



The Small Business Administration allocated funds to PCI for the development and implementation of a plan, in collaboration with Illinois DCEO, to increase computer adoption and usage across Illinois.

Of these funds, PCI is investing up to **\$500,000** for the



# Broadband Innovation Fund

# CHALLENGE

Submit a proposal to promote the adoption and use of high-speed internet in the following sectors:



**Job creation**—businesses grow by locating in areas with broadband.



**Education**—students do homework and take courses online.



**Healthcare**—rural residents consult with doctors and specialists via internet video.



**Agriculture**—farmers sell and manage their crops, and monitor weather forecasts.



**Public safety**—faster and more efficient fire and police response relies on better broadband.



**Family**—video and audio conference with friends and relatives in distant places.



**Energy**—the “smart grid” improves reliability and provides savings.



**Government**—broadband provides more accessible and transparent services to citizens.

# PURPOSE

Very high speed broadband offers opportunities to spark the creativity of our entrepreneurs, energize community organizations, and stimulate the brainpower of our academics.

Applicants must provide performance measures to include deliverables such as number of residents reached, number of community broadband centers connected, number of training sessions provided or other metrics of project sustainability. Proposals need to show how the project stimulates the best possible use of broadband networks.



# EXAMPLES

- Efforts to connect health-care professionals with patients in a particular Illinois region.
- Programs designed to spur greater use of telework or telecommuting, saving on gas costs.
- Smart grid applications designed to improve reliability and promote energy saving.
- Training high-school students to think entrepreneurially and use technology for growth.
- “AgEd,” or the ability to connect the university agriculture knowledge to local farmer needs.



# EXAMPLES

- New forms of participatory technology and workplace skills development.
- Training for low income and/or seniors to better use broadband technology.
- Collaborative computer training programs between libraries and community colleges.
- Programs designed to enhance citizen participation in the civic life of their communities.
- Streamlining complex government processes to enhance service delivery with broadband.
- Faster and more efficient emergency response through better use of internet networks.



# ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Any private, public, or non profit entity is eligible to apply, and **may request between \$10,000 and \$100,000** from PCI to use broadband to

- **Stimulate job creation**
- **Education**
- **Healthcare**
- **Agriculture**
- **Public safety**
- **Energy conservation**
- **eGovernment**



# Illinois Broadband Innovation Fund

- Complete Proposal should be submitted at the website OR emailed to [innovation@broadbandillinois.org](mailto:innovation@broadbandillinois.org) by **5 p.m. CT, Tuesday, September 11, 2012.**
- Questions can be sent to [innovation@broadbandillinois.org](mailto:innovation@broadbandillinois.org)
- All available information is located at <http://broadbandillinois.org/innovation>



# EVALUATION AND SELECTION

- Maximum financial leverage through private, state or local resources.
- Proven experience and success in leading Illinois initiatives.
- How proposal utilizes a broadband platform to enhance their mission and effectiveness.
- Enhancing job creation and economic impact in the proposed area of service.
- Experience with Illinois-based projects, processes, tools, and in working with stakeholders.





# EVALUATION AND SELECTION

- Development of rural regional innovation and entrepreneurship systems with broadband.
- Key relationships with broadband providers and rural development stakeholders.
- Sound project milestones and deliverables.
- The maximum cost-benefit analysis.
- Expertise of project team.
- How others can generalize from the model proposed by your proposal.
- How the proposed plan stimulates the best use of broadband networks.



# TIMELINE

- ◆ **Thursday, August 16**      **Kick-off Webinar, Springfield**
- ◆ **Friday, August 17**      **Kick-off Webinar, Springfield**
- ◆ **Wednesday, August 22**      **Stakeholder meeting & webinar, Chicago**
- ◆ **Thursday, August 23**      **Stakeholder meeting, Mattoon**
- ◆ **Friday, August 24**      **Stakeholder meeting, Carbondale**
- ◆ **Monday, August 27**      **Stakeholder meeting, Moline**
- ◆ **Tuesday, August 28**      **Stakeholder meeting, Godfrey**
- ◆ **Wednesday, August 29**      **Stakeholder meeting, Peoria**
- ◆ **Thursday, August 30**      **Stakeholder meeting, Macomb**
- ◆ **Tuesday, September 11**      **Applications due!**



# TIMELINE

**Wednesday, August 15-  
Thursday, September 6**

Questions Received to be Answered Publicly on  
<http://broadbandillinois.org/innovation>

**Tuesday, September 11**

Deadline for Responses to RFP

**Friday, September 21**

Decisions and Scoring by Review Committee

**Monday, September 24-  
Friday, September 28**

Awards Made and Funds Spent by PCI





APPLICANT ENTITY			
<b>Organization/Company Name:</b>		<b>Telephone Number:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>		<b>Fax Number:</b>	
<b>City:</b>	<b>Zip Code:</b>	<b>Federal Taxpayer Number:</b>	
KEY CONTACT INFORMATION			
<b>Salutation:</b>	<b>First Name:</b>	<b>Last Name:</b>	
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Telephone Number:</b>	<b>Fax Number:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>			
<b>City:</b>	<b>State:</b>	<b>Zip Code:</b>	
<b>E-mail Address:</b>			
ESTIMATED PROJECT BUDGET			
<b>PCI Funds Sought:</b>	<b>Private Funds Sought:</b>	<b>Cash on Hand for Project:</b>	<b>Total Project Cost Estimate:</b>
\$	\$	\$	\$



1. Describe your vision for using broadband in your project. (500 words max.)
2. How is your proposal innovative? (250 words max.)
3. How will the Broadband Innovation Fund enable your proposal to innovate more effectively? (250 words max.)
4. List your efforts to stimulate: education/learning, healthcare, agriculture, economic development, energy-efficiency, public safety or eGovernment. (500 words max.)
5. How do you plan to publicize and raise awareness for your program? (250 words max.)
6. Describe the background and experience of your team. (500 words max.)
7. Can your program engage network providers and economic development officials? (250 words max.)
8. How do you propose to measure progress toward achieving the goals of your proposal (250 words max.)
9. How can others generalize from the model in your proposal(250 word max.)
10. Provide your proposed budget and proposed timeline. (no word limit)
11. If you were to send a Tweet about your application, what would it say? (140 character max)

# Questions?



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