Hamilton County Public Wi-Fi Grant Program

Q&A Session - February 7, 2024









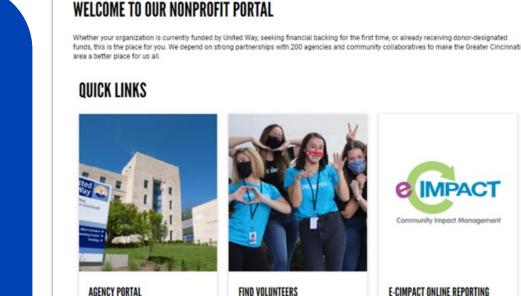
Basics

- The minimum grant request is \$10,000 and the maximum is \$200,000.
- The program will consist of two rounds of funding: 75% or \$1,068,750 is anticipated to be awarded in the first round and the remainder (about \$356,250) will be awarded in the second round.
- Deadline for applications Round 1 is Friday, March 8, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.
- Deadline for applications for Round 2 is Friday, April 5, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.
- Expect to communicate decisions by April.
- Contracts expected to end July 2025.



Accessing the Hamilton County Wi-Fi Grant Application Using e-CImpact





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News & Stories

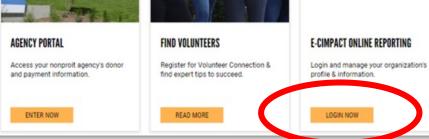
About Us

Ways to Give

GIVE NOW

United Way

Your Impact



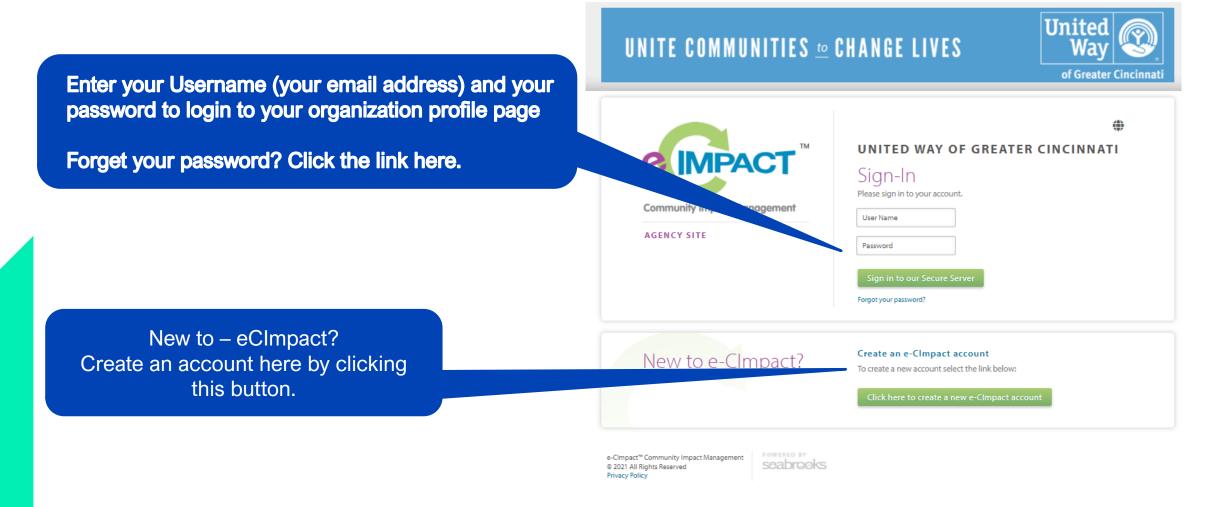
You can access the online system by visiting:

https://www.uwgc.org/for-nonprofits

and clicking on the e-CImpact icon.

Login to e-CImpact





Still having login difficulties? Email us at uwgce-cimpact@uwgc.org

Login to e-CImpact



Existing Users



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UNITE COMMUNITIES **to** CHANGE LIVES

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Login to e-CImpact



New User Registration

Registration for New e-CImpact Users

UNITE COMMUNITIES to CHANGE LIVES



UNITED WAY OF GREATER CINCINNATI

United Way of Greater Cincinnati Agency Registration

Fields marked with an * are required fields.

