

FAQs – Round 2

If I applied for infrastructure during Round 1 of the TEACH Infrastructure Grant process, should I include those items on my Round 2 TEACH Infrastructure grant application?

If your district previously applied for the TEACH Infrastructure Grant and did not request your maximum funding amount, you may submit a new application for your district's remaining amount of funding. **Do not include items applied for in Round 1 on the Round 2 grant application.**

When will districts be notified of their grant award from Round 1 of the TEACH Infrastructure grants?

TEACH expects to notify districts of their Round 1 Infrastructure grant award in December 2016. Grant agreements and information on the reimbursement process will also be distributed at that time.

What is TEACH?

The Technology for Educational ACHievement (TEACH) is a program in the Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA), Division of Enterprise Technology (DET) ([s.16.99, Wis. Stats](#)). The DOA works in cooperation with school districts, cooperative educational service agencies, charter schools, libraries, secured juvenile correctional facilities, private colleges, tribal colleges, the technical college system board, and the board of regents of the University of Wisconsin System to promote the efficient, cost-effective procurement, installation, and maintenance of educational technology. TEACH services began in October 1997. The program is funded through the State [Universal Service Fund](#).

What is the purpose of this Information Technology Infrastructure Grant?

Per s. 16.996, Wis. Stats, TEACH Information Technology Infrastructure grants are available to provide technology infrastructure to improve the capacity of school districts to utilize technology for instruction. Up to \$7,500,000 is available for rural school districts that have 13 or fewer students per square mile. Districts that have the greatest percentage of free or reduced-price lunch will be given funding priority.

What is my district's maximum award amount?

- If the membership of the eligible school district is fewer than 750 pupils, \$30,000.
- If the membership of the eligible school district is 750 pupils to 1,500 pupils, \$40 multiplied by the school district's membership.
- If the membership of the eligible school district is more than 1,500 pupils, \$60,000.

See www.teach.wi.gov.

What are 2a and 2b funding?

Funding 2 includes items on List 2 – Infrastructure & Services Eligible for TEACH Information Technology Infrastructure Grant – Round 2. The following entities are eligible to apply:

2a) Rural school districts who have applied for 2015 and/or 2016 USAC Federal E-Rate Category 2 (CAT2) Infrastructure & Services;

2b) Rural school districts who did not apply for 2015 and/or 2016 USAC Federal E-Rate CAT2 Equipment that submit an IT plan.

For 2a and 2b the TEACH Information Technology Infrastructure – Round 2 grant will reimburse 100%, less the E-Rate discount rate. See Table 1 - E-Rate Category 2 (CAT2) Rural Discount Rates.

Example: If an eligible district has an E-Rate discount rate of 60%, then the TEACH Information Technology Infrastructure Grant – Round 2 would fund 40% of their eligible infrastructure costs for both 2a and/or 2b.)

How do I determine what my district’s E-rate discount rate is?

Discount rate information can be found in the following locations: 1) eligible districts list on the teach@wi.gov website and 2) “District Data tab” of the Infrastructure Grant – Round 2 Application (Excel Workbook).

My district would like to purchase more than 8 different types for infrastructure and/or services. The applications only allows for 8 entries. What should I do?

Complete the applications/IT plan and enter information for the first 8 types of infrastructure and/or services. Print and save the “2a or 2b application tab.” Continue entering information for the remaining types of infrastructure and/or services for your district, printing and saving them until you have entered them all.

Which has the highest funding priority, 2a or 2b?

2a and 2b are **equal** in funding priority.

If a district applies for 2a - E-rate Infrastructure – Round 2 funding, can they also apply for 2b funding?

Eligible districts may apply for funds under 2a and/or 2b.

What happens if districts have the same free or reduced-priced lunch percentage in the event there are no more funds available? How will funding priority be assigned?

Funds would be prorated for those districts and remaining districts with lesser free or reduced-priced lunch percentages will be unfunded.

How will TEACH Technology Information Infrastructure grants be distributed?

Grants will be awarded in order of greatest percentage of free or reduced lunch price per s. 16.996, Wis. Statutes.

Are assessments of technology needs a reimbursable item?

Fees associated with preparing to submit or complete the TEACH application such as assessment of technology needs are not reimbursable under the TEACH Information Technology Infrastructure – Round 2 grant. See List 2 - Infrastructure & Services Eligible for TEACH Information Technology Infrastructure Grant – Round 2.

Can grant funds be used to install wireless access outside of district buildings, i.e. on school buses and in student and staff homes?

No, out-of-building student and staff internet access is not reimbursable under this grant. Only items on List 2 – Infrastructure & Services Eligible for TEACH Information Technology Infrastructure – Round 2 are eligible.

What happens if the assessment is that a district is not ready for the infrastructure they have applied for?

If a district is assessed (see Readiness Rubric) as not being ready to utilize a specific piece of infrastructure they have applied for, then that piece of infrastructure will not be funded this fiscal year. Other infrastructure they are assessed as being ready for will be funded. DOA has the responsibility to ensure that the TEACH Information Technology Infrastructure funds are distributed judiciously. Although a district may not be considered ready for a piece of infrastructure at the time of application, DOA encourages districts to leverage E-Rate CAT1 and CAT2 funding to increase their level of readiness.

What if a district already has an IT plan, can they submit it in lieu of the 2b- IT Plan?

Districts applying for 2b funding **must** complete and submit the 2b Application - IT Plan. Referencing an attached IT plan on the 2b Application - IT Plan is not acceptable. Districts may use another IT Plan to assist them in providing answers for the TEACH 2b Application – IT Plan. In any case, the 2b Application – IT Plan must be **completely** filled out.

What are the eligible dates for infrastructure purchases?

Eligible Infrastructure and Services from List 2 - Infrastructure & Services Eligible for TEACH Information Technology Infrastructure Grant – Round 2 must be purchased between July 1, 2015 and 2 years from the district’s TEACH Infrastructure - Round 2 award date. District awards dates are expected to be in February 2017, so all items must be purchased by February 2019. The actual date will be shared with districts during the grant award process.

What is the deadline for making purchases?

Grantees must purchase approved items within 2 years of their TEACH Infrastructure – Round 2 award date. The award date is expected to be in February 2017, so items must be purchased by February 2019. The actual date will be shared with districts during the grant award process.

The statute says up to \$7.5 million. How much funding is DOA prepared to distribute?

DOA is prepared to award and distribute the amount remaining from Round 1 of the TEACH Information Technology Infrastructure Grants or \$3.68 million or up to \$7.5 million to eligible applicants to improve the capacity of school districts to utilize technology for instruction in the state of Wisconsin.

Can I purchase infrastructure not listed on List 2 - Infrastructure & Services Eligible for TEACH Information Technology Infrastructure Grant – Round 2?

No, only items on List 2 can be purchased under the TEACH Information Technology Infrastructure Grant – Round 2.