2019 Grant for Technology Opportunities Program

October 5, 2018

What's Inside

What is GTOPs?

Application Process

Review Process

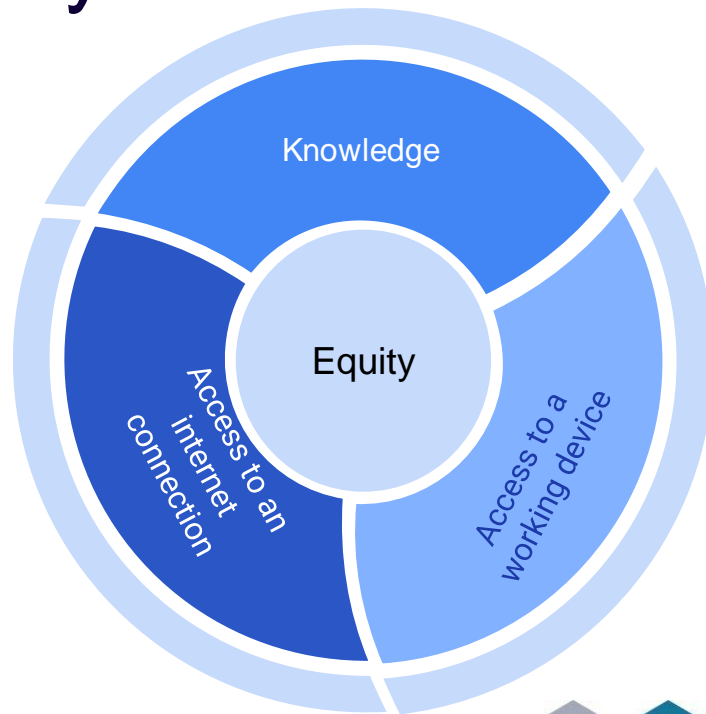Grant Application and Review Schedule

Questions

1

What is GTOPs?

What is Digital Inclusion/Equity?

Digital Inclusion is a condition in which all individuals and communities have the information technology capacity needed for full participation in our society, democracy and economy.

Digital Inclusion is necessary for civic and cultural participation, employment, lifelong learning, and access to essential services.

--National Digital Inclusion Alliance

Knowledge

Equity

Access to an internet connection

Access to a working device

GTOPs Vision and Mission

Digital Inclusion Vision
A community where all citizens have access to the internet, devices and knowledge needed to fully participate in digital society

Digital Inclusion Mission
To provide matching grant funds to Austin organizations for projects that create digital opportunities and promote digital equity in innovative ways.

GTOPS
GRANT FOR TECHNOLOGY OPPORTUNITIES

GTOPs Values and Goals

Values

GTOPs values grassroots organizations who form community partnerships and work towards digital equity through creating innovative projects that surface good or best practices. GTOPs is meant to provide seed funding to start new programs that can become self sustaining.

Goals

Increase use of digital and communications technology devices

Increase knowledge and skills of digital and communications technology

Increase access to and usage of the Internet

Tech

Knowledge

Internet

Get Creative!

Past GTOPs Projects

- A program designed to expose kids to emerging tech, like VR and AR

- Classes for working adults on looking and applying for work

- A program to set up a community technology access lab

Potential GTOPs Projects

- A program to refurbish devices and distribute them for public benefit

- Classes to teach financial literacy using technology tools

- A project to make services on the internet more easily accessible to Austinites

GTOPS
GRANT FOR TECHNOLOGY OPPORTUNITIES

GTOPs 2019 Grant

Funding Available

- TOTAL funds available of $200,000

Funding Award Amounts

- Grants are between $10,000 and $25,000

Device Award

- City's PC Community Loan Program
- 10-30 devices available per request

GTOPS
GRANT FOR TECHNOLOGY OPPORTUNITIES

Device Details

Device Details

- Dell Optiplex desktops (towers, power cable, mouse, and keyboard; monitors are not guaranteed but likely available).
- 4 GB of RAM
- a minimum of 160 GB of hard drive space
- at least an Intel I3 processor
- Windows 10 and Microsoft Office Suite can be pre-installed for $6 per license (GTOPs funding cannot be requested to cover the license cost)

*These City computers will be on loan to non-profit organizations, with the intent to fully grant the awarded devices at a future time.

