

## **2019-20 TANF Grant for WCCC Co-Op Students**

Grant Overview: The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has established the Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) Program with a \$7.17 billion appropriation from Congress. ECF awards will provide funding to schools and libraries for:

The grant will support eligible purchases and services between that grant period of July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022.

The administration is currently preparing an application that would request funding for all three categories of support.

Amount of Award: Determined by the number of devices purchased, monthly charges for data, monthly charges for data associated with mobile broadband hotspots, and the cost of any proposed network buildout to service an area(s) with no commercially available broadband.

Due Date/Notification of Award: August 13, 2021. Notification in September 2021.

Alternatives if not Awarded: Continue to explore methods of increasing affordable broadband availability as opportunities arise.

WCSD Resources Required: None.

Administrative Recommendation: That the Board of School Directors instructs the administration to submit an application to the Emergency Connectivity Fund to support 1) The purchase of laptop and tablet computers, WiFi hotspots, routers, modems, and broadband connections for use by students and school staff at locations other than school during the COVID-19 pandemic; 2) The cost of commercially available broadband access for use off campus by students or school staff; and 3) Construction of new networks to provide broadband in those areas that lack commercially available broadband.