

FAQs – FY18 TEACH Technology Information Infrastructure Grant

for

School Districts

[FY18 TEACH Infrastructure Grants](#)

Is my district eligible for the FY18 TEACH Infrastructure grant if we applied for the FY17 Round 1 and/or Round 2 Infrastructure grant?

FY18 is a new year of funding for the TEACH Infrastructure grant. Please see the Eligible List for the maximum amount of funding your district is eligible to receive.

When will districts be notified of their FY18 TEACH Infrastructure grant award.

TEACH expects to notify districts of their FY18 TEACH Infrastructure grant award by March 16, 2018. Any updates to this date will be shared at [FY18 TEACH Infrastructure Grants](#).

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 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 the 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 that have 16 or fewer students per square mile to utilize technology for instruction. 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.

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 at [FY18 TEACH Infrastructure Grants](#) and 2) "District Data" tab of the FY18 Grant Application (Excel Workbook).

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

Right click on FY18 Application tab. Select Move or Copy to make a copy of the Application tab. Be sure to check the Make a Copy box. Continue entering information on the newly created tab for the remaining types of infrastructure and/or services your district would like to purchase.

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 not be funded.

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.

Please define assessment.

Assessments are evaluation of infrastructure to determine suitability for the needs of the school district. In general, assessments are one-time events. In cases of significant changes to an infrastructure system, an additional assessment may be warranted. Justification of additional assessments will be required. Additional assessments must be approved by TEACH.

Please define Cybersecurity.

Cybersecurity is the body of technologies, processes and practices designed to protect networks, computers, programs and data from attack, damage or unauthorized access.

Please define Data Security.

Data security refers to protective digital privacy measures that are applied to prevent unauthorized access to computers, databases and websites. Data security also protects data from corruption.

Please define Network Assessment.

Network assessment is the reviewing of an organization's existing IT infrastructure, management, security, processes, and performance. This helps identify opportunities for improvement and gives a complete picture of the IT scenario within the organization as well; it helps decision makers strategize in a better way.

Are service plans for Hot Spots/Portable Devices included?

No, service plans for Hot Spots/Portable Devices are not eligible for reimbursement with the FY18 TEACH Infrastructure grant. Service plans are not on the FY18 List of Eligible Equipment & Services.

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 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 available E-Rate funding to increase their level of readiness.

What is the deadline for making purchases?

Grantees must purchase approved items within 2 years of their FY18 TEACH Infrastructure award date. The award date is expected to be in March 2018, so items must be purchased by March 2020. The actual date in March 2020 will be shared with districts during the grant award process.

What are the eligible dates for infrastructure purchases?

Eligible Infrastructure and Services from FY18 List for the FY18 TEACH Information Technology Infrastructure Grant must be purchased between July 1, 2017 and March 2020. Grant awards to districts are expected to be in March 2018, so all items must be purchased by March 2020. The actual date in March 2020 will be shared with districts during the grant award process.

Can I purchase infrastructure not listed on the FY18 List of Eligible Equipment and Services?

No, only items on FY18 List of Eligible Equipment and Services may be purchased under the FY18 TEACH Information Technology Infrastructure Grant.

When will the TEACH Infrastructure grant end?

The state statutes provide funding for the TEACH Infrastructure Grant in FY19. There are no funding provisions after FY19.

Can I submit the Excel Spreadsheet instead of printing and scanning?

Districts may not submit the Excel Spreadsheet. With the volume of applications expected, TEACH does not have capacity to timely review applications and handle formatting and printing issues. Districts who submit a spreadsheet may be requested to resubmit.