



## Library Grants – Rhode Island

**Potential uses for identified grants include technology offered by Premier Wireless.** Contact [sales@pwbts.net](mailto:sales@pwbts.net) for guidance on technologies for your library to bridge the digital divide, empower lifelong learning, and promote economic success for your patrons. Our wide range of products and solutions promote strong communities by providing people with the connectivity, communication tools, and resources they need to be productive and succeed.

Please refer to the funding organization to verify all summarized information listed below.

Grant name	Funder	Eligibility	Amount	Deadline	Link
<b>State of Rhode Island Digital Equity Plan----- Digital Equity Act (Capacity Building Grant)</b>	Rhode Island Commerce Corporation - Rhode Island (via NTIA)	Community Anchor Institutions; organizations that represent “Covered Populations”, including individuals from these eight population groups: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Low-income households</li> <li>2. Aging populations</li> <li>3. Incarcerated individuals</li> <li>4. Veterans</li> <li>5. People with disabilities</li> <li>6. People with language barriers</li> <li>7. Racial and ethnic minorities</li> <li>8. Rural inhabitants</li> </ol>	\$4.5M	not yet open, Spring/Summer 2024	<a href="#">Click here to view your state’s draft plan.</a>

**Details:** State funds are to be used to promote digital equity and inclusion and to ensure that all people and communities have the skills, technology, and capacity needed to reap the full benefits of a digital economy. Focus areas include: 1) Access to and affordability of high-speed internet. 2) Accessibility and inclusivity of online public resources. 3) Digital literacy. 4) Cybersecurity and privacy. 5) Availability and affordability of devices and technical support.

**Note:** Libraries are considered Community Anchor Institutions (including a State or Territory library agency) and play a key role in implementing digital equity and building capacity across your state. Libraries may be eligible to receive subgrants from the State to carry out the state’s digital equity plan. And/Or, libraries may partner with Community Based Organizations to host outreach opportunities with community members, serve as a meeting place for digital navigation opportunities to educate community members on digital literacy and safe online practices, etc.



Grant name	Funder	Eligibility	Amount	Deadline	Link
<b>Digital Equity Act (Competitive Grant)</b>	NTIA	entities that represent “Covered Populations”, as above.	unspecified \$1.25B (total), determined by need	Fall 2024	<a href="#">NTIA Competitive Grant Info</a>
<b>Details:</b> To fund annual grant programs for five years to implement digital equity projects that create an equitable economy for access to reliable and affordable high-speed internet for all. The total funds are \$1.25B. The funding will be determined by small area estimation (e.g., determined on a county- or district level-basis as determined by the US Census Bureau for the population in need: <a href="#">Digital Equity Act Population Viewer</a> ).					

Please contact me if you require assistance with your applications for funding. For expert guidance about technologies suited for your library and your patrons, please contact [sales@pwbts.net](mailto:sales@pwbts.net).

Warm regards,

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