

Digital Equity and Privacy

Current Efforts in State of Washington

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Introduce Tavares J. Terry





WaTech

Diversity
Equity
Access and
Inclusion

Advancing Equity in Government

From Executive Order (EO) 13985:

"Advancing equity requires a systematic approach to embedding fairness in decision-making processes, executive departments...

...agencies must recognize and work to redress inequities in their policies and programs that serve as barriers to equal opportunity."

Federal Efforts

- Digital Equity Act
- Federal funding to ensure that individuals and communities have the skills and tools needed for full participation in society and the economy.
- Individuals with disabilities.
- Individuals with a language barriers.
- Individuals who are English learners.
- Individual with low level of literacy.
- Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group.
- Individuals who primarily reside in a rural area.

Executive Order 22-02

“Achieving Equity in Washington State Government”

Executive Order 22-04

“Implementing Washington State PEAR Plan and Playbook”

The goal of these directives is to create a starting point for a shared foundation of critical knowledge and to promote DEAI in the administration of policies, practices, and procedures.



STATE OF WASHINGTON
— OFFICE OF GOVERNOR JAY INSLEE —

EXECUTIVE ORDER 22-02

ACHIEVING EQUITY IN WASHINGTON STATE GOVERNMENT



STATE OF WASHINGTON
— OFFICE OF GOVERNOR JAY INSLEE —

EXECUTIVE ORDER 22-04

**IMPLEMENTING THE
WASHINGTON STATE PRO-EQUITY ANTI-RACISM (PEAR) PLAN & PLAYBOOK**



What Does Digital Equity Mean?

Everyone can fully participate in an increasingly, almost exclusively, digital society.

To achieve digital equity, everyone must have access to the infrastructure, technology, and skills that allow individuals to engage in economic, educational, health, social, and civic spaces digitally.



**DIGITAL
DIVIDE**

State Efforts

- Washington's Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program (BEAD).
- Digital Equity Plan.
- Digital Equity Forum/ Washington Digital Equity Partners and others.
- Connectivity.
- Digital Accessibility Community of Practice.
- Digital Literacy
- Workforce Development

Digital Navigation Program

- Provides grant funding for consortiums to implement digital navigator services across WA State.
- Builds collaborative partnerships that will broaden the reach to deliver digital navigator services.
- Increases access to resources and tools supporting internet connectivity for individuals and households.
- Funding: \$14.7 million per year (Sept 1, 2023 to June 30, 2025)

Digital Navigation Program

Objectives

- A. Digital Device Distribution** - Approach must include digital devices that will enhance an individual and/or household to connect to resources that will increase access to services through a digital platform.
- B. Digital Educational Services** - Must support services for individuals to resource for real-time assistance with an option to leverage use of digital learning platforms to teach digital curriculum through in-person, webinar-based and at-your-own pace modalities.
- C. Sustainability of Digital Navigation Services** - Identify effective policy and systematic strategies to address the long-term sustainability of digital navigator services that will provide employment opportunities, access to resources and services across WA State.
- D. Increased Access** - Innovative or proven approach to connect individuals to free Wi-Fi in communities where connectivity is not available due to the lack of infrastructure and geographical or economic challenges.

Outputs

Increased:

- Digital Knowledge
- Employment
- Higher Education
- Technical/Skill Training
- DN Roles and Services

Intersecting and Collaborative Consortium Activities:

- State and Local Partnerships
- Data Dashboard
- Health Access
- Digital Device Distribution
- In-person Support
- Digital and Phone Support

Equity

Increased number of individuals / household with digital connectivity.

Success Stories:

- Individual/Household
- Project

Digital Equity and Generative Artificial Intelligence



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BLUEPRINT FOR AN AI BILL OF RIGHTS

MAKING AUTOMATED SYSTEMS WORK FOR
THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

EXECUTIVE ORDER 24-01
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE



Safe and Effective
Systems



Algorithmic
Discrimination
Protections



Data Privacy



Notice and
Explanation



Human
Alternatives,
Consideration, and
Fallback

Thank you!
Questions?

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