

PC Community Loan Program and TechHire Convergence

City of Austin | 1/9/2019



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Background

PC Community Loan & TechHire Pathways

White House Initiative

Discovery Phase



Needs assessment,
definition of work

Framework generation
and ideation

Align Key Goals, Measures from
Portfolio

We are here

**Prioritize Resources &
Means**

**Tech Hire
Fellows
Program &
Delegated
Surplus
Property
Authority**

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Austin's Tech Hire Definition*

Tech

Improve the pathways to job training and employment opportunities in the tech sector for low-income, underserved and minority Austin residents by:

(i) Using data and innovative hiring practices to expand openness to non-traditional hiring,

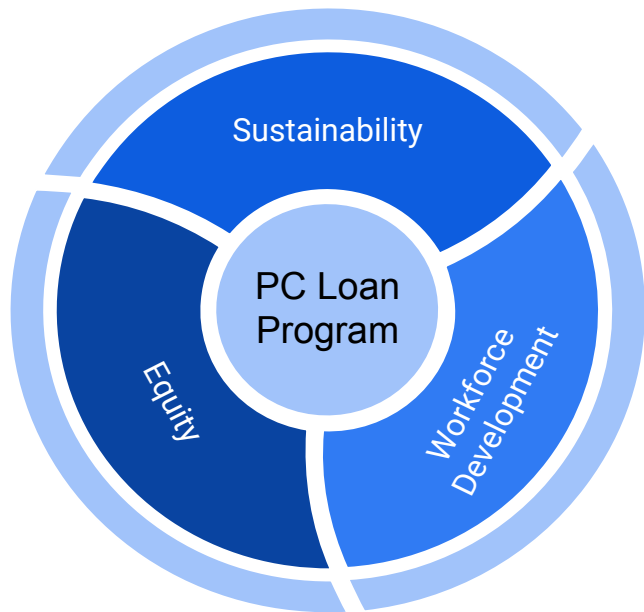
(ii) Expanding accelerated tech training programs, and

(iii) connecting people to jobs with hiring on-ramp programs,

Hire

* Derived from the TechHire (US Department of Labor) definition

Austin's PC Loan Program



A partnership between the Communications and Technology Management Department and the Digital Inclusion Program to re-purpose retired City devices for public benefit.

Sustainability - The devices gain extended life away from the landfill, displacing new device consumption.

Equity - Non-profit organizations running off older, outdated technology receive refurbished devices to use for business or client needs

Workforce Development - Refurbishment happens in partnership with community organizations serving low-income, minority populations

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Where We Are Now

TechHire

- Dell Prototype
- Opportunity @ Work Portal
- CompTIA Funded Non-Profits
 - Goodwill, Austin Free-Net, American Youthworks, and Capital IDEA
- TechHire Workshop Meetings
- Cross-Department Interviews
 - Austin Water
 - Austin Energy
 - Austin Resource Recovery
 - Communications and Technology Management



PC Loan Program



Over 35 interns in the past year have gained valuable tech experience to further develop their IT skills.

- **Hosted approximately 15 unduplicated ACC Interns** (June 22 through July 20) configured, imaged and licensed 45 computers.
- **Hosted approximately 16 unduplicated American Youthworks Interns** from November 15th 2017 to present. They configured, imaged and licensed 451 computers.
- **Hosted 4 unduplicated Housing Authority of the City of Austin Lab Assistants** who received learning stipends (July 2 – July 31) to assist with refurbishment activities.

	Desktops	Laptops	Total Devices
Distributed	585	105	690
Reserved	202	8	210
Total In Program	787	113	900

- **Distributed:** Devices configured, imaged, and distributed to the community
- **Reserved:** Devices currently in refurbishment process, with recipients identified

PC Loan Program Non-Profit Recipients

10 organizations have received refurbished devices from this pilot program to benefit their clients:

- Austin Free-Net
- American YouthWorks
- Austin Speech Labs
- Austin Independent School District
- Child Inc
- Community Tech Network
- El Buen Samaritano
- Foundation Communities
- Goodwill Industries of Central Texas
- Literacy Coalition of Central Texas



(Family of Sanchez Elementary Student, Picture courtesy PCs for People)

"I'm happy with it it has been working great, no problems. I use computer mainly for school work but also for volunteer work at HACA. I'm very careful about not using with family and friends because it is a loaned device. I do use it for gmail for ACC and blackboard."

-HACA Resident Experience on laptop

GTOPs 2019 Grant Funding Available

- TOTAL funds available of \$200,000

Funding Award Amounts

- Grants are between \$10,000 and \$25,000

Device Award

- City's PC Community Loan Program
- 10-30 devices available per request



Device Details

Device Details

- Dell Optiplex desktops (towers, power cable, mouse, and keyboard; monitors are not guaranteed but likely available).
- 4 GB of RAM
- a minimum of 160 GB of hard drive space
- at least an Intel I3 processor
- Windows 10 and Microsoft Office Suite can be pre-installed for \$6 per license (GTOPs funding cannot be requested to cover the license cost)

*These City computers will be on loan to non-profit organizations, with the intent to fully grant the awarded devices at a future time.



Current Progress

1. **Delegated Surplus Property Authority** is needed from Austin City Council to continue and scale the success of the PC Loan Pilot Program.
 - a. This will allow us to fully divest the retired devices from the City's authority, allowing for a lighter and more agile contracting and contract monitoring process.

2. **Interns/Fellows** to support a robust program and imparting more technology experience and drawing better candidates to pursue the TechWorks Program Concept.
 - a. This could provide the career pathway to gain the 1 year of experience, potentially, for the IT Support Analyst position that requires 1 year of experience as a minimum qualification.

**For more information:
austintexas.gov/digitalinclusion**

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