

Technology Infrastructure Upgrade Grant

Background:

HB1185 of the 2013 legislative session included a one-time appropriation of \$500,000 to the Department of Education to provide grants to K-12 school districts for technology infrastructure upgrades for the 2013-14 school year.

Purpose:

The Technology Infrastructure Upgrade grant encourages South Dakota K-12 school districts to improve student achievement through upgrading of technology infrastructure within their district. Items to consider include:

1. Distance Learning – Video conferencing upgrades of codec units to take advantage of increased network bandwidth.
2. Server plus Windows 2012. This infrastructure uplift would permit easier integration into the state active directory.

Eligibility: A school district may apply for a Technology Infrastructure Upgrade grant. Basic eligibility requirements include the following:

- Applicant(s) must be a public K-12 school district;
- Applicant(s) must match up to 30 percent of their project's total budget;
- Project must be able to be completed no later than May 1, 2014

Maximum Grant Award Amount:

\$20,000 per district.

Matching Funds:

School districts are expected to provide matching funds of up to 30% of the total project. Match can either be cash or in kind. Examples of in kind match can be in the form of services, such as the cost of personnel for installation and configuration of equipment, or as items such as the cost of other equipment purchased by the district in conjunction with the project. The amount of matching funds provided will be considered in the scoring of the grants.

Application Deadline:

All application materials must be received electronically as a PDF by June 15, 2013. Proposals submitted after this date will not be considered. Applications should be submitted to DOETechnologyGrants@state.sd.us

Award Process:

The Technology Infrastructure Upgrade grant will be awarded through a competitive process. All proposals will be read and judged by a committee. The panel will determine award winners based on the criteria outlined in the application and scoring rubric.

To reduce individual grant costs, the DOE may, where appropriate, aggregate purchases across districts to leverage economies of scale for discounts and seek competitive pricing for combined purchases.

Grant awards for the 2013-14 school year will be announced by Aug.1, 2013. All funds must be expended by the school district and a claim submitted to the Department of Education no later than May 9, 2014.

CONTACT

If you have questions, please contact:

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