



OPPORTUNITY ONLINE
ACHIEVING BROADBAND SOLUTIONS
FOR LIBRARIES AND COMMUNITIES

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Opportunity Online Broadband Summit is to help Texas create and implement strategies that will improve Internet connections in public libraries across the state. In order to improve connectivity over the long term, it is essential to generate support on the state and local level. Thus, the broadband summit is designed to bring library directors, local partners, and state leaders together to determine a solution best suited for improving connectivity for Texas' public libraries.

GOALS

- Increase awareness of current connectivity levels in Texas' public libraries and articulate how library patrons are affected by these connectivity levels.
- Advocate for the need for all public libraries to have improved connectivity.
- Increase awareness of benefits of improved connectivity for your patrons.
- Learn approaches to improve connectivity on a state and local level.
- Learn your role in helping achieve sustainable connectivity in your public library.

YOUR ROLE

Your participation is essential in successfully improving connectivity to all public libraries. It is our hope that when you leave this summit, you have an increased desire to work with your community, local government, and state officials to affect change and improve broadband connectivity. You will also be called upon to support your state library's effort to improve connectivity.

YOUR LOCAL PARTNER'S ROLE

Your local partner is an advocate for your library. In most cases, your local partner may support the library by securing much needed funding (i.e. mayor, city council member, county commissioner, county judge, etc.). Regardless of the role, your local partner needs to be able to advocate for the needs of your library and be connected to those in the community who can support increased connectivity. In limited cases, your local partner is an active resource to your library (i.e. board trustee, friend of the library, etc.). In these instances, it is vitally important that this partner has existing relationships with decision-makers that they will contact and advocate on behalf of the library after the summit.