Q: How are caregivers recruited for the support initiatives?

A: Caregivers should be recruited from your school/pre-k provider communities using strategies that each school/pre-k provider believes are best. For the purposes of this grant, a caregiver may be a parent, foster parent, grandparent, sibling, or anyone living in the household who is supporting a pre-K-12 student. Grants should detail how applicants plan to recruit caregivers.

Q: Will Digital Navigators deliver the support initiatives to caregivers?

A: This grant allows for flexibility in who delivers the support initiatives to caregivers. As applicants are describing their initiatives in the proposal, they should consider their own organizational capacity, expertise, and existing or new partnerships. School/pre-k provider staff might deliver the support initiatives or recruit caregiver leaders in their school/pre-k provider community, or the school/pre-k provider might decide to contract with a community-based organization partner, which could include one of the Digital Navigator organizations, to deliver the services. Grantees can refer caregivers at any time to Digital Navigators for help with finding a low-cost or free device, signing up for PHLConnectED or other broadband subsidy programs, or for complicated digital literacy needs where the school/pre-k provider cannot help the caregiver.

Q: We have two schools in our network. Does this mean we could apply for more than the $20,000 maximum budget request?

A: One proposal should be submitted for digital support initiatives that will be made available to caregivers within a school community. If you plan to make your support initiatives available to caregivers at both schools, we will consider this one proposal that would be funded at a maximum of $20,000. Keep in mind that your digital support initiatives are like pilot projects and might serve as a launching point for future expansion and development, so it is okay for these initiatives to be relatively smaller in scope.

Q: Is the grant award limited to $20,000 for a joint application between a school/provider and a community-based organization?

A: Yes, a joint proposal between a school/provider and community-based organization is limited to a maximum funding amount of $20,000. The partnership might be particularly advantageous to your application in terms of supporting the organizational capacity of the school/pre-k provider or bringing in digital skill-building experience and expertise from an outside provider.

Q: Are any non-cash supports available to be awarded through this grant? For example, end user devices, curriculum licensing?

A: Non-cash supports required for your digital support initiatives can be included as line items in your budget request.