FY2020 E-Rate State Matching Grant Technical Assistance Webinar

Illinois State Board of Education

December 18, 2019

Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions

- NOFO/RFP Overview

- Eligibility

- The Application Process

- District's Next Steps

- Helpful Resources

- Where to Direct Questions

Welcome and Introductions

- Presenter:
  - Erich Grauke
    Principal Consultant
    Curriculum and Instruction Department
    ISBE

NOFO/RFP Overview

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)/Request for Proposal (RFP) information found at www.isbe.net/broadband under the E-Rate State Matching Grant Tab

- NOFO/RFP released on Friday, December 6, 2019

- Proposals due to ISBE office in Springfield by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, January 31, 2020

NOFO/RFP Overview

- ISBE received up to $16.3 million in FY2019 to help districts cover the non-discounted portion of special construction costs.

- Special construction projects are the upfront, non-recurring costs of deploying new fiber or upgraded fiber to E-Rate eligible entities
  - Construction of network facilities
  - Design and engineering
  - Project management

Eligible Applicants

- Any Illinois Public School District who:
  - File a FCC Form 470 with RFP indicating fiber internet is desired
  - Districts who check "state match/tribal funding" indicator on FCC Form 471
  - Priority is given to districts without scalable fiber connectivity
  - Applications for districts wishing to improve WAN connections or reducing costs will also be considered
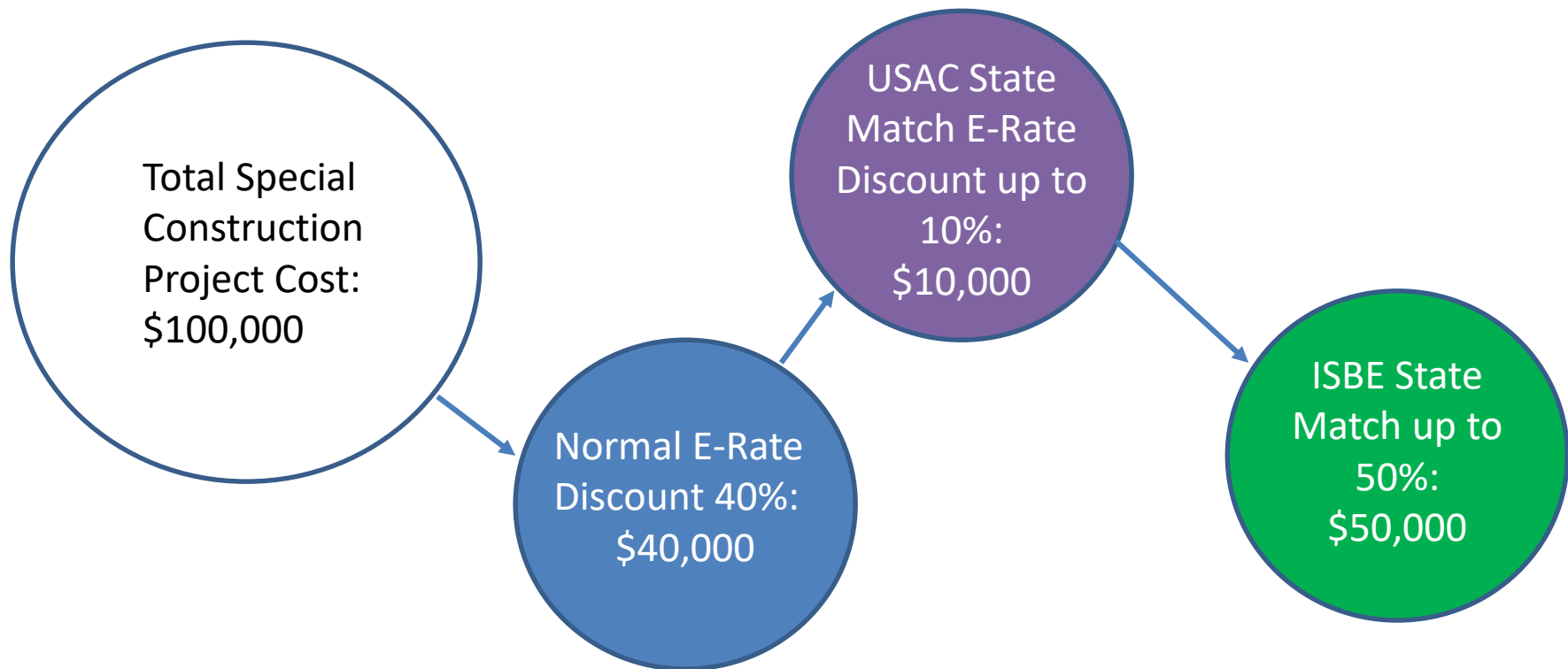 - USAC E-Rate approval is required for grant disbursement

