

Proposal Abstract (Narrative):

The "***T-1 Broadband Connection for the Community Computer Center in Orleans***" proposal is uniquely qualified to receive the CBOL grant because we have an existing program to help K20 students achieve educational equality, and develop managerial and technical capabilities through distance learning technology. In our remote, poverty-stricken, culturally-diverse communities broadband access is exactly what's needed to continue and expand our socio-economic development program.

The Orleans Center is in dire straights when it comes to connectivity. The Computer Center is currently receiving internet access through a shared T-1 line by a MOU with the Klamath-Trinity School District through April 2010. However, because of school district security, no technology staff housed on site, and bandwidth needs; access and connectivity can be intermittent. Moreover, Orleans' telecommunications infrastructure is under-developed and power outages are a frequent occurrence. Furthermore, we have no cell phone service available, and dial-up internet access is the only option for most Orleans residents.

A decent bandwidth would provide students with the consistent broadband internet access needed to take online classes, as well as expand opportunities to our community members for much needed services like teleconference college and small business classes with our recently purchased PolyCom equipment. In our community, this would be a dream realized and make a huge difference.

A T-1 line would also help us develop innovative and culturally relevant educational experiences to help motivate both student success and support local economic development.