinois, we have a deep interest in serving the public good and stewarding taxpayer dollars in a way that creates the most access possible for residents of central Illinois.

General public access will be provided by direct participation from all three public library locations: the Champaign Public Library, Champaign's Douglass Branch Library, and the Urbana Free Library, as well as our large social anchor institution. In addition, there are community centers generally open to all members of the community, such as the Independent Media Center.

Limited public access spaces are those public computing centers that provide access to specific groups, particularly the vulnerable populations they serve. For example, the Developmental Services Center serves only disabled people of all types and the Don Moyer Boys and Girls Club is open to youth. Local women's centers are safe houses for women in distress and their children, and Head Start is limited to enrolled children. The Youth Detention Center public computers are only for residents, as are those in homeless facilities that primarily serve residents of these respective facilities.

The Public Health District houses many programs and services including Maternal and Child Health, Women, Infant and Children (WIC) program, Child Dental offices, Infectious Disease Prevention and Management, and Wellness and Health Promotion. CUPHD also leases space to Child Advocacy Center and Best Interest of the Children. The agency also hosts the Summer Food Program which brings in additional children ages 18 years and under to our facility for free breakfast, lunch and an afternoon snack. CUPHD also sponsors an on-site Farmer's Markets July through October. This density of programming and organizations serving the very population that we aim to reach makes our strategy of providing PCCs throughout neighborhoods and in central locations ideal.

Each of these efforts are publicly funded with specific missions that can be empowered by broadband access, which is critical to staving off further erosion of our public programs and efforts. We do not intend to charge fees for access to PCC programs.

Restrictions on Center Use:



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The main use restrictions of the UC2B public computing network will be specific to the rules of each host institution. Within the UC2B network all labs require the usual deportment in public spaces, but in every case privacy and freedom of use is also an important standard. In every case the viewing of pornography is discouraged, but no lab practices active surveillance unless someone in the area complains or there is danger that adult content will be exposed to children.

Involvement of Community College:

The K-5 Technology for Kids programming already taking place in the Urbana's King and Prairie schools introduces children to basic computer skills. (King has 89% minority students and 83% low income. Prairie has 79% minority and 80% low income.) The National Educational Technology Standards already used as a guide facilitates our collaborative expansion with extended hours for families and their children, and the addition of Leal School (47% minority and 54% low income.) The current program costs \$42,167 a year for twice a week for an hour and a half each day, for 30 students. The Lighted Schoolhouse pilot program is a collaboration between the city of Champaign, the Park District and the Champaign school district. We are working with the Garden Hills School to expand on that effort and have added a middle school component at the nearby New Hope Church. Families are already coming to these locations for school-related events, so this is a natural extension of everyday learning and sharing of knowledge. The city of Champaign's Neighborhood Services Department is planning an extension to Garden Hills School in the near future that will help sustain the PCC. The Urbana-Champaign Big Broadband (UC2B) Consortium is itself a collaboration of three public entities (the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, the City of Urbana and the City of Champaign) that have approved an Intergovernmental Agreement to form the Consortium.

Is the applicant is seeking a waiver of the Buy American provision pursuant to section x.Q of the NOFA?

> No

Is the applicant deliquent on any federal debt?

- > No
- If Yes, justification for deliquency:

Are you seeking a waiver of any requirement set forth in the NOFA that is not mandated by statute or applicable law?

> No



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C. Partners

Are you partnering with any other key institutions, organizations, or other entities for this project?

