

August 28, 2007



Distance Learning/Telemedicine Programs



The DLT Grant and Loan Programs provide rural communities with opportunities to obtain educational and medical services from distant locations utilizing communications technologies.

Distance Learning/Telemedicine Programs

Three different options:

1. DLT Grant Program
2. DLT Loan/Grant Combination Program
3. DLT 100% Loan Program



DLT Applicant Eligibility

- Applicant must deliver distance learning or telemedicine services to rural Americans
- Be one of the following
 - An incorporated organization or partnership
 - An Indian tribe or tribal organization
 - A state or local unit of government
 - A consortium of the above
 - Other legal entity such as a private corporation either *profit or non-profit*

DLT Applicant Eligibility continued

- **Applicant must**
 - **Operate a rural community facility**
 - **Deliver distance learning or telemedicine services to entities at rates that ensure that the economic value and benefits of the DLT grant and/or loan are passed on to residents of rural areas**
- **RD electric and telecommunications borrowers are eligible for loans only**

Distance Learning/Telemedicine Grant Program

Available Funding FY 2007: \$15 million

- ✓ **Application window closed June 11, 2007**
- ✓ **\$50,000 Minimum**
- ✓ **\$500,000 Maximum**
- ✓ **Matching Funds: Minimum 15%**
- ✓ **Awards based on scoring**



For more information visit our web site:

<http://www.usda.gov/rus/telecom/dlt/dlt.htm>

DLT Grant Program: Eligible Purposes

Purchase & Installation of:

- Inside Wiring
- Telecom and Data Terminals
- Audio and Video Equipment
- Interactive Video Equipment
- Computer Hardware & Software
- Medical Equipment for Telemedicine Use
- Off-the-shelf Instructional Programming



Distance Learning/Telemedicine Loan/Grant Combination Program

Two Types of Loan Grant Combinations 9:1 and 4:1

- **Applications accepted year-round and processed in the order they are received.**
- **Noncompetitive application process**
- **No required matching contribution**



Distance Learning/Telemedicine Loan/Grant Combination Program

9:1 Program

- ✓ Offers \$1 in grant funds for every \$9 in loan funds requested
- ✓ FY 2007 Available Funding: \$50 million total
 - \$45 million loan
 - \$5 million grant
- ✓ \$50,000 minimum
- ✓ \$20,000,000 maximum

4:1 Program

- ✓ Offers \$1 in grant funds for every \$4 in loan funds requested
- ✓ FY 2007 Available Funding: \$25 million total
 - \$20 million loan
 - \$5 million grant
- ✓ \$50,000 minimum
- ✓ \$1,000,000 maximum
- ✓ Only available for projects that are exclusively for electronic medical records (EMR).



Distance Learning/Telemedicine Loan/Grant Program

Additional Eligible Purposes

- ✓ **Providing links in same building (T/S)**
- ✓ **Site Development**
- ✓ **Purchasing on land, buildings or building construction**
- ✓ **Acquiring telecommunications transmission provided none exist in area**
- ✓ **Paying for medical or educational equipment including vehicles**



Distance Learning/Telemedicine 100% Loan Program

Available Funding FY 2007: \$62.9 million

- Applications accepted year-round and processed in the order they are received.
- Noncompetitive Application Process
- No required matching contribution
- \$50,000 Minimum
- \$20,000,000 Maximum
- Additional eligible purposes such as two years of project operating costs and educational broadcasting for distance learning.



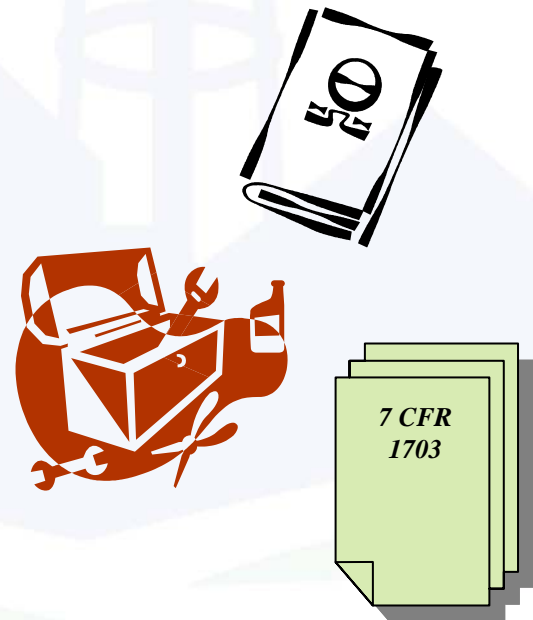
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DLT Grant Program

Available Application Tools:

1. FY 2007 Application Guide
2. FY 2007 Toolkit
3. Program Regulation



www.usda.gov/rus/telecom/dlt/dlt.htm

DLT Grant: Objective Scoring Criteria

1. Rural Area (**Rurality**)
2. Economic Need (**NSLP**)
3. Special Communities (**EZ/EC**)
4. Leveraging (**Matching Funds**)

DLT Grant: Subjective Scoring Criteria

1. Additional NSLP
2. Need for Services and project Benefits
3. Innovativeness
4. Cost Effectiveness

DLT Grant: Rurality

This criterion measures how rural a project service area is. To be eligible for a grant, an application must earn a minimum score in this category based on data from the 2000 Census.

