

Southern Tier Library System

EDU2011 Application Docket No. 10-222

Our pilot program will enable us to include handheld mobile Internet devices such as Tablets, Netbooks and Smartphones as training platforms for our mobile JobLink “Free help applying for jobs!” project which provides online job searching, resume writing, job application skills, and digital literacy to unemployed and under employed individuals in our 3,500 square mile rural service area. The JobLink “Free help applying for jobs!” project utilizes cellular broadband access on mobile computers and the pilot program would expand that training by providing for Internet access we currently cannot afford on handheld mobile devices. This expanded training will help job searching individuals and the general public find and take advantage of the growing number of online government and local library resources that are designed for mobile handheld devices with Internet access.

1. a. The current mobile wireless program uses Verizon Wireless Internet access devices to provide Internet access so trainees can learn how to use online job resources to find, apply for and train for a job anywhere.

b. The existing mobile wireless program started in November and uses HP notebook labs to connect to the Internet with Verizon Wireless Internet access devices.

c. Wireless Internet access vendors were chosen based on the best cell coverage in libraries and partner agencies that do not have existing WiFi Internet access and allowing us to provide training in the largest number of locations in our rural area.

d. Training is being provided to all members of the public in any topic of digital literacy requested with the initial focus being employment related.

e. Cooperation with Workforce New York and other community service agencies is being utilized to help meet the demand for online training.
2. The poverty level average for the locations within our service area based on the percentage of students eligible for a free or reduced lunch under NSLP is 70%.
3. Southern Tier Library System is funded through the State Education Department of New York and has seen flat or reduced funding annually since 1998 requiring us to find financial assistance to provide these requested services.
4. The pilot program would add up to 11 mobile handheld devices with E-rate eligible costs of up to \$750 per month or \$9,000 per year. Non-eligible costs for devices of \$4400 and additional training costs of \$1,500 for trainers.

5. The program will be implemented with from the Library System's Information Technology budget.
6. EDU2001 support will expand the capabilities of the mobile JobLink "Free help applying for jobs!" project and allow us to reach a wider audience of training class participants.
7. The Southern Tier Library System's 3,500 square mile service area is located in rural upstate NY. An analysis of wireless Internet vendors show Verizon Wireless with the most complete coverage in this area for mobile Internet access at a 3G or 4G network speeds for Smartphone type devices and AT&T the only direct cell based wireless Internet access for Apple iPad devices. Other forms of mobile Internet access other than cell based services are not available in this area.
8. Our 2010-2013 New York State approved technology plan outlines the access, content and delivery of electronic information within the Library System's service area by providing multiple opportunities and methods including one-on-one, train-the-trainer, workshops, seminars and training in various sized groups using mobile notebooks computers and new technology devices. This program will provide for that training including mobile handheld devices for the duration of the JobLink "Free help applying for jobs!" project over the next two years.
9. Technology protection measures using our system wide SmartFilter license will be utilized for this program to ensure the Internet access complies with the CIPA requirement for E-rate. The mobile handheld devices will have these settings locked on the device.
10. The use of Internet access on the mobile handheld devices will be observed by the trainers providing instruction with the devices and governed by an acceptable use policy as recommended for our libraries.

Required Information (Libraries only)

1. The Southern Tier Library System is located at 9424 Scott Road, Painted Post, NY.
2. Southern Tier Library System entity number 125132 with the following individual library service areas served:

Library Name	City
Addison Public Library	Addison
Alfred Box Of Books Library	Alfred
Almond Twentieth Century Club Library	Almond
Andover Free Library	Andover
Avoca Free Library	Avoca
Belfast Public Library	Belfast
Bolivar Free Library	Bolivar
Chemung County Library District	Van Etten
Cohocton Public Library	Cohocton
Colonial Library	Richburg
Cuba Circulating Library Association	Cuba
David A Howe Public Library	Wellsville
Dormann Library	Bath
Dundee Library	Dundee
Essential Club Free Library	Canaseraga
Hornell Public Library	Hornell
Howard Public Library	Hornell
Montour Falls Memorial Library	Montour Falls
Rushford Free Library	Rushford
Savona Free Library	Savona
Wayland Free Library	Wayland
Whitesville Public Library	Whitesville
Wide Awake Club Library	Fillmore
Wimodaughasian Free Library	Canisteo

3. The Southern Tier Library System is a regional consortium of public libraries working in partnership with its members to support and strengthen them through clearly defined, cost-effective services that make possible the coordination and sharing of resources, enabling all individuals in the five-county region to have equal access to excellent library services. The region in upstate NY includes the counties of Allegany, Chemung, Steuben, Schuyler and Yates with 39 libraries, 4 branches and 5 reading centers.
4. The program will be part of our JobLink "Free help applying for jobs!" project with its main function to partner with state and local agencies and to provide our unemployed and under employed public with access to job searching, applying for jobs, resume writing, job skills, digital literacy training and accessing online government and public library resources.