

Requirements for Participation in the Alaska OWL Project

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Only One Eligibility Requirement

Maintain your public library status as determined by Alaska Statutes Sec. 14.56.400:

- (a) A public library established under this section shall provide at least the following services free of charge to the residents of the municipality or community:
 - (1) establish and maintain a collection of books and other materials for loaning;
 - (2) provide access to interlibrary loan services;
 - (3) provide reading or other educational programs for children; and
 - (4) provide reference information.

- (b) A public library established under this section shall submit an annual report of its operations and the services it provides to the director of the division that has responsibility for state libraries.

Required Authorizations

- Any and all necessary approvals to participate (i.e., receive equipment and/or bandwidth support). At least one of the following:
 - Your School Superintendant (combined libraries);
 - Your Municipality or Mayor (municipal libraries);
 - Your Board of Directors (independent libraries); or
 - Your Campus CIO and/or UA-OIT for combined campus libraries
- Plus anyone else who has authority over the library's acceptance of grant monies and equipment
- The Signed *Letter of Intent To Participate* provided in your packet must be returned by December 30, 2010

With respect to equipment and/or services received:

(a) All computers, computer equipment and/or video conferencing software and equipment remain the property of ASL during the project. The recipient library:

(1) agrees to use the software and equipment only for its intended purposes, e.g., all computers received MUST ONLY be used as public access stations connected to the Internet and for training of library staff and patrons, not for other staff or administrative purposes or for use in school labs, other community labs, or municipal offices; computers and computer peripherals must remain on library premises, with the exception of laptops, which can be signed out in accordance with your library policy;

Web and Video Conferencing Equipment

(2) agrees to use web and video conferencing software and equipment only for intended purposes, i.e., for public uses, including staff or public training, under whatever policies the Alaska OWL Library Oversight Committee and the your library put in place. All equipment must remain on library premises for the duration of the project and be returned to ASL if not used for the agreed upon purposes;

Bandwidth Support Requirements

(b) If receiving bandwidth support libraries must:

- (1) Participate in the Alaska OWL Consortium E-Rate Application process, unless prevented from doing so by an existing ISP contract or library authority (e.g., board, municipality, school or university);
 - (a) Comply with CIPA (Children’s Internet Protection Act) by filtering Internet access in an appropriate manner consistent with local standards; training and technical assistance will be available if needed.
 - (b) Continue annual Internet service payments in the same amount as paid before joining the Alaska OWL bandwidth consortium and use those funds as “non-discounted match” in the E-Rate consortium. Any library unable to continue Internet payments equivalent to those paid before joining the Alaska OWL consortium application may make a request for un-discounted match support from the Alaska OWL Oversight Committee upon a showing of financial need. Support will be subject to the availability of Alaska OWL broadband funding in any given year.
- (2) Libraries unable to participate in the Alaska OWL bandwidth consortium will be considered for direct bandwidth support depending on available funding under an ASL bandwidth grant program.

Typical Bandwidth Support Scenarios

Scenario for Bandwidth Support under E-Rate

[includes new satellite dish equipment if broadband is only available via satellite]

1. The public library has an existing Internet speed of less than 1.5 mbps down; and ...
2. Increased speed is NOT available from current ISP; but ...
3. Faster bandwidth is available via satellite or terrestrial ISPs; and ...
4. The public library can make an adequate showing of financial need; and ...
5. The public library commits to pay current Internet cost as un-discounted E-Rate match through August 2013; if ...
6. The public library terminates its existing contract and participates under E-Rate master contract; then ...
7. OWL may provide a bandwidth grant to cover the cost difference for a higher Internet speed.

Scenario for Direct non-E-Rate Bandwidth Support Eligibility

1. The public library has existing Internet speed less than 1.5 mbps down; and ...
2. Faster Internet speed IS available from current ISP; but ...
3. The public library is unable to terminate its existing contract; if ...
4. The public library can make an adequate showing of financial need; and ...
5. The public library commits to pay current Internet cost through June 2013; then ...
6. OWL may provide a bandwidth grant to cover the cost difference for a higher Internet speed.

Scenario Where There Is No Bandwidth Support

1. The public library has an existing Internet speed of less than 1.5 mbps down; and ...
2. A faster Internet speed IS NOT available from the library's current ISP; but ...
3. A faster Internet speed IS available from another ISP; however, unfortunately ...
4. The public library is unable to upgrade or terminate its existing ISP contract during the duration of Alaska OWL project.
5. Alaska OWL bandwidth assistance is probably not available until the existing ISP contract is terminated.