If YES, key partners are listed below:

Project Role: Sub-recipient
Name: Mobasseri, Maria
Email: mmobasseri@parkland.edu
Address 1: 2400 West Bradley Avenue
Address 2:
Address 3:
City: Champaign
State: Illinois
Zip Code: 61821
Organization: Parkland College
Organization Type: Non-profit Institution
Small business: No
Socially and economically disadvantaged small business concern: No
Project Role: Other
Name: Smeltzer, Michael
Email: smeltzer@illinois.edu
Address 1: 2129 DCL
Address 2: 1304 W. Springfield Ave. MC 256
Address 3:
City: Urbana
State: Illinois
Zip Code: 61801
Organization: University of Illinois, Campus Information Technologies and Educational Services
Organization Type: Non-profit Institution
Small business: No
Socially and economically disadvantaged small business concern: No
Project Role: Sub-recipient
Name: DeJarnette, William
Email: bhdejarnette@city.urbana.il.us
Address 1: 400 S. Vine Street
Address 2:
Address 3:

> Yes

Broadband Non-Infrastructure Application Submission to NTIA – Public Computer Centers

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City: Urbana
State: Illinois
Zip Code: 61801
Organization: City of Urbana
Organization Type: City or Township Government
Small business: No
Socially and economically disadvantaged small business concern: No
Project Role: Third party in-kind contributor
Name: Fuller, Christopher
Email: cfuller@usd116.org
Address 1: Central Office
Address 2: 205 N. Race Street
Address 3: PO Box 3039
City: Urbana
State: Illinois
Zip Code: 61803-3039
Organization: Urbana School District 116
Organization Type: Other
Small business: No
Socially and economically disadvantaged small business concern: No
Sociary and economicarry disadvantaged small business concern. No
Project Role: Third party in-kind contributor
Name: Lissak, Debra
Email: dlissak@tufl.info
Address 1: 210 W. Green St
Address 2:
Address 3:
City: Urbana
State: Illinois
Zip Code: 61801
Organization: The Urbana Free Library
Organization Type: City or Township Government
Small business: No
Socially and economically disadvantaged small business concern: No
Sociarry and economicarry disadvantaged small business concern. No
Project Role: Sub-recipient
Name: Grove, Marsha
Email: mgrove@champaign.org
Address 1: Clara Lane
Address 2: 200 W. Green St.
Address 3:
11111 VUU 5.

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City: Champaign
State: Illinois
Zip Code: 61820
Organization: Champaign Public Library
Organization Type: City or Township Government
Small business: No
Socially and economically disadvantaged small business concern: No
Project Role: Sub-recipient
Name: Arrington, Andre
Email: aarrington@DMBGC-CU.ORG
Address 1: 201 E. Park St
Address 2: PO Box 1396
Address 3:
City: Champaign
State: Illinois
Zip Code: 61824
Organization: Don Moyer Boys and Girls Club
Organization Type: Non-profit Corporation
Small business: No
Socially and economically disadvantaged small business concern: No
Deviced Date Cale and interest
Project Role: Sub-recipient
Name: Mitchell, Janice
Email: jmitchell@usd116.org
Address 1: 1401 E. Main Street
Address 2:
Address 3:
City: Urbana
State: Illinois
Zip Code: 61801
1
Organization: Urbana Neighborhood Connections Center
Organization Type: Non-profit Corporation
Small business: No
Socially and economically disadvantaged small business concern: No
Project Role: Sub-recipient
Name: Chynoweth, Danielle
Email: chyn@ucimc.org
Address 1: 202 S. Broadway
Address 2: Suite 100
Address 3:
11441.000 5.

Broadband Non-Infrastructure Application Submission to NTIA – Public Computer Centers

Submitted Date: Easygrants ID: 63	88
Funding Opportunity: Public Computer	Applicant Organization:
Centers	UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
Task: Submit Application - Public Computer Centers	Applicant Name: Ms. Katherine S. Young

City: Urbana
State: Illinois
Zip Code: 61801
Organization: U-C Independent Media Center
Organization Type: Non-profit Corporation
Small business: No
Socially and economically disadvantaged small business concern: No
Project Role: Other
Name: Pryde, Julie
Email: jpryde@c-uphd.org
Address 1: 201 W. Kenyon Road
Address 2:
Address 3:
City: Champaign
State: Illinois
Zip Code: 61820
Organization: Champaign-Urbana Public Health District
Organization Type: County Government
Small business: No
Socially and economically disadvantaged small business concern: No
Project Role: Sub-recipient
Name: McClair, Robin
Email: mcclairo@champaignshcools.org
Address 1: Mellon Center
Address 2: 703 S. New Street
Address 3:
City: Champaign
State: Illinois
Zip Code: 61820
Organization: Champaign Public Schools Unit 4
Organization Type: Other
Small business: No
Socially and economically disadvantaged small business concern: No

Description of the involvement of the partners listed above in the project.