DoIT Consortium Membership

- Membership in the DoIT E-Rate Consortium **is not required** to be eligible for this grant

How the State Match Works

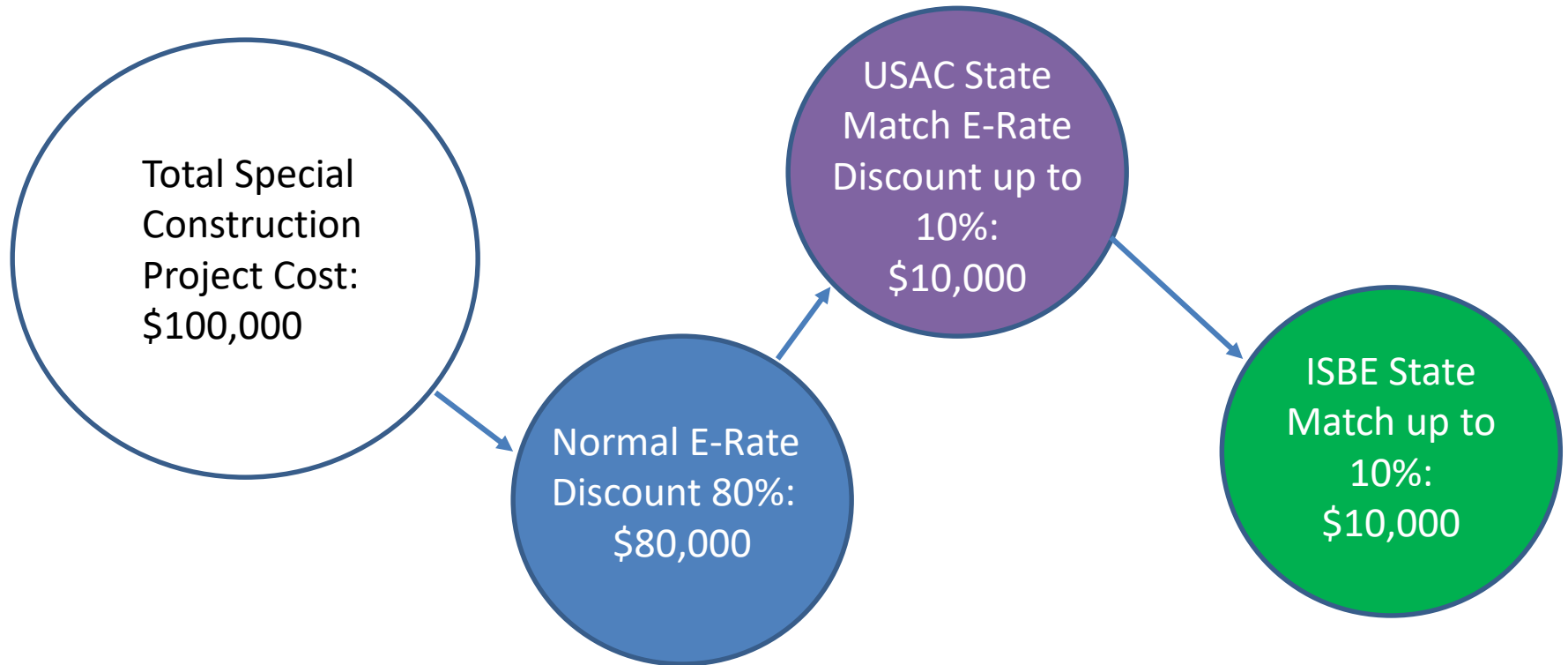- ABC School District, with a 40% Category 1 Discount Rate applies for State Match Grant:

Total Special Construction Project Cost: $100,000

Normal E-Rate Discount 40%: $40,000

USAC State Match E-Rate Discount up to 10%: $10,000

ISBE State Match up to 50%: $50,000

How the State Match Works

- XYZ School District, with an 80% Category 1 Discount Rate applies for State Match Grant:

Total Special Construction Project Cost: $100,000

Normal E-Rate Discount 80%: $80,000

USAC State Match E-Rate Discount up to 10%: $10,000

ISBE State Match up to 10%: $10,000

The Grant Application Process

- Applicants file FCC Form 470 requesting fiber special construction
  - Must wait a minimum of 28 days before selecting vendor per USAC rules
  - RFP is strongly recommended for all types of special construction
  - Make sure that both 470 and RFP describes the desired products and services you need with <u>sufficient specificity</u> for providers to be able to submit responsive bids
    - Requested services on 470 and RFP **<u>MUST MATCH</u>**!

The Grant Application Process

- If interested in self provisioned or dark fiber, you must also seek bids for leased lit fiber, compare all 3 types received and choose the most cost-effective option

- Education Superhighway has RFP templates and evaluation support at https://www.educationsuperhighway.org/resources/

The Grant Application Process

- Important to file 470 and wait 28 days
  - Last day to file 470 and meet USAC 28 day window is Friday, January 3

The Grant Application Process

- Fill out the Grant Application
  - Include form 470, evaluation rubric of vendors, and the name of your selected vendor along with their proposal
  - Upon approval from ISBE and USAC approval of your 470/471 request, state will match the non-discounted portion of project subject to funding availability

The Application

www.isbe.net/broadband

Attachment 1

- Uniform Application for State Grant Assistance

Use your "Mouse" or "Tab" key to move through the fields and check boxes. After completing last field, save document to hard drive to make future updates or click print button.

Uniform Application for State Grant Assistance
Illinois State Board of Education

Applicant Completed Section

APPLICANT NAME (District Name and Number, if applicable)	REGION COUNTY DISTRICT TYPE CODE

16.	Legal Name (Name used for DUNS registration and grantee prequalification)	
17.	Common Name (DBA)	
18.	Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN, TIN)	
19.	Organizational DUNS Number	
20.	SAM CAGE Code	
21.	Business Address (Street, City, State, County, Zip Code + 4)	

Applicant's Organizational Unit

22.	Department Name	
23.	Division Name	

Applicant's Name and Contact Information for Person to be Contacted for *Program* Matters involving this Application

24.	First/Last Name	
25.	Suffix	
26.	Title	
27.	Organizational Affiliation	
28.	Telephone Number (Include Area Code)	
29.	Fax Number (Include Area Code)	
30.	E-Mail Address	

Applicant's Name and Contact Information for Person to be Contacted for *Business/Administrative Office* Matters involving this Application

31.	First/Last Name	
32.	Suffix	
33.	Title	
34.	Organizational Affiliation	
35.	Telephone Number (Include Area Code)	
36.	Fax Number (Include Area Code)	
37.	E-Mail Address	

ISBE 20-06 GATA Grant Application (1/19)

Attachment 1 – Question 45

- Attachment 1 – Question 45
  - ***Amount Requested from the State*** is the amount you are requesting for the state match
  - ***Applicant Contribution*** is the remaining monies going into the project. *Local Contribution, Other Sources of Funding, or Program Income* provide the detail for and should total the Applicant Contribution Line.
  - ***Total Amount*** is the total of the Amount Requested from State and Applicant Contribution Lines combined.

45.	Estimated Funding *(Include all that apply)*	☐ Amount Requested from the State: $_____
		☐ Applicant Contribution (e.g., in kind, matching): $_____
		☐ Local Contribution: $_____
		☐ Other Source of Contribution: $_____
		☐ Program Income: $_____
		☐ Total Amount: $_____

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Attachment 1 – Question 45 Example #1

- ABC District is requesting a match for a $100,000 fiber special construction project. Their C1 Discount rate is 50%.

