

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY

**Public Educational and Governmental Programming and
Education Technology Investment Account (PEGPETIA)
Grant Program**

ORIGINAL

PEGPETIA

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STATE OF CONNECTICUT

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Application PEGPETIA

1. APPLICANT'S NAME	Citizens Television, Inc.
2. MAILING ADDRESS	2666 State St.
MAILING ADDRESS, CON'T	Suite 4
CITY, STATE, ZIP	Hamden, CT., 06517
3. CONTACT NAME/TITLE	Joseph L. Schofield, Executive Director
4. CONTACT PHONE NUMBER	203-562-2288
5. FAX NUMBER	203-562-0864
6. EMAIL ADDRESS	jlschofield@citizenstv.org
7. EMPLOYER TAX ID NUMBER (IF APPLICABLE)	22-3148596
8. AMOUNT REQUESTED (\$)	\$45,085.00
9. NAME AND TITLE OF AUTHORIZED INDIVIDUAL	Joseph L. Schofield
	Executive Director
10. SIGNATURE AND DATE*	

*Under the penalty of law, I affirm that the information provided herein is true and correct to the best of my belief and understanding and that any errors of omissions will be timely corrected and resubmitted to the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA or Authority).

Description and estimated costs associated with the PEGPETIA Grant request:

1. Describe fully the activity or project that the PEGPETIA Grant will cover.

The grant will cover the NEW equipment costs for replacing four (4) professional studio cameras (and related equipment) at the Citizens Television community access center in Hamden, CT.

2. Explain how the requested PEGPETIA Grant will enhance community access programming (Public, Educational and/or Governmental or (PEG)).

The PEGPETIA Grant would enhance community access programming by providing a reliable, modern and high quality studio production system to more than two hundred (200) studio productions each year.

Inasmuch as television is a visual medium, the images captured and conveyed by the camera is the lifeblood of that medium. Citizens Television's current cameras are nearly twenty years old and from a technological era long gone. Citizens Television's field cameras and editing systems went digital in 2003, and its cablecast went fully digital in 2009. Its studio cameras, however, have continued to operate in the analog world, producing an inferior visual image noticeable to even the untrained eye. And yet, CTV would not use that alone to justify an expensive equipment change. The current CTV studio cameras and their supporting equipment (cables, camera control units, viewfinders, focus and zoom controls, etc.) have fallen into chronic disrepair. Parts are no longer available for these cameras or their supporting equipment. One camera has been taken offline and been replaced by a stand-alone field camera – the marked difference in delivered images consistently lowering our production values. We have increasingly had to abandon or reschedule studio productions because of the unreliability of our studio cameras from day to day. We expect that our current cameras will no longer be operable at all by late summer/early fall 2012.

3. Identify the geographical area(s) and/or school system(s) that are expected to benefit from the PEGPETIA Grant.

The geographical areas expected to benefit directly from the PEGPETIA Grant are New Haven, Hamden and West Haven, which includes their public and private school systems and six colleges and universities, including SCSU, Gateway Community College, Yale, University of New Haven, Albertus Magnus and Paier Art College. Indirectly, once CTV completes its arrangement to be transmitted on AT&T, literally hundreds of CT communities will have access to the studio programming produced at the CTV community access center.

4. Provide the total number of subscribers/students that are expected to receive benefit from the requested PEGPETIA Grant.

More than sixty-eight thousand (68,000) households minimally are expected to benefit from the PEGPETIA Grant. That number will more than triple when CTV becomes a part of the AT&T network by year's end.

5. See the criteria listed in Sections B, C and D, in the Decision, in Docket No. 07-10-11, DPUC Proceeding to Establish Administrative Guidelines for the Public, Educational and Governmental Programming and Education Technology Investment Account Pursuant to Public Act 07-253. Explain and provide examples of how receipt of Grant funds sought in this Application will satisfy these criteria.

The receipt of Grant funds by CTV will preserve the high quantity of more than two-hundred (200) studio productions delivered annually to more than sixty-eight thousand (68,000) households, businesses and schools. That quantity will undergo a great appreciation in quality in its transition from analog to digital format. An example of this the improved video quality and quantity of our programming that occurred with our cablecast transition from analog to digital three years ago as the result of a prior PEGPETIA grant.

CTV has been steadfast in not exercising any editorial control over productions and submitted programming. CTV has persisted in actively implementing a no commercial advertising, programming or political advertising policy with the producers and the public, and has defended its actions to that regard before the DPUC/PURA. CTV hereby affirms its commitment to those policies, as required by this grant application.

6. Provide the total estimated cost of implementing the project or undertaking the activity associated with the requested PEGPETIA Grant.