GTOPS
GRANT FOR TECHNOLOGY OPPORTUNITIES

Eligibility Requirements

- Non-profits serving the Austin Community
  - Another organization may apply through a qualified 501(c)(3) organization who would serve as fiscal agent, be able to obtain standard insurance coverages, and comply with the standard terms and conditions of GTOPs

- Program aligns with GTOPs goals
  - Increase use of digital and communications technology devices
  - Increase knowledge and skills of digital and communications technology
  - Increase access to and usage of the Internet

Eligibility Requirements (Cont.)

- Ability to agree to the standard GTOPs terms and conditions with no exceptions

- Ability to provide or secure matching funds (in-kind, cash, and/or volunteer hours) equal to or greater than the requested funding amount.

- Organizations can submit a maximum of three letters of interest for GTOPs per grant cycle.

- An organization may apply for no more than one program per grant cycle.

GTOPS
GRANT FOR TECHNOLOGY OPPORTUNITIES

Eligibility Requirements (Cont.)

Year	Rolling 5 year period	Rolling 5 year Ex. 2
Year 1	Yes	Yes
Year 2	Yes	No
Year 3	Yes	Yes
Year 4	No	No
Year 5	No	Yes
Year 6	Yes	Yes
Year 7	Yes	No
Year 8	Yes	No
Year 9	No	Yes
Year 10	No	Yes

Current 5 year period:
- 2015
- 2016
- 2017
- 2018
- 2019

If an organization has already received GTOPs funding in 3 of these years, they are not eligible for GTOPs awards in this cycle.

GTOPS
GRANT FOR TECHNOLOGY OPPORTUNITIES

2

Application Process

Step 1: Letter of Interest

- The letter (no more than two pages) should include your:
    - Agency's legal name
    - City of Austin Vendor Code
    - Name and contact information of best contact
    - Executive Director's full name
    - Executive Director's email address
    - Executive Director's primary phone number with area code
    - Brief description of your organization and its activities
    - Description of the program for which you would like to apply for funding

GTOPS
GRANT FOR TECHNOLOGY OPPORTUNITIES

Steps 2 and 3

Mandatory Orientation
- Due after submission of LOI and reception of feedback
- Return certified copy by November 30, 2018.
- Email to
  - digital.inclusion@austintexas.gov

Application Window
- Grant submission system opens November 5
- Application creation and certification due by November 30

GTOPS
GRANT FOR TECHNOLOGY OPPORTUNITIES

Application Uploads

Fillable Forms
- Program Workplan
- Proposed Program Performance Measures
- Program Budget and Narrative
- Summary of Revenue Sources

Generated Documents
- Organizational Balance Sheet (Example available on GTOPs website)
- Organizational Income Statement (Example available on GTOPs website)

GTOPS

GRANT FOR TECHNOLOGY OPPORTUNITIES

Application Uploads (Cont.)

Generated Documents (Cont.)

- Program description
  - What is the problem being solved for
  - What is the proposed solution/program
  - How do you intend to fully support the client segment being served?
  - Demonstrate how this is an innovative solution
  - Demonstrate how this program can self-assess results to benchmark program metrics

Optional Uploads

- Description of data being collected, data sources, and data generation processes
- Proof of matching funds

GTOPS
GRANT FOR TECHNOLOGY OPPORTUNITIES

3

Review Process

Level of Review by Stage

Letters of Interest
- Staff review and feedback on alignment with GTOPs goals

Mandatory Orientation
- Staff review of orientation for submission and certification

Application
- Staff review of applications for completeness
- Independent grant review panel for scoring
  - Open application to serve on panel
  - Final appointment and selection by City Commission

Scoring Criteria

I – GTOPs Goals - 15 total
- This program plan has demonstrated alignment with the GTOPs Goals. (15 pts)

II - Community Impact - 30 total
- The program plan and its objectives are well defined and serve a community need. (10 pts)
- This program plan demonstrates that if implemented it will have an ongoing/lasting positive impact on the community. (10 pts)
- This program plan has demonstrated that it has collaboration partners w/ in the community we are seeking to serve. (10 pts)

GTOPS
GRANT FOR TECHNOLOGY OPPORTUNITIES

Scoring Criteria (Cont.)