- USAC C1 Discount of 50% - $50000

- USAC Additional Discount for State/Tribal Match (1:1 to state match, up to 10%) - $10000

- Remaining $40000, or 40% of the original project amount, will be covered by state match, subject to funding availability and approvals

45.	Estimated Funding (Include all that apply)	☒ Amount Requested from the State: $ 40000
		☒ Applicant Contribution (e.g., in kind, matching): $ 60000
		☐ Local Contribution: $
		☒ Other Source of Contribution: $ 60000
		☐ Program Income: $
		☒ Total Amount: $ 100000

Attachment 1 – Question 45 Example #2

- Acme School District has a $100,000 special construction fiber project and has a 20% Discount Rate

- USAC C1 Discount Rate of 20% - $20000

- USAC State Match of 10% - $10000

- Remaining $70000, or 70% of the original project amount will be covered by the state match, subject to funding availability and approvals

- 20% USAC C1 Discount + 10% USAC Match + 70% State Match = 100% of special construction costs

45.	Estimated Funding (Include all that apply)		
		☒ Amount Requested from the State: $	70000
		☒ Applicant Contribution (e.g., in kind, matching): $	30000
		☐ Local Contribution: $	
		☒ Other Source of Contribution: $	30000
		☐ Program Income: $	
		☒ Total Amount: $	100000

Attachment 2

- Attachment 2 asks about your current technology status

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100 North First Street
Springfield, Illinois 62777-0001

ATTACHMENT 2
Page 1 of 1

FY 2020
E-RATE STATE MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM
CURRENT TECHNOLOGY STATUS

CTE AND INNOVATION DEPARTMENT

APPLICANT NAME

REGION, COUNTY, DISTRICT, TYPE CODE

Instructions: Complete the following:

1. Does your district currently have fiber? ☐ Yes ☐ No
   (If answer is NO for question 1, skip to question 3)

2. Which of the following types of fiber connections best describe your current network configuration?
   ☐ Leased Lit Fiber ☐ Leased Dark Fiber ☐ Self-Provisioned ☐ Other: _____

3. What is the maximum speed of your current fiber/internet connection?

4. What is the monthly recurring cost of your current internet services before E-Rate discounts are applied?

5. Which of the following types of fiber connections are you requesting bids on your FCC Form 470?
   ☐ Leased Lit Fiber ☐ Leased Dark Fiber ☐ Self-Provisioned

6. What is the speed of the fiber connection that you are asking for bids on your FCC Form 470 and associated RFP?

7. How many E-Rate eligible instructional facilities will this special construction project impact? _____

8. How many E-Rate Non-Instructional facilities (NIF) will this special construction project impact? _____

9. What is your E-Rate Year 2020 Category 1 Discount Rate? _____

10. Number of students in your school district. _____

11. Number of teachers in your school district. _____

12. Number of classrooms in your school district _____

13. Number of computing devices in use in your district _____

Attachment 3

- Program Narrative
  - Describe current ed tech program
  - Why is this project needed to meet district educational plans/goals?
  - See page 10 of RFP
  - Max 5 pages for narrative

ATTACHMENT 3
Page 1 of 5

**FY 2020
E-RATE STATE MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM
DETERMINING NEED**

APPLICANT NAME (District Name and Number, if applicable) | REGION, COUNTY, DISTRICT, TYPE CODE

INSTRUCTIONS: Describe the current district/school-level program, including need. See RFP for specific direction. Limit response to space provided.

ISBE 04-01 E-Rate State Matching Grant (10/17)

Attachment 4

- Proposed Project/Program
  - Describe how increased speed will impact educational program
  - DoIT Consortium Members – indicate membership in narrative
  - See Pages 10-11 of RFP document for more details
  - Max 5 pages for narrative

ATTACHMENT 4
Page 1 of 5

FY 2020
E-RATE STATE MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM
PROPOSED PROJECT/PROGRAM

APPLICANT NAME (District Name and Number, if applicable)	REGION, COUNTY, DISTRICT, TYPE CODE

INSTRUCTIONS: Describe the proposed district/school-level program determined by need. See RFP for specific direction. Limit response to space provided.

