

STAKEHOLDER ANNOUNCEMENT

USDA to Host Listening Sessions on Grants to Help People in Rural and Tribal Communities Access Remote Education and Healthcare

Agency Seeks Input on Eligibility Requirements and Funding Accessibility

WASHINGTON, May 28, 2024 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will host virtual listening sessions to invite feedback on the Distance Learning and Telemedicine (DLT) Grant Program.

This program helps rural communities use advanced telecommunications technology to connect people to education, training and healthcare resources that are limited or unavailable in remote parts of the country.

The listening sessions will be held virtually on the following dates and times:

- Tuesday, June 11, 2024, 1:30-3:00 p.m. ET
- Tuesday, June 18, 2024, 1:30-3:00 p.m. ET

To register, visit the webinar page.

USDA is requesting the public to comment on the following questions:

- What program requirements limit or improve project eligibility?
- What integral equipment or software technologies are not currently eligible for program funding?
- What emerging technological advances in equipment and software have the potential to change how DLT services are delivered in rural areas?
- What has been your experience with accessing DLT funding?

Stakeholders are also invited to submit written comments on these topics to the agency by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on June 19, 2024, on https://www.regulations.gov. Search for docket number "RUS-24-TELECOM-0011."

For more information, see page 46056 of the May 28, 2024, Federal Register.

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