Parkland College is a key training partner in introducing computer use to the uninitiated and then building on those skills for workforce development and digital literacy. They will be providing



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training in 8 facilities, including the Illinois Employment and Training Center, as well as two new hubs, the Champaign UC2B Tech Center and the Urbana Neighborhood Connections Center. The well-tested, tiered curriculum will also be offered at the libraries, Salem Baptist Church, four public elementary schools, and two community centers, one in a private mobile home park in Champaign (Shadowwood), and the other near mobile homes in east Urbana (Muslim American Center.) Parkland will also provide in-kind support for use of their current facilities. Other training will be offered in a public housing authority space, Dorsey Homes. The city of Urbana is committed to expanding the coverage of public computer centers by designing, installing and maintaining wireless hardware in locations in 7-9 targeted areas, serving about 5,000 people. The Urbana Free Library will receive laptops through this grant as well as patron training from Parkland staff and volunteers. The laptops will allow flexible use of a crowded building that already has wireless access; the accessible building is open 70 hours a week and now will accommodate more training sessions. The patrons at the Champaign Public Library will also be able to have instruction from Parkland staff; the Douglass Branch library, with local and state matching funds, will be expanded and receive 10 new workstations, along with instruction. The branch library is located in a targeted area, and will benefit from wireless access as well as fiber optic infrastructure. Four Urbana public schools will receive a total of 10 computers as well as opportunities for further technology training. The K-5 Technology for Kids programming already occurring in the Urbana's King and Prairie schools introduces children to basic computer skills. (King has 89% minority students and 83% low income. Prairie has 79% minority and 80% low income.) The National Educational Technology Standards already used as a guide facilitates our collaborative expansion with extended hours for families and their children, and the addition of Leal School (47% minority and 54% low income.) The current program costs \$42,167 a year for twice a week for an hour and a half each day, for 30 students. The lighted schoolhouse pilot program in Champaign is a collaboration between the city of Champaign, the Park District and the Champaign school district. We are working with the Garden Hills School to expand on that effort with four new computers and opportunities for further technology training for families after school. We have added a middle school component at the nearby New Hope Church. Families are already coming to these locations for school-related events, so this is a natural extension of everyday learning and sharing of knowledge. The city of Champaign's Neighborhood Services Department is planning an extension to Garden Hills School in the near future that will help sustain the PCC. Both school districts have many volunteers who can leverage the work of paid staff in increasing computer skills. Since families already come to the schools, these locations are appropriate for hands-on, inter-generational learning. The hub at the Urbana Neighborhood Connections Center (UNCC) will be expanded with local and state



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matching funds to provide a safe and entertaining space for youth—a cyberlounge—and the facility will also receive 20 new workstations. With NTIA funding the fiber-optic infrastructure, the whole facility will be wired for broadband access. The UNCC is a grassroots establishment that partners not only with UC2B but the Housing Authority of Champaign County, the Urbana school district and the city of Urbana, with support from the United Way. The director of the center, Janice Mitchell, is a school district employee and she is well integrated into the lives of families in the community in which she lives and works. Another facility that engages local youth is the Don Moyer Boys and Girls Club (DMBGC). With local and state matching funds, the club will be expanded to include a cyberlounge to further involve youth in digital media production. The club also will help transport the Champaign public school youth to their homes after the training at Garden Hills, contributing their van and a driver to this program, as they have been doing for a number of years already. With federal funding and expansion, the club's capacity can serve more youth, contributing to their positive development in a long-standing local institution. The U-C Independent Media Center, established in 2000, will receive 20 new workstations and thus increase its ability to serve a well-established and growing clientele. They will contribute \$7000 to match the public computer centers grant, while they benefit from connection to fiber-optics through UC2B infrastructure. In the "other" category is the Campus Information Technology and Educational Services (CITES) that has offered our intertwined proposals a cash match of \$420,000. This generous donation, from the group that spearheaded the infrastructure proposal, demonstrates their support for the vital training and necessary outreach to sustain broadband adoption. Finally, the Champaign-Urbana Public Health District will serve as a landlord as well as programming partner for the north Champaign public computer center. Their spacious facility will house classrooms, a small-business incubator, a public lab and related support facilities for the families that come to CUPHD for a variety of services.

