



GUIDELINES FOR I-NET CAPITAL GRANT FUNDING

PHASE III

WELCOME to the Community Access Capital Grant application for the Mt. Hood Cable Regulatory Commission's special initiative to support I-Net connectivity capital expenses. The Commission is pleased to announce **Phase III** of a special funding initiative to advance I-Net stakeholders' ability to access data communications services available through the I-Net/IRNE interconnection and live origination video transport for community access cable channels. Submitting your grant application is the first step in applying for a grant. You must include all the required information in your grant application to be considered for funding.

Deadline for Application: April 21, 2004, 4:30pm

Eligibility Requirement: Funding is only available to applicants that are **designated access providers, educational institutions, or government agencies** located within **Multnomah County** and for **capital expenses** related to High Capacity site connections to the I-Net. **Non-profit organizations** may partner with a designated access provider in an application (see Video Application).

Requests for Proposals: The Mt. Hood Cable Regulatory Commission manages the Community Access Capital Grant Program which promotes the use and availability of advanced cable system technologies at low cost to the public and non-profit sectors to meet communication needs. This I-Net connectivity initiative supports development of an interactive, multimedia information infrastructure through use of the Institutional Network.

The Funding Initiative Specifically Supports:

- (1) I-Net stakeholders' and Comcast's capital costs to connect High Capacity sites to the I-Net; and
- (2) Stakeholders' edge devices for accessing the services.

Applicants must commit to either:

- (a) Contracting for I-Net/IRNE data service for the grant funded site no later than December 31, 2004.
- or**
- (b) Producing at least two (2) live origination programs from the grant funded site no later than December 31, 2004

Projects Awarded Funding Will Have Expressed a Commitment to One or More of the Following Public Benefits:

- (a) Provide functions less expensively;
- (b) Improve the delivery or increase the effectiveness of services;
- (c) Respond to a specific need of a targeted group;
- (d) Reduce disparities among communities;
- (e) Support and encourage improved community involvement on issues of importance to a community; or
- (f) Allow the agency to offer a new or innovative service.



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Funding Availability: The Commission anticipates granting up to \$150,000 for the purposes described above. The Commission has not limited the amount that applicants can request from grant funds and applicants can apply for I-Net site connections **and/or** edge devices.

Evaluation Criteria: The Commission's grant staff will evaluate project proposals, and make funding decisions, based upon the proposed public benefit, complexity of sites to be served, and prior funding assistance. Applicants must adequately address the following questions:

I-Net/IRNE Data Service Applicants:

1. Why is this site (or group of sites) a priority for the applicant?
2. How does the organization, its constituency, or the public at large benefit from this project?
3. Is more than one organization serviced by the I-Net connection at the site?
4. Who will own the edge device if more than one organization is served? (if applicable)

Live Origination Video Transport Applicants:

1. Who will use the live origination video transport technology at the site and why is it important to the organization?
2. How does the organization, its constituency, or the public at large benefit from this project?
3. Please describe the intended programs that will be cablecast by December 31, 2004.
4. Does the site have on-site video production capabilities or will it use Portland Community Media's or Multnomah Community Television's mobile production unit?

Other Information:

- ◆ All applicants are subject to the Oregon Public Records Law.
- ◆ If an applicant incurs any project costs prior to the MHCRC awarding a grant contract, it does so at the risk of not being reimbursed by grant funds. Applicants are hereby notified that, notwithstanding any oral or written assurance that they may have received, there is no obligation on the part of the Mt. Hood Cable Regulatory Commission to cover pre-award costs.

How to Apply: Grant Applications are available on the I-Net website at www.community-inet.net or by contacting Rebecca Gibbons at 503.823.5385, Email: rgibbons@ci.portland.or.us. Applications for grant funding must be received no later than **April 21, 2004, 4:30 p.m.** **POSTMARK DATE IS NOT SUFFICIENT.**

Applications can be mailed or hand delivered to: **Community Access Capital Grant Program
c/o Office of Cable Communications & Franchise Management
Portland Building, Rm. 1305
1120 SW Fifth Avenue
Portland, OR 97204**

Applications can be E-mailed to rgibbons@ci.portland.or.us, subject line 'Application: I-Net Capital Grant', **if** an electronic signature of the legally authorized official is provided.

For more information about the I-Net/IRNE project or about grant funds related to this project, please contact Julie S. Omelchuck, grant program director, at 503.823.4188, Email: julieo@ci.portland.or.us, -OR- Rebecca Gibbons, grant program specialist, at 503.823.5385, Email: rgibbons@ci.portland.or.us.

Thank you for your time and interest.