ISBE 04-01 E-Rate State Matching Grant (10/17)

Attachment 5

- Project Timeline
  - Provide a timeline of activities to meet the goals indicated in Attachment 4
  - Start and completion dates
  - Name of person responsible

Attachment 6

- Evaluation
  - Describe how plan will be monitored and evaluated and how plan will be adjusted to ensure completion.
  - Indicate how the impact on increasing student success and/or other stated goals and objectives will be shared within your district and beyond

ATTACHMENT 6
Page 1 of 5

FY 2020
E-RATE STATE MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM
EVALUATION

APPLICANT NAME (District Name and Number, if applicable)	REGION, COUNTY, DISTRICT, TYPE CODE

INSTRUCTIONS: See RFP for specific direction. Limit response to space provided.

ISBE 04-01 E-Rate State Matching Grant (10/17)

Attachment 7

- ## Budget
  - The budget must be submitted on this form
  - Use numbers from page 3 of attachment 1

Attachment 7a

- Budget Breakdown
  - Include descriptions of anticipated expenditures, correlated to line items on the previous page.

Attachment 7b

- Used after the final awards are determined, so leave blank for now

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Attachment 8 and 9

- Certification and Assurance Forms
  - Please fill out and have these signed by official legally authorized to submit

Evaluations of Applications

- Application evaluation criteria described beginning of page 13 of RFP packet.

Application Review

Review and Selection Process:
The selection of the grantees will be based upon the overall quality of the application. The scoring is based upon the following criteria:
- Need is defined as the identification of stakeholders, facts, and evidence that demonstrate the proposal supports the grant program purpose;
- Capacity is defined as the ability of an entity to execute the grant project according to the project requirements;
- Quality is defined as the totality of features and characteristics of a service, project, or product that indicate its ability to satisfy the requirements of the grant program;
- Cost effectiveness is defined in the terms of tangible benefits produced by the monies spent; and
- Sustainability, which is defined as the ability to ensure that the project will continue without further state monies

Criteria:
These overall criteria are built into the criteria below. The attachment number in the parentheses following the criteria lists the portion of the proposal that will be used to determine if the criteria has been met

Following the notification of grant awards, an applicant may request copies of reviewer comments and scores by contacting Erich Grauke at broadband@isbe.net.

Selection criteria and point values are as follows:

Not Provided	Very Limited	Somewhat Limited	Moderate	Strong	Very Strong
0	1	2	3	4	5
Response requirements are absent.	Response provides very few details to meet the criteria requirement.	Response is unclear and lacks enough evidence to meet the criteria requirement.	Response provides moderate detail and conveys potential to meet the criteria requirement.	Response provides good detail and evidence to meet the criteria requirement.	Response exceeds expectations and provides a strong evidence to meet criteria requirement.

Section 1: The school district has demonstrated a need for the proposed project, activity, and/or resources. 30 Points	Possible Points
The proposal describes the status of the applicant's educational technology programs and demonstrates that students' access to educational opportunities in this curricular area is limited to an undesirable degree. (Attachments 2 and 3)	5
The proposal provides a clear description of the needs found between the anticipated technology required within the district for at least the next five years and the current	5

- 13 -

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Next Steps

- File Form 470 and associated RFP

  - Wait the required 28 days per USAC rules

- Choose vendor from submitted proposals after 28 day period has elapsed

  - Make sure to follow all USAC rules regarding competitive bid evaluations

- File E-Rate State Matching Grant Application along with copy of FCC Form 470 , RFP, and selected vendor proposal with ISBE by Friday, January 31, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.

Helpful Resources

- Education SuperHighway has RFP templates for special construction projects at https://www.educationsuperhighway.org/resources/

- The Learning Technology Center of Illinois offers E-Rate support. More information at www.ltcillinois.org/erate

Questions

- Email questions to broadband@isbe.net