Idaho Commission for Libraries

Mission:
The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICFL) assists libraries to build the capacity to better serve their clientele.

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Idaho Public Libraries
Public Computer Center BTOP Project

The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICFL), a self-governing agency located in the Executive Branch of state government, has received a federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Broadband Technology Opportunity Program (BTOP) award in the Public Computer Center category as part of Round Two funding from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA).

Budget:
Federal stimulus funds: $1,907,531
Matching funds: 942,815
Total project budget: $2,850,346

Award Period:
August 2010 to July 2012

Project Objectives:
• A new opportunity for Idaho public libraries to expand patron access to the Internet and provide free access to informal learning resources for children, job skills and adult basic education for the unemployed, and e-government services for all Idaho residents.

• Expand the scope and reach of services in education, workforce development, and e-government to all Idahoans who have broadband access to the Internet, including the 375,000 members of (BTOP-defined) "vulnerable populations" served by the participating libraries.
Determining the participating libraries

**Connectivity speed**
Low connectivity speed is the first factor in defining the candidate pool for the computer and connectivity upgrades. Public libraries that have current connectivity of 4 Mbps or less are included.

**Demographic criteria**
Public libraries that serve higher percentages of (BTOP-defined) “vulnerable populations” are included.

**Sustainability**
After review of the RFPs from Internet and telecommunications providers, the projected costs and abilities of the candidate libraries’ to sustain those costs when the BTOP project is complete will provide the final filter for determining the participating libraries.

For more information about online @ your library, visit [http://libraries.idaho.gov/online](http://libraries.idaho.gov/online).