Technology Grant Frequently Asked Questions

January 2015

Below are the answers to some frequently asked questions related to RFP 813 released by the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) as a result of Section 9(j) of Public Act 14-98.

1. Is this a "no match" RFP?

   No. The applications must document the costs that will be covered by the applicant. The CSDE will issue grants based on the 20 - 80 percent sliding scale used for school construction pursuant to the Connecticut General Statutes. See Appendix B of RFP 813 for the sliding scale percent.

2. May grant funds be requested to replace "old" infrastructure and "old" devices?

   Yes. Grant funds may be requested for this as long as the need is demonstrated compellingly in the proposal.

3. May funds be used for the purchase of peripherals such as headphones and/or keyboards?

   Yes. Districts may apply to use funds for the purchase of such peripherals.

4. May funds be used to improve intra-school bandwidth/infrastructure?

   Yes. Districts may use awarded funds for these purposes.

5. May districts spend dollars before the grant dollars have been awarded and be reimbursed?

   No. Bond funds are for **prospective work**. Districts need to wait until after the money has been awarded to make purchases.

6. May districts use E-rate or Alliance funds as their local match?

   No. Districts may use neither E-rate nor Alliance funds as matching funds.

7. From which fiscal year must matching funds originate?

   Matching funds may come from either of the next two fiscal years' budgets. It does not matter which fiscal year (FY15 or FY16) is the source for matching funds, as long as the proposal identifies a source for local matching funds.

8. Will proposals be advantaged or disadvantaged because of receipt of previous technology grant awards from the CSDE?

   No. Proposals will be evaluated based on their own merits according to the rubric contained in the RFP.