Please complete the requested information below then click the 'Next' button in the bottom right corner of this page.

Agency Account Information

EIN: Agency Name: Website URL:

Account Information

Address

Description: *

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UNITE COMMUNITIES to CHANGE LIVES

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UNITED WAY OF GREATER CINCINNATI

Welcome!

If you are a new Agency registering for the application process please click "Next".

If you are a Returning Agency and are trying to access the e-CImpact system, to apply, please use your existing login credentials or contact us at UWGCe-CImpact@uwgc.org for assistance.

Cancel and Return to Login Page

New User Registration

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require pre-qualification information be provided

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Agency Email History Reimbursement

🖉 Apply / Report

Hamilton County Hamilton County Public Wi-Fi

OVERVIEW

Hamilton County Public Wi-Fi Grant Application

United Way of Greater Cincinnati is administering a grant program on behalf of Hamilton County Board of County Commissioners to provide FREE Public Wi-Fi to local governments and community organizations in underserved areas of the county. Broadband infrastructure has been shown to be critical for work, education, healthcare, and civic participation during the public health emergency. A total of \$1,425,000 is available through the County's ARPA/SIRF funding.

Nonprofits are permitted to submit an application for this funding and for the United Way of Greater Cincinnati Digital Equity Grant Program. United Way's grant program seeks programs that bridge the digital divide, fostering inclusivity and accessibility. We invite proposals for innovative digital inclusion solutions, empowering diverse populations to navigate the digital landscape with confidence and competence. The requests for proposals will be released concurrently and can be found on United Way's website.

PURPOSES OF FUNDS – PUBLIC WI-FI

Organizations can apply for funding to install Public WI-FI by providing expanded infrastructure to county residents and to expand affordable access to broadband internet. The minimum grant request is \$10,000 and the maximum is \$200,000. The program will consist of two rounds of funding: 75% or \$1,068,750 is anticipated to be awarded in the first round and the remainder (about \$356,250) will be awarded in the second round.

Public WI-Fi is defined as WI-Fi service provided for use by consumers on a wireless device, and is password protected or has other secure authentication protocols established and managed by the owner. Public WI-Fi networks are open to anyone who can access them.

OTHER KEY CRITERIA TO NOTE

In addition to the eligibility criteria, it is important to note that all applicants must be able to provide or demonstrate the following in their application:

Must be able to provide evidence of organization's capability to sustain (pay for) infrastructure for at least 3 years after construction/installation is complete.

Must be providing expanded and affordable broadband infrastructure to an underserved population with an identified need for additional broadband investment. Examples of need include:

- · Lack of access to a reliable high-speed broadband connection
- Lack of affordable broadband
- Lack of reliable service

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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Access online materials a <u>https://www.wwg.org/your-impact/programs-initiatives/digital-equity</u>. All materials, including a recording of the information session and additional resources, will be posted on United Way's website. We'll continue to add to these resources throughout the application process.

Digital Equity

Digital Equity

Digital Equity Grant Application

This request for proposals seeks programs that bridge the digital divide, fostering inclusivity and accessibility. We invite proposals for innovative digital inclusion solutions, empowering diverse populations to navigate the digital landscape with confidence and competence.

To support organizational efforts to increase digital equity in priority populations and communities, funding will start on April 1, 2024, and implementation can last up to 12 months. Given the urgency of this kind of work, priority will be given to organizations that are prepared to implement their work immediately upon receiving funding.

Organizations may only submit one application and grants will likely range from \$25,000 -\$50,000. Organizations are permitted to submit an application for this funding and for the Hamilton County Public WiFi Grant Program, administered by the United Way of Greater Cincinnati.

