DISTANCE LEARNING AND
TELEMEDICINE GRANT PROGRAM

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USDA, RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE, TELECOMMUNICATIONS PROGRAM,
MANAGEMENT & PROGRAM ANALYST
GRANT PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- Maximum Grant Award: $500,000 / Minimum Grant Award: $50,000
- Matching Requirement: 15% of requested grant amount
- Scoring Criteria:
  - Rurality
  - Economic Need
  - Service Need and Benefit
  - Special Consideration
ELIGIBLE USES OF GRANT FUNDS

- Computer hardware and software
- Audio and video equipment
- Computer network components
- Telecommunications/data terminal equipment
- Inside wiring
- Broadband facilities, if owned by the applicant (limited to 20% of the requested grant amount)
INELEGIBLE USES OF GRANT FUNDS

- Medical or educational equipment not having telemedicine or distance learning as its essential function
- Electronic Medical Records
- Operating expenses, including broadband connection fees
- Salaries or administrative expenses
- Application preparation costs
- Purchase of land, buildings, building construction, site development, or destruction or alteration of buildings
Approval Rate of Applications Increases as Funding Availability Increases

With more funds available over the last three fiscal years, the program has been able to approve more projects per application window.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Proportion of Approved Applications</th>
<th>Available Funding</th>
<th>Applications Approved</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>$28M</td>
<td>(86 Applications)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>$41M</td>
<td>(133 Applications)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>$63M</td>
<td>(145 Applications)</td>
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EXAMPLES OF DLT PROJECTS

**FY 2017: $494,718 Award to United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc. (USET)**

Funds are being used to establish a network that will connect Tribal Nations across Indian Country. Tribal Nation health clinics, staff, and patients will have access to the USET hub site in Tennessee, which will provide support on a wide range of medical conditions affecting Native American populations, including diabetes, hypertension, and psychiatry and behavioral health.

**FY 2016: $263,384 to Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma**

Funds are being used to help preserve the Choctaw language and culture through distance learning. With high definition dual video cameras and monitors, teachers can broadcast high quality video content to thousands of students throughout southeastern Oklahoma.
HOW TO SUBSCRIBE TO THE DLT MAILING LIST

✦ Go to the DLT Website: https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/distance-learning-telemedicine-grants.

✦ Click on the Email icon next to Contact Us.
HOW TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PROGRAM

† Check out the DLT Website for program status and resources: https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/distance-learning-telemedicine-grants.

† FY 2020 funding announcement will be published on Grants.gov.

† Contact your General Field Representative.

† Visit our Resource Table at tomorrow’s Connectivity Marketplace!
CONTACT INFORMATION

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