

MBI

MASSACHUSETTS
BROADBAND INSTITUTE



at the MassTech
Collaborative

Digital Equity Resource List Request for Information

Bidders' Conference

February 12, 2025, at 1pm

Webinar Conference Guidelines

- This webinar is being recorded.
- This presentation provides participants with an overview of Massachusetts Technology Collaborative (“MassTech”), Massachusetts Broadband Initiative (“MBI”), and the Digital Equity Resource List.
- All microphones are muted on entry; please stay muted throughout the presentation.
- Please set your screen name as your full name and affiliated organization.
- There will be time allocated after the presentation for Q&A with attendees.
- Written Questions must be submitted electronically to proposals@masstech.org on or before **February 14, 2025 @ 5:00 PM** with the following subject line: “Questions – RFI No. 2025-MBI-07 .”
- Answers will be posted on MassTech’s website and COMMBUYS.
- If you have questions during this Bidders' Conference, please type them in the Q&A Chat.
- MBI will be the only ones who see your posted questions and MBI will read as many questions as time permits.
- MBI reserves the right to mute or dismiss participants that behave in an inappropriate manner.

Agenda

1. Program Overview
2. Focus Areas
3. Submission Instructions
4. Questions



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Introduction



MASSACHUSETTS TECHNOLOGY COLLABORATIVE

OUR MISSION:

We strengthen the competitiveness of the tech and innovation economy by driving strategic investments, partnerships, and insights that harness the talent of Massachusetts.



Established in 1982 by Legislative Statute

Timeline

Activity	Date
RFI Launches	January 31, 2025
Bidders Conference	February 12, 2025
Questions Due	February 14, 2025
Responses Posted	February 21, 2025
RFI Closes	March 14, 2025
RFI Results Posted	March 28, 2025
*All RFI schedule descriptions and dates are tentative and subject to change.	



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Program Overview

Goals of Resource List



Identify service providers and vendors who provide services aimed at promoting digital equity and inclusion

Increase visibility of the ecosystem, including service providers and vendors who may support and advance MBI's mission to close the digital divide



How will Responses be Used?

Inform future program outreach and engagement, including potential alignment with:

Current MBI programs

- Digital Equity Partnerships Program
- Municipal Digital Equity Implementation Program

Future MBI programs

- BEAD Non-Deployment
- DEA Capacity Grant
 - Launchpad



Program Disclaimer

This RFI is not a mechanism to pre-qualify vendors or suppliers for future funding from MassTech/ MBI.

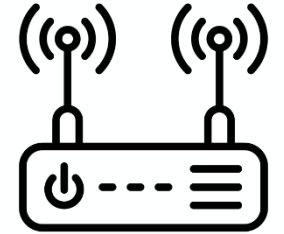
The results published from this RFI do not serve as an endorsement on behalf of MassTech/ MBI.

Focus Areas for Implementation



Public Space Internet
Modernization

MBI is interested in vendors who
offer services in the following
areas



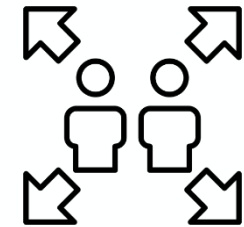
Device Distribution
and Refurbishment



Wi-Fi Access



Digital Literacy



Education, Outreach, and
Adoption

Focus Areas for Implementation

Digital Literacy: Provision of training programs to improve digital literacy and skills to use devices, online resources, and other digital tools. Literacy program curricula and models may vary based on learner needs and familiarity with devices and the internet, such as in-person group instruction, a-synchronous online instruction, or one-on-one training.

Device Refurbishment and/or Distribution: Provision of new or used internet-connected devices, such as laptops, tablets, and smart phones, to distribute to organizations and/or residents.

Wi-Fi Access: Assessment, design, and establishment of an appropriate technology solution to provide in-unit access to the internet for residents living in affordable housing and/or low-income neighborhoods.

Education, Outreach, and Adoption: Enrollment of eligible residents in discounted or free options for broadband service, devices, and digital skills training. Outreach may include workshops, call center phone banking, door-to-door outreach, online/printed communications, and public service announcements. This area also includes Digital Navigators, who are defined as trusted guides who assist community members with ongoing, individualized support for accessing affordable and appropriate connectivity, devices, and digital skills (Reference: National Digital Inclusion Alliance).

Public Spaces Internet Modernization: Improvements to inadequate broadband infrastructure and facilities and equipment to support digital use in public spaces, such as libraries, community centers, senior centers, educational facilities, workforce training locations, and commercial corridors.

NTIA Covered Populations & BEAD Disadvantaged Populations

Aging Individuals (60 and older)	Immigrants/ Refugees
Incarcerated Individuals	Individuals with a Language Barrier (English Learners or Low-Literacy)
Individuals with Disabilities	LGBTQ+ Individuals
Low Income Households (<150% of Federal Poverty Level)	Members of Racial/Ethnic Groups
Members of Religious Minority Groups	Residents of Rural Areas
Veterans	Women
Youth	*This list could be subject to change

Qualifications

- Experience working with at least one of the Digital Equity Act defined Covered Populations
- Offer a digital equity and inclusion service aligned with one or more of the focus areas
- Have been providing digital equity and inclusion services for at least 6-months within the United States
- Attest that they have capacity to serve communities in Massachusetts at the time of RFI response submission

Information Requested

1. Service Description: What specific digital equity and inclusion services do you offer?

2. Pricing Structure: What is your pricing model for these services?

3. Target Audience: Who are the primary end beneficiaries of your services?

4. Experience and History: How long have you been providing the digital equity services described in Question 1?

5. Geographic Reach: In which areas of Massachusetts do you currently provide your services? Have you worked in other states or regions?

6. Success Metrics: How do you measure the success of your services, both qualitatively and quantitatively?

7. Client Engagement: How do you involve your clients in the planning and implementation of your services?

8. Partnerships: Do you collaborate with other organizations or stakeholders as part of your service delivery model?

9. Training and Support: Training or support you provide to ensure organizations can effectively implement and sustain your services?

10. Case Studies: Provide up to 3 case studies representing related work with past clients that highlight your effectiveness and the quality of your services

11. Contact: If an organization is interested in learning more or potentially working with you, what email address and phone number should they contact?

12. Additional Information: Respondents may include additional relevant information



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Submission Instructions

How to Submit a Response



Responses are due by 5:00 PM EST on March 14, 2025.



Responses should be submitted electronically using MBI's online form [linked here](#)



Respondents must upload a signed copy of Attachment A



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Questions