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Gov. Walker: Announces $7.5 Million available in grants for TEACH Information Technology Infrastructure

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MADISON – Governor Scott Walker today announced the availability of $7.5 million for Technology for Educational Achievement (TEACH) Information Technology Infrastructure grants. The Department of Administration (DOA) is now accepting applications from eligible school districts and public libraries. The Information Technology Infrastructure grants assist entities in acquiring the equipment and services necessary to build a modern infrastructure system.

“TEACH Information Technology Infrastructure grants deliver critical resources to rural school districts and libraries as they build their capacity to help students and library patrons learn and succeed,” Governor Walker said. “As our biennial budget includes historic levels of K-12 education aid, we also encourage eligible districts and libraries to apply for TEACH grants to strengthen and modernize their infrastructure.

Fiscal year 2019 grants are available to rural school districts that have 16 or fewer students per square mile. Available funding is determined by the number of students within the district. A list of eligible school districts and the maximum funding available can be found on the TEACH website. Listed districts are eligible for grants between $30,000 and $60,000.

In March 2018, Governor Walker signed Act 142 into law enabling libraries to apply

for grant funding in educating librarians in the use of technology to enhance the services they provide to patrons. Eligibility is determined by and available to a public library or library branch that is located in a municipality with a population of 20,000 or less and meets specified criteria in relation to the library's distance from urban areas.

The funding is part of $22.5 million in total Information Technology Infrastructure grants for TEACH that was included in the 2017-19 biennial budget. The grants can be used for infrastructure equipment and services such as access points, antennas, maintenance of internal connections, cabling, caching equipment and services, LAN controllers, routers, switches, UPS/battery backup, and wireless controllers.

Eligible school districts and public libraries can find application materials for the TEACH Information Technology Infrastructure grants online at the TEACH website. Grant applications must be submitted to DOA by Friday, November 2. Late applications will not be considered.

For more information about the grant requirements or application process, please visit the TEACH website.