

THE NEBRASKA BROADBAND OFFICE

In January 2024, responsibility for leading digital equity efforts in Nebraska was moved from the Nebraska Information Technology Commission (NITC) to the Nebraska Broadband Office (NBO).

DIGITAL EQUITY PLAN OVERVIEW

GOAL 1

Increase the proportion of Nebraska households with affordable, quality broadband service.

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GOAL 2

Improve public internet access in Nebraska communities.

GOAL 3

Increase the percentage of Nebraska households with applicable internet devices.

3

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GOAL 4

Improve the technology skills of Nebraskans, including use of privacy and security practices.

GOAL 5

Increase the use of telehealth technologies in Nebraska to increase access to care in underserved areas and to reduce health disparities.

5

NEBRASKA

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QUICK FACTS

\$11M

Capacity funding distributed to NBO in three tranches

5
goals

8
covered populations

75%
of Nebraskans fall into one or more covered population



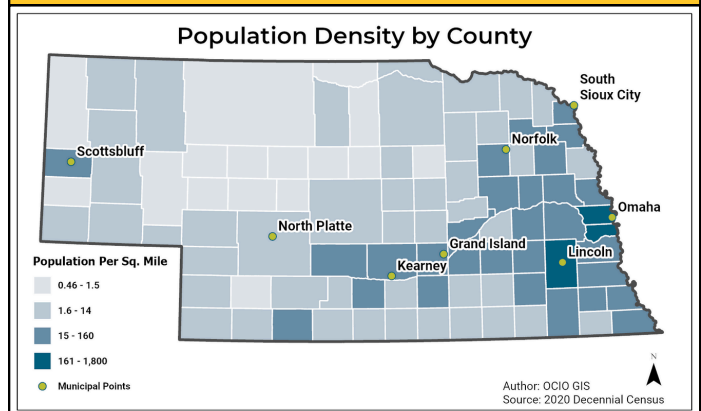
DIGITAL EQUITY TERMS & DEFINITIONS

- **Digital Equity** - the competencies and skills required for navigating digital literacy skills
- **Digital Literacy Skills** - the framework identifies six categories of skills:
 - real-time thinking,
 - reproduction thinking,
 - information thinking,
 - social-emotional thinking,
 - photo-visual thinking, and
 - branching thinking
- **Digital Inclusion** - the activities that are necessary to ensure that all individuals in the United States have access to, and the use of, affordable information and communication technologies
- **Digital Literacy** - the skills associated with using technology to enable users to find, evaluate, organize, create, and communicate information
- **Covered populations** - individual who fall into one of the identified populations (see right)
- **Community Anchor Institution** - any nonprofit or governmental community support organization such as public schools, a public or multi-family housing authority, libraries, medical or healthcare provider, institutions of higher education

Covered Populations

There are eight covered populations identified by National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). The DE Plan must address all covered populations, but can prioritize goals.

- Low income
- Rural
- Veterans
- Racial ethnic minority & Native American
- Limited English Proficiency/low literacy
- Incarcerated
- Disabled
- Older



Digital equity is vital for full participation in the digital economy and society.

This means that all people can access and use technology to:

- Look for employment
- Work remotely
- Register to vote
- Renew driver's license
- Enjoy cultural events
- Attend online courses
- Talk to a doctor or counselor
- Schedule car repairs
- Track childrens' grades
- Organize family gatherings



OUR VISION

Nebraskans are able to effectively use broadband to improve their lives and grow the economy.

Contact us!

We encourage you to contact our office with questions or assistance.

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broadband.nebraska.gov

