



## Washington State Libraries ARRA Broadband Technologies Opportunity Program

Northwest Open Access Network (NoaNet), a not-for-profit mutual corporation founded by Public Utility Districts of Washington, is applying for a grant from the NTIA Broadband Technologies Adoption Program (BTOP). One of the important “byproducts” of NoaNet’s mission of bridging the digital divide experienced by rural, unserved and underserved communities in the Northwest is enhanced community economic development opportunities. We would like to work with the Public Libraries in Washington to advance the broadband capabilities at branch locations to facilitate Public Computing Centers. NoaNet and its PUD Members are firm believers that the libraries are an invaluable community resource that can provide broadband access to vulnerable individuals. NoaNet has the expertise in providing advanced telecommunications infrastructure and would like to leverage that expertise along with the libraries’ ability to be a public computing center to encourage broadband adoption in rural communities.

To build the best possible proposal for funding this project through the grant process, there is information that we will need from the individual branch locations.

- What goals do you have for your library that can be facilitated with BTOP grant funding?
- What funds do you need to provide a public computing center for your community?
  - Equipment and software? Desktop or Laptop computers?
  - Do you need to expand your facility to provide a public computer center?
  - Do you have the necessary staff for supporting a public computing center?
- What additional services would you like to provide at your branch location?
  - Will you be offering training and education programs?
  - Do you currently offer distance learning resources?
  - Will you be offering content and associated support and training?
- What are the demographics of your community?
  - Estimated Service Area Population
  - Annual Circulation
  - Estimated Average Daily Gate Count
  - Estimated Average Daily Gate Count if Public Computing Center were established or updated
- Additional information
  - Branch contact information
  - Current number of hours of operation per week. Will this need to be increased to provide a public computing center?
  - Number of Broadband workstations, or laptops, current and proposed.
  - Current broadband connection to library. Do you provide wireless access?

Please send responses, with your name, contact information and Branch information to NoaNet at [btop\\_grants@noanet.net](mailto:btop_grants@noanet.net). If you have any questions please feel free to contact me, Angela Bennink at [abennink@noanet.net](mailto:abennink@noanet.net) or 360.930.8438.