



# BROADBANDUSA

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<b>Organization:</b>	Portland State University
<b>Project Name:</b>	Learner Web Partnership: A Multi-State Support System for Broadband Adoption by Vulnerable Adults
<b>Project Type:</b>	Sustainable Broadband Adoption
<b>States:</b>	California, Louisiana, Minnesota, New York, Oregon, Texas
<b>Federal Award:</b>	\$3,318,031

### ABOUT THE PROJECT

Partnering with adult literacy and basic education organizations with long histories in their respective states, **Portland State University** proposes to lead the Learner Web Partnership project to increase broadband use among low-income, minorities, and other vulnerable populations by teaching digital literacy along with English literacy, educating participants to become informed consumers, and providing access to career paths in the digital economy. Project partners will deploy the existing Learner Web software, which has been cited by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Vocational and Adult Education as a noteworthy adult education program, for more than 20,000 residents. Instructional materials will address topics including use of broadband for job searches, education and health information, and smart consumer practices. The project proposes a distinctive focus on the needs of adult learners using an approach that combines self-paced learning with live tutorial support.

The project also plans a targeted outreach campaign to increase awareness of its training programs among Hispanic, African American, Asian Native American, disabled, low income, unemployed, senior, and at-risk youth populations, all of whom tend to report low levels of broadband access and subscribership.

The Learner Web Partnership also proposes to:

- Develop content modules based on best training practices for using broadband access to advance careers in the digital economy.
- Encourage broadband subscribership and train approximately 23,000 residents over the life of the project, offering approximately 350,000 hours of teacher-led training.

### ORGANIZATION'S HISTORY

As part of the Oregon University System, Portland State University's vision is to enhance recognition of the value of higher education by continually strengthening the metropolitan environment. The University utilizes that strength for its own growth toward standards of excellence in accessible high quality research, teaching, and outreach programs. Portland State, founded in 1946, has broad experience with the rules and regulations of federal funding.

### PROJECT PARTNERS

- Minnesota Literacy Council
- Cayuga Community College, Regional Adult Education Network
- ProLiteracy Worldwide
- Literacy Coalition of Central Texas
- South Texas College
- Goodwill Industries of Southeastern Louisiana
- Richmond Public Library

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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