

## **Rural Utility Service, Distance Learning & Telemedicine Grant**

Grant Overview: The Rural Utility Service, Distance Learning & Telemedicine Grant supports projects in highly rural and economically disadvantaged locations to develop and expand distance learning and telemedicine capacity through the acquisition of equipment, instructional programming, and technical assistance for using eligible equipment. The primary benefit for funded projects should be for end-users not at the same location as the source of the education service.

Grant funds may be used for:

- Acquisition of eligible capital assets:
- Interactive video equipment
- Audio and video equipment
- Terminal equipment
- Data terminal equipment
- Inside wiring
- Computer hardware and software
- Computer network components
- Other facilities that further DLT services
- Acquisition of instructional programming that is a capital asset
- Acquisition of technical assistance and instruction for using eligible equipment

Amount of Award: \$50,000 - \$500,000.

Due Date/Notification of Award: due on April 25, 2011. Notification by July 2011.

Alternatives if not Awarded: any proposed project will not take place without RUS DLT funding.

WCSD Resources Required: A minimum of a 15% match is required. Matching funds must be for eligible costs, and may not reflect discounts from potential vendors involved in the proposal.

Administrative Recommendation: That the Board of School Directors instructs the administration to determine if there is an eligible distance learning project for the RUS DLT funding, and, if so, attempt to develop and submit a proposal for consideration.