III - Evaluation of Success - 30 total
- This program has a clear plan for success. Its goals and objectives are achievable and its work plan is feasible. (10 pts)
- This program plan demonstrates its ability to evaluate its own success and reviewers agree that its proposed measures for evaluation are viable and appropriate. (10 pts)
- The organization has provided documentation of demonstrated success as an organization. (10 pts)

IV - Budget and Fiscal Responsibility - 25 total
- The organization that is executing on the program plan is a fiscally responsible organization that will use City funds and matching criteria of the grant appropriately if awarded this grant. (15 pts)
- This program plan has provided all required documentation, including its budget, which clearly shows its annual revenue and matching dollars (in-kind and/or cash). (10 pts)

GTOPS
GRANT FOR TECHNOLOGY OPPORTUNITIES

Evaluation Criteria

GTOPs Goal Areas
- The highest scoring organization from each GTOPs goal area moves on to the next stage:
  - Increase use of digital and communications technology devices
  - Increase knowledge and skills of digital and communications technology
  - Increase access to and usage of the Internet

Evaluation Criteria

Organizational Income Equity - NEW

- Data and feedback from past GTOPs cycles indicates a bias towards organizations having revenues over $1 million annually
- Going forward, applications will be evaluated by organizational income, within the following annual revenue brackets:
    - $0-$499,000
    - $500,000-$999,999
    - $1,000,000-$1,999,999
    - $2,000,000 +
- The two highest scoring organizations from each of the first and second brackets will move on to the next round

Application Scoring Process

Round 1

- Applications are scored by the Independent Grant Review Panel
- The top scoring organizations for each GTOPs priority move on to the round 2 scoring
- The top two scoring organizations with reported annual revenues as of the most recent fiscal year end of $0-$499,999 move on to round 2 scoring
- The top two scoring organizations with reported annual revenues as of the most recent fiscal year end between $500,000-$999,999 move on to round 2 scoring
- Of the remaining organizations, the highest scoring organizations move on to round 2 dependent on available slots.

GTOPS
GRANT FOR TECHNOLOGY OPPORTUNITIES

Application Scoring Process

Round 2

- Oral Presentations are scored by the Independent Grant Review Panel
- The top scoring organizations for each GTOPs priority receive funding
- The top two scoring organizations with reported annual revenues as of the most recent fiscal year end of $0-$499,999 receive funding
- The top two scoring organizations with reported annual revenues as of the most recent fiscal year end between $500,000-$999,999 receive funding
- The remaining funds will be distributed to the remaining organizations based on score and available funds

GTOPS

GRANT FOR TECHNOLOGY OPPORTUNITIES

4

Application and Review Schedule

GTOPs Application Schedule

October 1 - 26, 2018: Letter of Interest submission window

October 29 – November 2, 2018: Staff review of Letters of Interest and communication with interested parties

November 5 – November 30, 2018: Grant application window. Full and completed applications and certification of completion of the Mandatory Online Orientation for GTOPs 2018 must be completed by **November 30**

December 3 – 7, 2018: Staff review of applications for completeness

January 22, 2019: First round scores announced

February 8, 2019: Oral Presentations (Tentative date)

March 2019: Grantees announced

Digital Inclusion
City of Austin

Contacts

- John Speirs, Program Manager
  - John.speirs@austintexas.gov
  - 512.974.3510

- Jesse Rodriguez, Business Process Specialist
  - Jesse.Rodriguez@austintexas.gov
  - 512.974.7676

- Laura Haufler, Accountant
  - laura.haufler@austintexas.gov
  - 512.974.7741

- Allan McCracken (CTK System Administrator)
  - allan.mccracken@austintexas.gov
  - 512.972.5075

Learn More/Connect

Digital Inclusion Homepage - austintexas.gov/digitalinclusion

Grant Homepage - Gtops.org

@COADigInclusion - Twitter

Email the program - digital.inclusion@austintexas.gov

GTOPS
GRANT FOR TECHNOLOGY OPPORTUNITIES

End

Please fill out our survey:

https://airtable.com/shrUWFDRcu
dxGuVBz

We appreciate your Feedback!

Thank you!