(45 Points)



DLT Grant: NSLP

General economic need of the project service area is measured by statistics from the National School Lunch Program (NSLP).

(35 Points)



DLT Grant: EZ/EC

This criterion awards points to projects with sites located in a USDA Empowerment Zone/Enterprise Community (EZ/EC) or Champion Community.

(15 Points)



DLT Grant: Matching Funds

The DLT grant program requires a minimum match of 15%. Higher matches may receive additional points.

(35 Points)



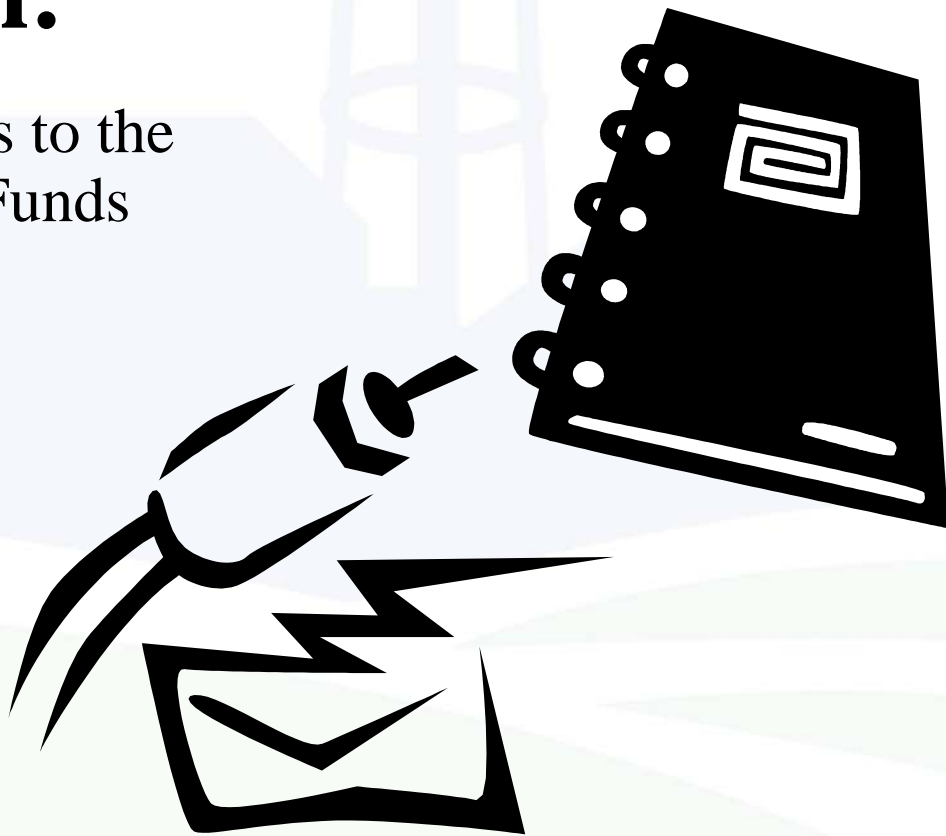
DLT Grant: Application Submission

Paper Application:

Send an original and two copies to the address listed in the Notice of Funds Availability (NOFA).

Electronic Application:

www.grants.gov



Distance Learning Project Examples

- Enabling small rural schools to remain accredited – and viable – by sharing teaching skills and variety of curriculum from larger schools
- Bringing specialized nonrecurring programs to rural areas
 - NASA space missions
 - Virtual field trips
- Offering continuing adult education and GED courses
- Delivering advanced placement college courses to high schools
- Sharing teaching resources between colleges
- Bringing accredited professional continuing education courses to hospitals



Telemedicine Examples

- Providing teleradiology equipment to small hospitals and clinics to bring imaging capability to rural patients
- Equipping visiting nurses associations with remote monitoring capability for home patients
- Establishing remote diagnostic and monitoring capability in ambulances
- Creating mobile or remote access capability to existing Electronic Medical Records Systems

DLT Program

For additional information

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