D. Congressional Districts

Applicant Headquarters

Illinois

Project Service States Illinois



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Project Service Areas Illinois - 15

Will any portion of your proposed project serve federally recognized tribal entities?

No

Indicate each federally recognized tribal entity your proposed project will serve.

Have you consulted with each of the federally recognized tribal entities identified above?

> No

E. Demographics

Demographics

Will your proposed project be specifically directed to serve vulnerable population groups?

> No

If "Yes" which vulnerable population groups will your proposed project serve? Check as many as apply:

Hispanic

Black/African-American

Low Income

Unemployed

Youth



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Other:

Vulnerable Populations

We are specifically addressing five vulnerable groups: African-Americans, Hispanics, lowincome, unemployed and youth. Compared to the Champaign-Urbana Metropolitan Area, the project area has a higher concentration of Hispanic and African-American residents. While only 2.9% of Champaign-Urbana residents are Hispanic, 4.5% of the project area residents are of Hispanic descent. 48% of project area residents are African-American, representing a much higher concentration than the Champaign-Urbana's overall total of 12%. By placing computing sites within the project area, vulnerable populations such as Hispanics and African-Americans will have better access to the programs offered by this project. We have been working with researchers who are studying cultural differences in computer usage, and will partner with community members to make the spaces and the interior arrangements comfortable and welcoming, physically and virtually. For Spanish-speakers, that means, of course, lab assistants who speak Spanish, as well as materials that are available in Spanish. People who may be undocumented especially need to feel safe and know that their privacy will be respected. By 2008, one in five Champaign County residents lived below the federal poverty level, according to 2008 Census Bureau estimates. Extreme poverty, living on an annual income of less than half the poverty line, affects 17,420 people in Champaign County, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, an extreme poverty rate of 10.0%. (U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey; 2000 Decennial Census) Because poor people often have difficulty with transportation costs and child care, we have located the PCCs in areas where they live and, when possible, provided child care so that parents can receive training from Parkland, or access the computers in the labs. Workshops and tutoring will be available at no charge for the grant period. Champaign-Urbana's unemployment rate for December 2009 was 8.5%, for a total of 10,600 people unemployed. (Bureau of Labor Statistics http://www.bls.gov/eag/eag.il champaign msa.htm) Unemployment and poverty are correlated, as stressed by the Heartland Alliance Mid-America Institute on Poverty. Further, quality and equitable education is a foundation for economic mobility. http://www.heartlandalliance.org/research/data/champaigncounty07.pdf UC2B, together with Parkland College and other key partners, proposes to address low-income populations by supporting workforce development for adults, and access to excellent education for youth and their families, strengthened by parent engagement via PCCs. Children are particularly vulnerable



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to poverty. 7,032 children live below the poverty line in Champaign County, a child poverty rate of 18.7%. Our investment in cyberlounges in Champaign and Urbana, along with open lab hours and collaborations with clubs, libraries and schools, will provide positive spaces and activities for many youth.

