

CENTRAL OHIO BROADBAND ACCESS PILOT PROGRAM

As schools begin the 2020-2021 year with remote learning or hybrid models, the Central Ohio Broadband Access Pilot Program is providing eligible, K-12 students and their families with computers and high-speed internet access for as little as \$20.

The lack of a reliable and affordable internet connection and device to access the internet makes remote learning impossible and causes more students to fall behind. Partners throughout Central Ohio are working together to close the digital divide for up to 10,000 families, by connecting them to the technology devices and broadband access they need to be successful.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- **WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?** Any eligible family with a K-12 student in Central Ohio, except for Columbus City Schools students*. Click [here](#) for eligibility criteria.
- **WHAT'S AVAILABLE?** Low-cost computer packages and mobile hotspot devices with a prepaid 12-month unlimited data plan for as little as \$20 (limited financial aid is available).
- **HOW DO FAMILIES REGISTER?** Families can [register online](#) in just a few easy steps.
- **HOW DO FAMILIES GET THE EQUIPMENT?** There will be multiple convenient pick-up locations to choose from around Central Ohio, including local library branches and schools.

HOW CAN YOUR ORGANIZATION HELP

- **HELP SPREAD THE WORD:** Visit morpc.org/broadband for program details and an Outreach Toolkit with flyers and social media content. Share program information with eligible families and key community partners.
- **HELP REGISTER FAMILIES:** Assist families in getting signed up for the program at pcsforpeople.org/ohio or by calling 216.777.4441.
- **HELP DISTRIBUTE EQUIPMENT:** If your organization already serves as a location where families come to access services, consider serving as a distribution site for the program.
- **HELP DONATE COMPUTERS:** Donate retired computers and equipment to PCs for People for refurbishing and reuse.

For more information on partnership opportunities, please contact Aaron Schill, MORPC Director of Data & Mapping, at aschill@morpc.org or 614.233.4154.

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educational service center
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*Columbus City Schools is providing technology resources to CCS students through a separate program. Click [here](#) for more information.