\$49,285.00

7. Provide a complete budget for the PEGPETIA Grant request.

Budget

Vendor	QTY	Part Number	Description	Unit Price	Amount
JVC	4	GY-HM710U	ProHDCamcorder	5,255.00	21,020.00
JVC	4	KA-551U	Tripod Plate	280.50	1,122.00
JVC	4	DT-X71H	7" LCD Viewfinder	891.00	3,564.00
JVC	4	RM-LP55	RCU pack	548.00	2,192.00
JVC	4	HZ-ZS13U	Zoom Control	694.25	2,777.00
JVC	4	HZ-FM15U	Focus Control	632.50	2,530.00

UMS	4	CC125-50	50 ft. Custom Camera Cable	1,420.00	5,680.00
UMS	4	CIU125-15	Custom Camera Interface Unit w/supply	1,550\$	6,200.00
UMS	1	SUII	Set-up and Installation	4,200\$	4,200.00
TOTAL					49.285.00

8. If applicable, indicate any additional funds from other sources that will be used to supplement the PEGPETIA Grant sought in this Application.

CTV will provide \$4,200.00 from its annual Production Budget to offset the Setup and Installation cost of the project. Thus the requested PEGPETIA grant is \$45,085.00.

9. Provide a list of the vendor(s) who will deliver the goods and/or services and an itemized list of costs associated with the project. Provide your response in the format shown below. Indicate the importance of each item in order from the most to least important.

Vendor	QTY	Item Description	Unit Price	Amount	Importance
HB Communicatons	4	ProHDCamcorder	5,255.00	21,020.00	MOST
HB Communicatons	4	Tripod Plate	280.50	1,122.00	*MOST
HB Communicatons	4	7" LCD Viewfinder	891.00	3,564.00	*MOST
HB Communicatons	4	RCU pack	548.00	2,192.00	*MOST
HB Communicatons	4	Zoom Control	694.25	2,777.00	*MOST
HB Communicatons	4	Focus Control	632.50	2,530.00	*MOST
Unique Media Systems	4	50 ft. Custom Camera Cable	1,420.00	5,680.00	*MOST
Unique Media Systems	4	Custom Camera Interface Unit w/supply	1,550\$	6,200.00	*MOST
Unique Media Systems	1	Set-up and Installation	4,200.00	4,200.00	*MOST
TOTAL				49.285.00	

***All items below the first (main) are necessary to enable and support the operation of the first item. Without the subsequent items, the first item is useless to us.**

10. Provide copies of all bids, estimates, prices, and other supporting information.

ATTACHED – Please note: the accepted bid is from HB Communications of North Haven, CT.

Bids could not be sought or submitted for the items whose vendor is UMS or Unique Media Systems. These items are custom-made for the equipment and will literally need to be constructed at the time of setup and installation by the engineer performing the service.

11. Describe the experience of the Applicant in PEG-related activities, video production activities and grant administration, as applicable, include relevant reference(s).

Citizens Television, Inc. has been the community access provider for New Haven, Hamden and West Haven, CT since 1992. It has trained more than two thousand community residents in field and studio production, and has itself produced more than three thousand field and studio productions of interest to the local communities that it serves. In 2002, the DPUC, in a re-franchisement proceeding, cited CTV as one of the premier community access facilities in the state.

In 2009, CTV was a successful applicant for a PEGPETIA grant to upgrade its cablecast operation. CTV met the requirements of that grant and came in under the allotted budget and grant amount, returning more than a thousand dollars to the PEGPETIA fund.

Performance Measurement

12. Describe the Applicant's expectation to achieve from the successful implementation and completion of the project.

Upon the successful implementation and completion of the project, CTV expects to achieve superior and greatly enhanced video images and presentations of its more than two-hundred (200) studio productions annually for its thousands of viewers. We expect to achieve a more robust studio camera training and operation aspect for our community producers who will find greater versatility and ease-of-operation with the new cameras. We expect to achieve significant cost savings in camera repairs, calibration (engineering) and energy costs with the more energy-efficient cameras.

13. What steps will the Applicant take to ensure that the project's objectives are met?

The Executive Director and the Production Manager of CTV will formally seek and document viewer assessments of the studio productions using the new equipment. Community producers (past, present and future) will be asked to provide written assessments of the new cameras in number of key areas. CTV will assess each quarter the costs of camera repairs, calibration and energy usage to compare with such costs for the replaced equipment.

Partner Organization (if applicable)

14. Provide the name and address of any partner organization. Include a letter or statement indicating that the partner has agreed to take part in this project.

CTV is not partnering with any other organization for this project.

15. Explain the role of the partner organization in the project or activity.

Any Other Information (if applicable)

16. Provide any other information that the Applicant believes will exemplify the benefits of the project or activity.

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General Instructions for PEGPETIA Grants

PEGPETIA Grant

Instructions

Applications must be complete and legible before considered for Grant approval.

1. The full legal name of the individual/organization requesting the Grant.
2. The mailing address of the individual/organization, including suite number, building number, floor. Also provide the city, state and zip code to the mailing address of the individual/organization. Include P.O. Box, if applicable.
3. The name and title of the primary individual to whom correspondence regarding this Grant application should be addressed.
4. The telephone number of the contact person listed in item 3.
5. The fax number of the contact person listed in item 3. If none, enter “none.”
6. The email address (e.g., john.doe@ct.gov), if none, enter “none.”
7. The 9 digit employer tax ID number.
8. The total dollar amount of the Grant requested.
9. The name and title of the individual who is authorized to sign this Application on behalf of the Applicant. This need not be the person listed in item 3.
10. The individual named in item 9 must sign the Application and date the Application.