Accessibility

UC2B's open, accessible network philosophy includes accessibility for people with disabilities. We will work to make the full scope of information technology engagement available to all of our residents. Our team has expertise with every aspect of accessibility, from building computer technology center facilities that can be used by people with wheelchairs to providing helpdesk, software, and training services to enable people with vision, hearing, or motor impairments to use computers effectively. Some distance learning methods, including online workshops through ANGEL (Parkland's online course delivery system), will be considered for participants who are not physically able to attend classes at PCC locations. The University was one of the first wheelchair-accessible campuses in the nation decades ago, and today is a national leader in accessible web and software technology. That commitment extends to UC2B. Most of the public computer centers have been involved at some stage in receiving public funding and have been required to meet standards for disability access. In general we will have no center in the network that is not accessible to the disabled. While the buildings are accessible, over time we will have to make sure that other aspects of the public computer spaces can be fully useable as well. The arrangement of tables or desks cannot prevent people from getting as close as they need to for computing. If there are residents and users of the labs who have other special needs we will have to work with their specific PCC in order to find a reasonable solution.

Other Languages

Given the Hispanic population in Champaign County, we will provide some programming and materials in Spanish. The University of Illinois has a number of faculty and staff eager to engage with other Spanish speakers and there are active, well-established tutoring programs in the public schools to work with children of new immigrant families. These programs can easily dovetail with the extended-day programming planned in conjunction with the Champaign and Urbana schools. We have already worked closely with Lucia Maldonado, the parent liaison for Urbana schools, to develop relevant family activities to promote computer literacy. Extension recently established a Hispanic Outreach and Education Office that supports Extension programs with 4H, Nutrition and Youth and Families. We will work with them to get materials online related to



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these topics. The Urbana Free Library is developing computer and other training programs for all the Latino families from nearby Leal School. The Avicenna Free Health Clinic aims to provide a health education work station at the Urbana Free Library. Nuevos Horizontes, an online and radio Spanish-language program on health and culture, is one locally produced effort that draws Spanish speakers into media-related activities. Local radio stations, streamed online, also offer Spanish language programs regularly that can be used to promote and implement outreach and capacity building programs to build digital leadership. We will certainly draw on the experiences and contacts of the Latino Partnership of Champaign County (LPCC) and many other advocates and leaders of the Latino community in C-U.

Outreach

Public Computing Centers Outreach

We plan to generate up to 2500 new users of technology, particularly in low-income neighborhoods through the network of 114 community based organizations, including schools, clinics, an organizations. We will do this through "Cybernavigators," which is our term for the role that our lab monitors, instructors, and teaching assistants play in people's lives. We help people adopt broadband into their lives, their jobs, and their family connections, in a way that is meaningful and sustainable. This grant will allow us to increase our existing staff of instructors, teaching assistants, and lab monitors who will deliver this training in 9 locations in Urbana-Champaign. This added capacity will allow us to serve a population of 10,000 people (unduplicated), both adults and youth from our targeted neighborhoods and vulnerable populations.

Our outreach solution entails working directly with community based organizations, especially the largest social anchor institution that will be repositioned as C-U SBA which is being revitalized. These organizations will function as intermediaries and and distribution channels for driving participation and adoption. To close the digital divide, we need trusted partners that know the community intimately, and are capable of communicating broad messages to mass audience, in addition to providing spaces for computing. Part of our solution includes working closely with the U-C Independent Media Center and it's local community radio station, WRFU 104.5, as well as its newspaper the Public-I. We also know that WBCP 1580AM, the Black radio station and the local NPR stations of WILL-AM-FM-TV are important stakeholders to communicate and use broadband.



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Our strategy includes an "on the ground" approach to SBA through community organizations, but also includes leveraging all of the mass communications channels to promote, discuss, debate and support our local anchor media outlets that are community-based, including:WBCP 1580AM;

WRFU 104.5; WEFT 90.1; WILL AM-FM-TV; the Public-I newspaper; the Daily Illini; SmilePolitely.com; Black Thought, an African-American community newspaper; Faith-based organizations' bulletins and websites; Community portals and organizations; Prairienet; C-U SBA; School district literature, moodles, and extra-nets that communicate to parents and students; Hospital and clinic literature and closed-circuit programming; United Way and other key organizations.

