



Table 4. Suggested Practices and Policies for Helping Solve the Digital Divide

Solutions	Federal	State/Local	Private Sector
Develop a national broadband strategy that addresses deployment issues, such as funding and permitting, as well as connectivity issues.	X	X	X
Help lower the cost of accessing business platforms that can be shared or pooled among owners.		X	
Provide resources (e.g., grants) for local and regional coalitions to fill gaps in digital technology using wired and non-wired options, taking advantage of federal supports where possible.		X	X
Ensure small and micro businesses have appropriate devices (e.g., computer hardware, software) to participate in e-commerce		X	X
Encourage flexibility in government funding programs so that small businesses can access technology to systematize and scale their businesses.		X	X
Encourage back office consolidation and resource sharing (e.g., human resources and accounting services, and e-commerce opportunities).		X	X
Decrease the cost of broadband access for small and micro businesses in underserved areas through resource sharing and hubs.		X	X