

CENTRAL OHIO BROADBAND ACCESS PILOT PROGRAM

As schools begin the 2020-2021 year with remote learning or hybrid models, the <u>Central Ohio Broadband Access Pilot Program</u> is providing eligible, K-12 students and their families with computers and high-speed internet access for as little as \$20.

The lack of a reliable and affordable internet connection and device to access the internet makes remote learning impossible and causes more students to fall behind. Partners throughout Central Ohio are working together to close the digital divide for up to 10,000 families, by connecting them to the technology devices and broadband access they need to be successful.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- WHO CAN PARTICIPATE? Any eligible family with a K-12 student in Central Ohio, except for Columbus City Schools students*. Click <u>here</u> for eligibility criteria.
- WHAT'S AVAILABLE? Low-cost computer packages and mobile hotspot devices with a prepaid 12-month unlimited data plan for as little as \$20 (limited financial aid is available).
- HOW DO FAMILIES REGISTER? Families can register online in just a few easy steps.
- HOW DO FAMILIES GET THE EQUIPMENT? There will be multiple convenient pick-up locations to choose from around Central Ohio, including local library branches and schools.

HOW CAN YOUR ORGANIZATION HELP

- **HELP SPREAD THE WORD:** Visit <u>morpc.org/broadband</u> for program details and an Outreach Toolkit with flyers and social media content. Share program information with eligible families and key community partners.
- HELP REGISTER FAMILIES: Assist families in getting signed-up for the program at pcsforpeople.org/ohio.
- **HELP DISTRIBUTE EQUIPMENT:** If your organization already serves as a location where families come to access services, consider serving as a distribution site for the program.
- HELP DONATE COMPUTERS: Donate retired computers and equipment to PCs for People for refurbishing and reuse.

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DOES YOUR STUDENT NEED A PC OR HIGH-SPEED INTERNET FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR?

www.pcsforpeople.org/ohio

All Central Ohio school districts are beginning the 2020-2021 school year with remote learning or hybrid models. In this challenging environment, students without access to a computer and a reliable high-speed (broadband) internet connection are at risk of falling behind. Partners throughout Central Ohio have worked together to launch the Central Ohio Broadband Access Program to provide eligible K-12 students and their families with computers and 12-months of broadband internet service for as little as \$20.

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- WHAT'S AVAILABLE? Low-cost computer packages and mobile hotspot devices with a prepaid 12-month unlimited data plan for as little as \$20 (limited financial aid is available).
- HOW DO I REGISTER? Families can register online in just a few easy steps see below.
- WHERE DO I GET MY EQUIPMENT? There will be multiple convenient pick-up locations to choose from around Central Ohio, including local library branches and schools.

REGISTRATION IS EASY

- 1. Visit pcsforpeople.org/ohio and click the blue registration button
- 2. Select a pick-up location and time that's convenient for you
- 3. Choose your devices computer, internet access, or both
- 4. Provide some basic info and upload your eligibility verification (it helps to have these materials ready)

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PROGRAM FUNDERS:

City of Columbus Franklin County Commissioners Cardinal Health Chase Foundation WCMH 4

