

Project Fact Sheet

Library Broadband Builds Nebraska Communities

ABOUT THE PROJECT

In an effort to make broadband service available to low-income, aged, and other underserved or economically at-risk populations in the state, the **Nebraska Library Commission** proposes to enhance technological capabilities and support at 147 public library locations statewide that house public computer centers, 143 of whom serve communities whose median income is below the national average. In addition to driving broadband subscription, the project plans to advance access to employment resources, distance learning, health information, and e-government services.

The project plans to feature special promotional programs, such as “Public Computing Center Learning Nights,” to encourage residents to utilize the enhanced computer and broadband services available at the centers.

Nebraska Library Public Computer Centers project also proposes to:

- Upgrade broadband access at 45 public computer centers, deploy more than 600 new workstations and upgrade another 475 at the 147 public library locations, to deliver rich Internet content and provide computer literacy training at libraries across the state of Nebraska.
- Enable access for as many as 13,300 weekly users at libraries, and increase the average speeds available at public centers statewide by almost 1 Mbps.
- Train as many as 42,700 residents with approximately 384,500 hours of teacher-led training over the three years of the project.

ORGANIZATION’S HISTORY

The mission of the Nebraska Library Commission is the statewide promotion, development, and coordination of library and information services. As the state library agency, the Commission advocates for the library and information service needs of all Nebraskans. The Commission has improved and supported Nebraska’s libraries since it was established in 1901 and has extensive expertise in executing technology and public computer center projects similar in size and scope.

PROJECT PARTNERS

- [147 local library buildings](#)
- [Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation](#)
- [Center for Rural Affairs](#)
- [Center for Rural Entrepreneurship](#)
- [Central Community College](#)
- [Nebraska Court Administrator’s Office](#)
- [National Network of Libraries of Medicine: MidContinental Region](#)
- [Nebraska Community Foundation](#)
- [Nebraska Department of Labor](#)
- [University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension](#),
- [University of Nebraska Medical Center, McGoogan Library of Medicine](#)