



**2020 REMOTE TECHNOLOGY
GRANT OPPORTUNITY
One-Time Funding**

Open through April 30, 2020 or until funds are exhausted

Section 1. Overview

The Supreme Court of Ohio (Court) is announcing a special one-time funding opportunity focused on the purchase of equipment necessary to quickly facilitate remote access for local Ohio courts. This funding opportunity is due to the emergency need caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Priority will be given to video conferencing equipment requests.

Section 2. Scope of Grant

The grant will fund new equipment and installation to implement video conferencing and other forms of remote access for courts throughout Ohio. This funding shall be used to address equipment gaps where the lack of adequate technology is a barrier to the efficient, effective, or safe administration of justice. The lack of technology to implement video arraignments is an example of a barrier. A number of service providers are offering video conferencing services for little or no charge on a temporary basis during this pandemic, but courts do not have the resources to purchase equipment and quickly adjust to this emergency.

Section 3. Period of Grant.

The project period is estimated to be six months, beginning on or about April 30, 2020 and ending on or about November 30, 2020.

Section 4. Eligibility.

Any court of appeals, common pleas court (or any division therein), municipal court, or county court in Ohio is eligible to apply. Courts are eligible to submit one application for funding consideration. Mayor's courts are not eligible applicants.

Section 5. Priority Considerations and Evaluation Criteria.

Funding priority shall be given to eligible projects on a first-come, first-served basis. Funding is limited and applicants shall be awarded based on the order in which their applications are received and that meet eligibility requirements.

(A) Project considerations:

The grant is for new equipment meeting basic necessary remote access needs, with a priority objective of reducing in-person arraignments and other proceedings, and for facilitating remote access for local courts as quickly as possible. This may include purchase of video

conferencing equipment where no equipment is available or where equipment is inoperable or inadequate.

Ineligible

- This grant will not support the purchase of cell phones, tablets, or wireless services.
- This grant will not support reimbursement for prior purchases.

Required Attachments

A quotation from a proposed vendor(s) for costs associated with the project must be attached to the application at the time of submission. The required format for this quote is a PDF.

(B) Evaluation criteria

The following are the evaluation factors for project consideration.

To what extent does the project:

- (1) Enable video conferencing or remote access as quickly as possible?
- (2) Demonstrate a reasonable utilization of funding for the project proposed?

Each project submission will be reviewed to ensure it meets the minimum requirements as detailed and is accompanied by a complete application and quote documentation. Applications which meet the requirements will be moved to final Court approval and immediate funding. Funds will be awarded to eligible projects until available funds are exhausted or through applications received by April 30, 2020.

Section 6. Terms and Conditions.

(A) Rights of the Court

The Court shall reserve the right to refuse to fund applicants, propose different funding amounts from the application in appropriate circumstances, and decline to fund any applicants at the Court's discretion.

Furthermore, the Court shall reserve the right to terminate a grant agreement and recoup any funds that are not being spent as intended to efficiently complete the applicant's proposal. The Court may conduct site visits to observe and evaluate grant programs.

The Court shall reserve the right to audit any recipient to ensure compliance with the terms set forth in the application or grant agreement.

(B) Requirements of receiving applicants

Successful applicants shall be required to do the following, as applicable:

- (1) Utilize program funds to implement the project as proposed;
- (2) Meet all stated objectives of the grant award;
- (3) Execute a Grant Award Agreement with the Court. A sample Grant Award Agreement is available at Appendix A;
- (4) Provide confirmation to the Court of equipment purchase, or purchase order being issued with grant funds, within 30 days after receipt of grant funds;
- (5) Provide confirmation of project completion, installation, operation, and active use within six months after the grant agreement is executed;
- (6) Provide to the Court, upon request, any activity and financial reports related to the Grant;
- (7) Utilize funds for one-time equipment costs only. Ongoing costs or resulting maintenance costs are the responsibility of the receiving court;
- (8) Utilize funds for authorized purposes only (e.g. funds may not be used to purchase tablets, cellular phones, or other mobile devices);
- (9) Notify the Court in writing immediately of a decision to decline the grant award.

(C) Promotional materials and news releases

Successful applicants may be included in future outreach and promotional materials, as determined by the Court. Additionally, news releases and articles released throughout the program period by the Court may include informal updates about the program, as applicable.

Section 7. Submission of Grant Applications.

The application and instructions are available at the **Court's website at: <http://sc.ohio.gov/grants>**. All Remote Technology Grant Applications must be received at Grants@sc.ohio.gov **no later than April 30, 2020**. Each applicant court will receive a confirmation of submission by email within one business day of submission. No paper or fax submissions will be considered.

A quotation from the vendor(s) for costs associated with the project proposal must be attached to the application at the time of submission. The required format for this quote is a PDF.

Courts are eligible to submit one application for funding consideration. **Courts are not eligible to receive more than one award during this one-time grant opportunity.**

Applications must be submitted in Excel. Applications shall be accepted **until 5:00 p.m. on April 30, 2020**. Funding notifications will take place on an ongoing basis as applications are processed and approved or not approved for funding.

Section 8. Reporting Requirements.

(A) General

Upon request, receiving courts will provide confirmation of equipment purchase, or purchase order being issued with grant funds, within 30 days after receipt of grant funds.

Following procurement, installation, and implementation of the equipment, the receiving court must provide written notification and documentation of paid expenses to the Court. All

projects must be operational and in active use within six months after the Grant Agreement is executed.

(B) Failure to comply

Failure to comply with reporting requirements or other aspects of the grant agreement, could result in the termination of the award and reimbursement of grant funds to the Court.

Section 9. Contact Information.

For questions or technical support, please contact Linda Flickinger, Grant Administrator by email at Grants@sc.ohio.gov or call 614-387-9522.

Section 10. Applicable Policies.

Applicant courts seeking grants from the Supreme Court of Ohio are subject to the Court's policies on Equal Employment Opportunity, Discrimination and Sexual Harassment, and Drug-Free Workplace. The Court's policies are available at Appendix B.