Our marketing strategy focuses on attracting individuals who qualify as residents of low-income communities and need access to computers, basic computer skills, GED preparation, after-school literacy programming, and training for job-related computer tasks. Marketing communication and promotional efforts include public service announcement (PSAs) on television and radio broadcasts; PSA posters in the Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District (MTD) buses; promotional posters, cards, and/or brochures for distribution at agencies and busin

How many total users do you expect to generate through the use of BTOP funds at your public computer center(s)?

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Training and Education

Peripherals and equipment

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Workstation software

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Training and education programs

Business and industry in the Champaign-Urbana area demand above-average computer competency and/or IT skills for their workforce. Individuals from the community have the option



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to receive either general support or structured training at participating PCCs. This support is provided to any individual who requires assistance with general computer/technology issues such as sending emails, filling out job applications, or registering for online for services. Parkland training will be used to train the trainers in addition to regular participants. Initially, the training will be conducted by the experienced teachers already at Parkland. Participants receiving structured training (beyond general support) at a PCC are separated into three cohorts based upon their familiarity and skill with computers and general technology (basic, intermediate, and advanced). Participants will be assigned groups of 10-17 students to enroll in a one-year technology training program implemented by using a range of instruction approaches at each of the three skill levels. Participants who have very little knowledge of computers and technology and simply need a core curriculum in order to bring them up to speed with "everyday" technological functions. The introductory cohort has core training classes over 16 weeks including keyboarding, MS Office applications, knowledge of the Internet, digital media topics, and PC maintenance at casual user level. Participants who already have some skills can expand their knowledge and learn more advanced, or new, skills. For those students completing the core training classes, or students entering with intermediate skills, special topics are offered in multiple IT tracks: hardware/A+ certification, digital media/game design/animation or another specified field that fits within the PCC's capabilities. Participants who have already developed specific computer skills and are now looking to use these skills in a pragmatic fashion by entering the workforce or an institution of higher education are provided further group training in specified fields of their choice which fit within the PCCs capabilities. The result of this training may lead to A+ certification, job-shadowing opportunities, or Parkland College credit through proficiency exams. Classes will be instructor-led as well as classroom delivered, and will include hands-on activities, individual and group projects, workbooks, online materials, and Internetbased projects. Additionally, all participants who take part in organized training sessions may be eligible to receive free software through Microsoft's Academic Alliance program. Our experience from past years indicates that there is a large underserved population in the Champaign-Urbana area which has a very limited understanding of computer technology (more than 50% of last year's participants were at this level) and thus demand the basic level of training. Therefore, our core instruction is the primary focus of our training efforts and will contain many introductory topics focused on bringing each group up to speed concerning the basics of computer technology. The planned result of this training is to provide a path for each participant to take once they have completed their training at a PCC. One path is to use the knowledge that has been gained through the training programs to apply for a job and enter the workforce. All computer instruction and training utilizes curriculum, software, and/or textbooks



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developed and/or currently used by faculty of the Computer Science/Information Technology department at Parkland College in the following areas: Keyboarding - Textbook: College Keyboarding Lessons 1-25 (Van Huss). MS Office Applications – Introduction to computer operation and software use, computer terminology, and hardware and software fundamentals: introduction to word processing, electronic spreadsheets, databases, Internet, and other practical applications. Students operate microcomputer and software packages. Textbook: Go! With Microsoft Office 2007 Introductory, Third Edition by Gaskin, Ferrett, Vargass, McLellan (Pearson) and Technology In Action (custom edition for Parkland College). Basic PC Maintenance/Operating Systems – Maran Illustrated Windows XP Operating Systems Introduction to microcomputer operating systems, file management, disk organization, memory resource management, system configuration, and disk maintenance. Objectives include preparing students for some of the topics in CompTIA A+ certification exam. Textbooks: Illustrated Windows XP and Vista (Maran), Maran Illustrated MS Windows XP 101 Hot Tips (Maran); Emerging Technology: New pc form factor, wireless tech, cloud computing, display technology, fiber, 3d optical drives, and nano-technology; Digital Media Applications - Students will develop skills in one or more digital media applications, including but not limited to, CSS coding, HTML, Dreamweaver, Game Maker, Flash, and AfterEffects; A+ Certification practice and drilling - This will prepare students for the CompTIA A+ Certification exam. A+ Certification offers a competitive advantage when applying for entry-level employment in computer support. Students who pass the A+ Certification exam are also eligible to earn 6 hours of Parkland College credit; Information Technology (IT) Job-Shadow - Successful completers of advanced curriculum may participate in a 40-hour, IT-related job-shadow experience with a local business or organization. Proficiency Exams - Qualified students will have the option to take proficiency exams that could result in up to 8 hours of Parkland College credit.