PRIORITY AREAS:

Priority will be given to proposals that employ the approaches outlined below and/or specifically serve the most at-risk communities.

- · Contributes to one or more of the five key areas for creating digital equity. (see RFP)
- Utilizes a Digital Navigator model.
- · Works directly with populations who are most impacted by the Digital Divide. (see RFP)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Access online materials at https://www.uwgc.org/your-impact/programs-initiatives/digital-equity. All materials, including a recording of the information session and additional resources, will be posted on United Way's website. We'll continue to add to these resources throughout the application process.

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Select Application Type



Eligibility Step

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Eligibility Check

Organizational Eligibility

Please answer the following questions to determine your eligibility to apply for the Hamilton County Public Wifi Grant.

Organizations that are not eligible include:

For profit organizations and individuals
 Internet service providers
 Schools

OTHER KEY CRITERIA TO NOTE

- In addition to the eligibility criteria, it is important to note that all applicants must be able to provide or demonstrate the following in their application:

- Must be able to provide evidence of organization's capability to sustain (pay for) infrastructure for at least 3 years after construction/installation is complete.

- Must be providing expanded and affordable broadband infrastructure to an underserved population with an identified need for additional broadband investment. Examples of need include:

Lack of access to a reliable high-speed broadband connection
 Lack of affordable broadband
 Lack of reliable service

Is your organization a local government within Hamilton County, Ohio (township, village or city) or a nonprofit entity under the laws of the State of Ohio and recognized as a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization by the Internal Revenue Service (this includes Community Development Corporations as well)?

Yes

Is your organization operated for charitable or community Yes benefit purposes?

Is your organization's principal place of business and location(s) where services are rendered in Hamilton County?

Yes

Is your organization registered and in good standing with the State of Ohio Attorney General's Office? (see Resource Section)?

Yes

Please confirm your organization will not use Hamilton County American Rescue Plan funding in place of or instead of local, state, federal or other funds already designated for that purpose.

Confirm

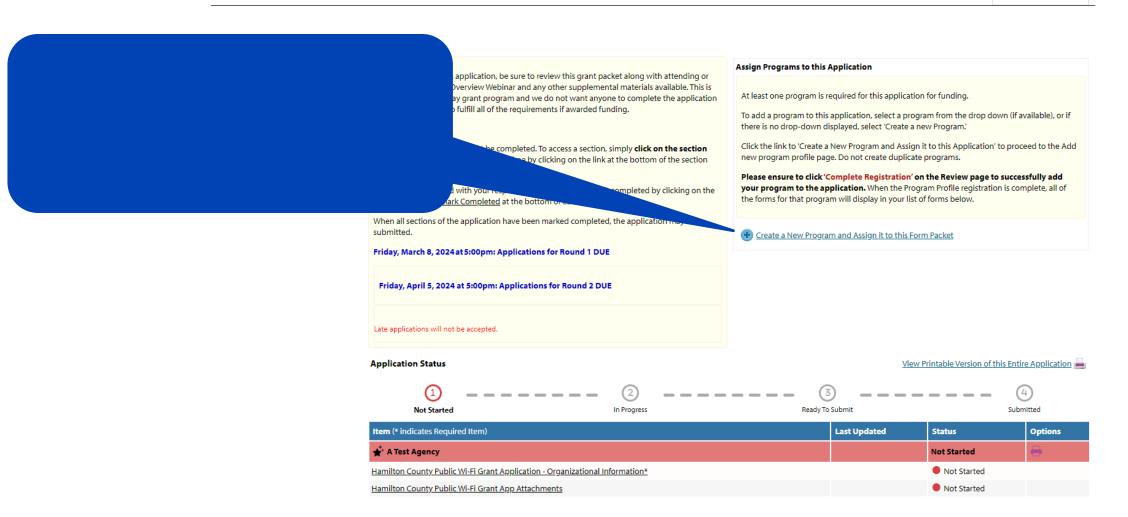
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Program Registration



Program Registration

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Review and Complete Program Registration