Request for Information for Digital Equity Resource List

Solicitation No. 2025-MBI-07

Questions and Answers

February 21, 2025

	Question	Answer
1.	Will responses to the questions submitted be posted when the result of the RFI are published?	Yes, respondents who meet the RFI qualifications and provide answers to all eleven (11) mandatory questions will have their answers to those questions published on the MBI website.
2.	Does Attachment A require a wet signature?	No, respondents may submit a Word or PDF copy of Attachment A with an electronic signature.
3.	Are there minimum requirements pertaining to speed, capacity, and bandwidth of services offered?	There are no minimum requirements defined in the RFI. Respondents choosing to provide information for Wi-Fi Access and/or Public Spaces Internet Modernization should provide information regarding speed, capacity, and bandwidth of services offered as part of their answer to Application Question 1: Service Description.
4.	Should respondents apply for multiple focus areas or choose the best one?	Respondents are encouraged to provide information for any and all of the initiative areas, if applicable.
5.	Are local government agencies eligible respondents?	Yes.
6.	Is there preference to local knowledge? Will there be a way to indicate where vendors are located?	There is no preference as this is a Request for Information and does not involve competitive scoring. Respondents are required to list their organization/business address and also describe their Geographic Reach, per Application Question 5.
7.	For providers that also serve regions outside of Massachusetts, will there be some kind of indication of that in the published material?	Answers to Application Question 5: Geographic Reach will be published. Part of Question 5 specifically asks, "Have you worked in other states or regions, and if so, which ones?"

8.	Is this a free program? What technical support will the respondent receive when applying, and how does this work?	This is not a grant program; it is a Request for Information so that MBI may build a resource list for the public.
9.	Can the integration of digital literacy, instruction, and support within other programming like ESOL be considered a digital equity and inclusion service?	As long as the ESOL program meets the definition of Digital Literacy per the Request for Information, it is acceptable. Respondents that offer wrap-around or complementary services to the initiative areas are welcome to provide that information per Application Question 12: Additional Information.
10.	Is there a minimum geographic coverage area for services offered?	No, there is no minimum.
11.	Is there a minimum or maximum number of individuals that must be served?	No, there is no minimum or maximum. In replying to this Request for Information, respondents are encouraged to consider their capacity for serving individuals.
12.	Can the vendor provide services to other organizations (for example, train their staff to do digital literacy), or is the expectation that we are a direct service provider to residents?	Either use case is acceptable.
13.	Is the target audience for the list end users of services or organizations hoping to host externally run classes?	The target audience is organizations who are interested in planning for and implementing any of the initiative areas listed in the Request for Information, which may include digital skills classes.
14.	Are we permitted to distinguish which information will be made publicly available versus what would be considered proprietary and for MBI only?	Respondents should only submit information that they want to be made publicly available.
15.	As a participant in the Digital Equity Partnerships Program, should I include my subrecipients/ subcontractors as part of this response, or should I encourage individual response?	Respondents are encouraged to submit information for the organization they represent.
16.	As a free service provider, should we respond to this Request for Information?	The goal of this Request for Information is to produce a resource list for organizations to use for future partnership and collaboration. It is not intended for individuals or end users.