

## V. Federal Fund

### A. Finances, Digital Equity Act funding – information item

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As reported at recent board meetings, the Commission for Libraries was designated by Governor Little as the lead for statewide planning efforts under the Digital Equity Act. Idaho's allotment of the planning funds will be approximately \$564,700.

Additional information related to the Digital Access for All Idahoans plan:

- Dates to note:
  - We must submit our application by **July 12, 2022**
  - NTIA will complete their review of applications and award processing by **September 15, 2022**
  - The earliest start date for awards is **September 29, 2022**
  - We will have **one year from the award date** to submit the final Digital Equity Plan
  - We will be hosting a Digital Access for All Idahoans preconference session during the annual Idaho Library Association conference on **October 5, 2022** in Lewiston.

The plan needs to focus on “covered populations” that tend to have barriers to Internet use. These include the following groups with the percentage of Idaho's population that shows Idaho's numbers based on the most recent census figures:

- Total Population: 1,787,065
- Covered Population: 1,361,000
- Percentage Covered: 76.2
  - In households with incomes at or below 150% of the poverty level: 20.7
  - Aged 60 or over: 22.6
  - Incarcerated: 0.7
  - Veteran: 6.8
  - With a disability: 13.9
  - With a language barrier: 13.5
  - English learners: 3.6
  - Low literacy: 16.4
  - Racial or ethnic minority: 18.4
  - Rural: 41.8