If you are providing educational or training programs, how many people in total will these programs reach on an annual basis?

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How many hours of training will be provided to each participant?

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How many Full Time Employee (FTE) instructors or facilitators will you employ for these courses?

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F. Project Budget

Project Budget	
Federal Grant Request	\$
Total Match Amount	\$
Total Budget	\$
Match Percent	%

Projects Outside Recommended Funding Range:

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Sustainability:

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Matching Funds	
Applicant is providing matching funds of at least 20% towards the total eligible project costs?	No
Describe the matching contributions	
Unjust enrichment	
Disclosure of federal and/or state funding sources	

Budget Narrative	
Budget narrative	
Budget reasonableness	



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Demonstration of need

Funds to States/Territories

States	Amount of Federal Grant Request

Funds to States/Territories Total: \$0

G. Historical Financials

Matching Funds			
	2007	2008	2009
Revenue			
Expenditure s			
Net Assets			
Change in Net Assets from Prior Year			
Bond Rating (if applicable)			

H. Public Computer Center Summary

Jobs	
How many direct jobs-years will be created from this project?	
How many indirect jobs will be created from this project?	
How many jobs will be induced from this project?	

Methodology used to estimate jobs:



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Proposed # of Public Computer	Centers
Schools (k-12)	4
Libraries	3
Medical and Healthcare Providers	3
Public Safety Entities	
Community Colleges	
Public Housing	
Other Institutions of Higher Education	
Other Community Support Organization	
Other Government Facilities	

Total Proposed Public Computer Centers 10

Current Total Persons in Service Area

Minority Serving Institutions	
Historically Black Colleges and Universities	
Tribal Colleges and Universities	
Alaska Native Serving Institutions	
Hispanic Serving Institutions	
Native Hawaiian Serving Institutions	



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TOTAL MINORITY SERVING INSTITUTIONS	0

Weekly Usage Summary	
Total Current # of Persons Served per 120-hour Business Week	
Total Proposed # of Persons Served per 120-hour Business Week	
Total Current # of Persons Served per 48-hour Weekend	
Total Proposed # of Persons Served per 48-hour Weekend	

Broadband Workstation Summary	
Number of Current Workstations proposed to be upgraded	
Total Current # of Broadband Workstations	
Total Proposed # of Broadband Workstations	
Average Current Facility Broadband Connection Speed	Mbps
Average Proposed Facility Broadband Connection Speed	Mbps

I. Project Readiness

Licenses and Regulatory Approvals



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Organizational Readiness

Parkland College has been delivering computer literacy training for XX years. The lead agency for the Urbana-Champaign Big Broadband (UC2B) Consortium will be the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The Community Informatics program at the University of Illinois Graduate School of Library and Information Science has existed in some version since 1994, when faculty founded Prairienet and carried out other work detailed elsewhere in this application. This experience is supplemented by a strong local tradition of autonomous community technology/media initiatives. Champaign-Urbana Community Wireless Network is a world-renowned coalition of wireless developers and volunteers providing lowcost, do-it-yourself, community-controlled alternatives to contemporary broadband models. The Urbana Champaign Independent Media Center, one of the 12 public computer centers, operates a community radio station, performance space, media production and training facility, art gallery, and artist spaces.

