

Statewide E-Government Project Frequently Asked Questions.

What is the Statewide E-Government Project?

The Statewide E-Government Project is a collaborative effort between the Community Connect Foundation, the WV Association of Counties, the WV Municipal League, the WV Office of Technology, and Local High Schools with the goal of creating a free sustainable E-Government website for every county and municipality in West Virginia. These websites will be housed on the WV State Portal (WV.gov) and will be based on a standard website template.

What is the basic process to take advantage of this Project?

One high school was selected for each county. This high school, as part of their schools curriculum, is responsible for engaging the county government and every incorporated municipal government within the county in an effort to collect basic written and multimedia content that will be used to develop free E-Government websites for the participating county and municipalities. The county and/or municipalities must approve all collected content before it is published to the web. Once the website is launched the participating high school will make periodic updates, in coordination with the county and municipalities, to ensure that the information is accurate and current.

What are the limitations of the free website?

The website is based on a standard template that looks professional and presents content so that it is easy to find and utilize by citizens and visitors. The template is limited in that you can change the pictures and written data but the basic structure and flow is pre-defined. The information collected is based on guidelines that focus on government structure, services, and general information (places and events of interest, FAQs, outside website links). See Content Collection questions at: www.communityconnectfoundation.org

Do all counties and municipalities have to participate?

This project is voluntary.

If your county does not have a current or active website, this project will provide an informative and accurate web presence at no cost and with minimal effort on behalf of the county and/or municipality government. However, there are limitations on what content will be allowed on the website and how often the information will be updated.

If your county or municipality already maintains a published website that is frequently updated, then your county or municipality may opt not to participate in this project. The participating high schools will be collecting information regardless of whether your county or municipality chooses to participate. Your designee is welcome to review collected information and incorporate it into your pre-existing website.

What are the tangible benefits for participation?

Upon approval of the attached participation agreement and the initial publication of the website; counties and municipalities will receive a free domain name, free web-hosting, a free webpage, and a copy of Microsoft Office for use by the participating county or municipality.

Participating high schools receive a free laptop, digital camcorder, digital camcorder, and the necessary accessories to assist in collecting the content for the E-Government websites.

Who do I contact for more information?

If you have any additional questions, please contact the Community Connect Foundation, the West Virginia Association of Counties or the West Virginia Municipal League.

Community Connect Foundation

Darrell Buttrick – 304-546-5362

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