Questions regarding this Application should be directed in writing to:

State of Connecticut
Public Utilities Regulatory Authority
Attn Executive Secretary
PEGPETIA Grant
Ten Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

Calls to: Customer service PEGPETIA grant – Telecom & Liscensing
(860) 827-1553

General Guidelines for PEGPETIA Grants

PEGPETIA Grant

Guidelines

1. What is the Purpose of the PEGPETIA Funds?

The Authority has complied with Section 33 of Public Act 07-253, An Act Concerning Certified Competitive Video Services (P.A. 07-253 or Act), now codified as § 16-331cc of the General Statutes of Connecticut (Conn. Gen. Stat.). The fund is intended to promote and improve public, educational and governmental (PEG) access programming in Connecticut. The Legislature's goal is to increase the quantity, quality and variety of educational programming currently being produced in Connecticut.

PEGPETIA funds will be made available to a wide variety of entities involved either directly or indirectly in community access-related activities. The Act also requires that 50% of PEGPETIA funds be made available to boards of education and other educational entities for educational technology initiatives.

2. What is the objective of the Grant?

The objective and goal of PEGPETIA Grants is to increase the quantity, quality and variety of community access productions made available to Competitive Video Service Providers (CVSP) and Community Antenna Television (CATV) subscribers by making capital grants available to a wide array of entities involved, directly or indirectly, in community access-related activities. Specific details of the objectives and goals of PEGPETIA can be found in the Authority's Decision, dated March 25, 2008, in Docket No. 07-10-11, Section B.

3. How does the grant payment process work?

Individuals/organizations must apply for a Grant online using the Authority's website or downloading the Application and mailing one original and one copy of the completed Application to:

Public Utilities Regulatory Authority
Attn: Executive Secretary
PEGPETIA Grant
Ten Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

The Authority will review the Applications and award PEGPETIA Grants based on the criteria outline in the March 26, 2008 Decision in Docket No. 07-10-11 DPUC Proceeding to Establish Administrative Guidelines for the Public, Educational and Governmental Programming and Education Technology Investment Account Pursuant to Public Act 07-253.

Once an application is approved and a Decision is rendered, the applicant will have 30 days to submit an affidavit to attest to the terms of that funding Decision. Once a signed affidavit is filed, the Authority will direct that a check be issued. The Applicant will have 90 days thereafter to submit a proof of performance compliance filing. After making the expenditures, the Applicant must submit copies of receipts and proof of payments.

If the Applicant's request for a PEGPETIA Grant has been denied, individuals/organizations may submit a new grant application the following quarter. However, to allow for a variety of requests, Grant recipients will not be permitted to submit an Application in two consecutive quarters.

In the event that funds are exhausted during a particular quarter, the Authority will retain the remaining Applications until the following quarter and make its evaluation of those Applications at that time. The Authority reserves the right to modify grant awards which could conceivably include awarding large requests for funding over multiple years or delaying fund disbursement to match fund availability and/or preserve the 50/50 Act education finding mandate.

The Authority aspires to award as many effective grants as possible to the widest variety of applicants. The Authority supports the awarding of grants in amounts that are equal to or less than that requested by the Applicant.

4. How are grant applications evaluated?

Each Application for funding will be evaluated based on, but not limited to, the criteria outlined in the Authority's March 25, 2008, Decision in Docket No. 07-10-11, Section B.

5. What are the current application deadlines?

Application Open Date: April 30, July 31, Oct 31, Jan 31

Applications received after these dates will be processed in the next quarter.

6. What information should be submitted with the grant application?

Individuals/organizations must submit a completed PEGPTIA Grant Application. The Application must be signed and include complete answers to all questions and copies of bids, estimates, prices, and other supporting information.

Applicants that apply for funding must comply with existing community access rules regarding the prohibitions on advertising, commercial content, political advertising and the exercise of editorial control as a condition of funding. In cases where PEGPETIA funds are awarded for equipment purchases, whether the request for funding is for new or replacement equipment, an upgrade and/or in addition to media or equipment already in place, the recipients of those funds will also be required to demonstrate that the users are qualified or will be qualified to operate the equipment.

7. When will individuals/organizations know about grant awards?

The Authority will notify all Applicants by mail of the grant amount awarded or if their requests for funding were denied.

8. What are the reporting requirements after receiving a grant?

Grant award recipients must acknowledge acceptance of the grant award. Individuals/organizations receiving awards must provide a summary of the impact of the grant funding to the Authority comply with the reporting requirements outlined in the Authority's Decision, in Docket No. 07-10-11, and any Orders contained in the Decisions awarding their respective Grants. The time frame for complying with these requirements will be stated in each Grant Award Decision. The Grant Award Decision may also include more reporting requirements, conditions or grant restrictions.

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