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<b>Organization:</b>	Florida A&M University
<b>Project Name:</b>	The FAMU Center for Public Computing and Workforce Development
<b>Project Type:</b>	Public Computer Center
<b>State:</b>	Florida
<b>Federal Award:</b>	\$1,477,722

**ABOUT THE PROJECT**

The three-county region of northern Florida targeted by **Florida A&M University** has poverty and unemployment rates well above the state and national averages, and many residents lack the 21st century skills necessary for industry certifications and job preparation. The FAMU Enterprise Information Technology Division and the FAMU Department of Workforce Education and Development propose to establish a new Center for Public Computing and Workforce Development on the Florida A&M campus to serve the public of Tallahassee and surrounding Gadsden and Jefferson Counties. The center also plans to serve as a resource to other public computing centers in the region.

Florida A&M's Small Business Development Center plans to provide business development training and counseling services through videoconferencing technology, and offer workshops to small businesses with an emphasis on minorities, women, and veterans. The project aims to develop and expand its instructional capacity through an aggressive "Train the Trainer" workshop program, which includes working with Florida's Small Business Development Agency to create training content and identify and recruit trainers.

The FAMU Center for Public Computing and Workforce Development also proposes to:

- Provide 65 new workstations and significantly upgraded support technology to help enable access for an additional 2,800 users each week and significantly expand the number of hours the public can access public computers. The new centers will also offer improved access speeds and shorter wait periods.
- Train as many as 14,500 residents with approximately 87,000 hours of teacher-led training annually over the three years of the project. The project's training and broadband programs would include specific disciplines important to the northern part of the state, including public administration, education services, healthcare, social assistance, agriculture, forestry, and fishing and hunting.

**ORGANIZATION'S HISTORY**

Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU) is an 1890 land-grant institution committed to educating students at the undergraduate, graduate, doctoral, and professional levels, preparing graduates to apply their knowledge, critical thinking skills, and creativity in their service to society. This Historically Black University has awarded more baccalaureate degrees to African-Americans than any other institution in the nation.

**PROJECT PARTNERS**

- Data Set Ready, Inc.
- Metropolitan Design & Consulting Group, Inc.
- Carney Solutions, Inc.
- LeRoy Collins Leon County Public Library System

Data provided in the project description is based on information supplied by the applicant. An executive summary of this application can be found on [www.ntia.doc.gov/broadbandusa](http://www.ntia.doc.gov/broadbandusa).

For press-related inquiries, contact 202-482-7002 or [press@ntia.doc.gov](mailto:press@ntia.doc.gov). For the general public, contact [BTOP@ntia.doc.gov](mailto:BTOP@ntia.doc.gov).

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