Readiness comes from the UC2B application being part of ongoing local activities. On-campus activity has united with a formal governmental process in the Broadband Access Committee, part of the two cities' Telecommunications Commission. The public coalition formed out of this process is the Champaign Urbana Open Access Coalition (cuopenaccess.org). This website was launched and is maintained by a GSLIS graduate student. Our community has highly skilled folks already working on this important historical transformation; they have joined forces to make UC2B hit the ground running.

Project Timeline and Challenges

September 2010: Grant Awarded

Oct - Dec 2010:

* PCC Stakeholder Committee and UC2B Policy Committee begin overseeing this project

* Final construction/renovation specifications are prepared for bidding

* First round of workstations and equipment purchases are made (for PCCs that don't require construction or fiber-optic Internet connectivity first)

Jan - Mar 2011:



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- * Conduct hiring for additional lab monitors, assistants and instructors
- * Construction bids are awarded and vendors are contracted
- * Five PCCs open with the expanded hours and equipment

Apr - Jun 2011:

- * Second round of workstation and equipment purchases are made
- * Constructions is underway for PCC expansion
- * Conduct training for new PCC staff

Jul - Sept 2011:

- * UC2B below-ground fiber provides Internet to remaining 12 PCC locations
- * Final round of workstations and equipment purchases are made
- * Twenty PCCs are open with expanded hours and equipment
- * Beginning level classes available at all adult training locations
- * 100,000 additional users have been served in project's first 12 months

Oct - Dec 2011:

- * Hiring for all locations is complete
- * Construction is completed for PCC expansion
- * All 22 PCCs are open at full proposed capacity
- * First round of graduates complete beginning classes

Jan - Mar 2012:

* Stakeholder Committee and Policy Committee focus on outreach and marketing to vulnerable populations

* Beginning and Intermediate/Advanced classes available at all adult training locations

Apr - Jun 2012:

* First round of graduates from all adult training locations finish beginner and intermediate classes

Jul - Sept 2012: * 200,000 additional users have been served in project's first 24 months

Oct - Dec 2012:



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* Stakeholder Committee and Policy Committee focus on financial shift the the sustainable phase after grant funding

* Fall beginner and intermediate classes are held

Jan - Mar 2013: *

Apr - Jun 2013: * Spring beginner and intermediate classes are held

Jul - Sept 2013: * 300,000 additional users have been served

September 2013: Grant Ends

SPIN Number

J. Environmental Questionnaire

Does this PCC application have construction or ground disturbing activities?

If no, please answer the questions below. If yes, please do not answer the questions below and instead proceed to the next page to answer the expanded environmental questionnaire.

Does the proposed action involve the procurement of materials? If so, will the materials be installed, stored or operated in an existing building or structure? If yes, please click "Add" to include the list of equipment and peripherals to be procured.



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Does the proposed action involve procurement of electronic equipment? If yes, will the equipment be disposed of in an environmentally sound manner at the end of its useful life?

Does the proposed action involve construction, remodeling, or renovation? If so, will these activities be limited to only minor interior renovations to a structure, facility, or installation? If yes, click "Add" to include a description of the proposed renovations with your project summary.

Does the proposed action involve the production and/or distribution of informational materials, brochures, or newsletter?

Does the proposed action involve training, teaching, or meeting facilitation at an existing facility or structure? If yes, click "Add" to explain.

Does the proposed action involve ground or surface disturbance to accommodate new fiber optic cable? If yes, please click "Add" to include a description of the extent of service upgrade, a list of the permits required, and linear footage of underground fiber optic cabling required.

Does the proposed action involve an upgrade of broadband service to an existing facility or structure? If yes, please include a description of the extent of service upgrade, a list of the permits required, and linear footage of underground fiber optic cabling required?



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K. Environmental Questionnaire – Part 2

Project Description

Property Changes

Buildings

Wetlands

Critical Habitats

Floodplain

Protected Land

Coastal Area

Brownfield

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Uploads

The following pages contain the following uploads provided by the applicant:

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