



September 9, 2020

Dear Members,

Now more than ever, up-to-date technology has become an essential need as municipalities continue to try to meet the continuing challenges of operating during COVID-19. As many school districts begin their school year with hybrid or remote learning in lieu of in-person education, student access to computers and the expansion of fiber optic networks is critical. In support of the State's cyber efforts in this area, we would like to share the following important information from Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito:

## **Lieutenant Governor Polito Announces Opening of FY21 Community Compact Cabinet IT Grant Program**

*Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito*

As our Commonwealth's coordinated effort against the COVID-19 pandemic continues and we navigate our communities through these uniquely uncertain times, the need for responsive, innovative and collaborative government has never been greater. While the FY2021 Community Compact Best Practice and Efficiency & Regionalization Programs are on hold as we work with our legislative colleagues on a final FY2021 state budget, it is in this spirit of efficient and cooperative government that we are pleased to announce the launch of the sixth year of the FY2021 Community Compact IT Grant Program.

Since its inception, the Community Compact IT Grant Program has awarded 240 grants totaling \$12 million to municipalities and school districts to invest in transformative technology infrastructure and critical equipment. In years past, grant recipients have utilized funds to fulfill a variety of local needs, from implementing e-permitting systems and expanding or implementing fiber optic networks to upgrading records management, billing systems and public safety systems. A competitive grant program, the Community Compact IT Grant drives innovation and makes it easier for residents to interact and transact with their local government.

### [Fiscal Year 2021 CCC IT Grant Program](#)

The last several months have demonstrated the paramount value of technology in our schools and in municipal operations and communities. The Community Compact IT Grant Program is perfectly positioned to meet our communities' existing technology needs and bolster our Commonwealth's technological capabilities. Under the Community Compact IT Grant Program, grants of up to \$200,000 may be awarded to fund one-time capital needs such as technology infrastructure, upgrades, or purchases of equipment or software.

The FY2021 Community Compact IT Grants application period opens on September 15, and any city or town that was not awarded an FY2020 Community Compact IT Grant is eligible and encouraged to apply.

Look out for my September 8 "Kick-Off" letter, as this communication will feature the FY2021 Community Compact IT Grant application password and additional information.

We are proud to once again offer this effective, municipally focused grant program to our partners in local government and look forward to further supporting our cities and towns through this initiative.

MIIA will be re-introducing, MIIA CyberNet as part of our own effort to enhance municipal cyber security and awareness on September 15th from 1:00 p.m.- 2:00 p.m. You can register for that training [here](#)

We hope that you will be able to join us.

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