



Including everyone in our digital future

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TechNOW Campaign Overview

Many Oregonians are looking for tangible ways to help their community right now and a local business coalition has formed to do just that. "TechNOW" is a statewide campaign lead by Intel, First Tech Federal Credit Union, Oregon Business Council and other business organizations to collect used laptops that will then be refurbished with the help of Free Geek and sent to students across the state to use for distance learning to help close the digital divide.

The Need: Current estimates show that more than 75,000 computers are needed by students across Oregon to support distance learning (not to mention additional essential needs like telehealth). That means tens of thousands of students are unable to access online learning, have limited ability to connect with teachers, cannot socialize with friends and more. As we look at the long term impacts of COVID-19 on our community and potential distance learning needs going into the fall, giving educators and families access to technology is a lifeline to help students continue their education and ensure they have the tools they need to thrive through this crisis.

Quick Facts:

- Current estimates show that more than 75,000 computers are needed by students across Oregon to support distance learning
- Free Geek currently distributes about 300 to 500 laptops a week
- Since the pandemic, demand for used laptops has spiked by nearly 4,000%, from about 300 requests per month to 3,000 per week.

TechNOW Campaign: In partnership with Free Geek, the business community is uniting to host a series of contactless drive-through technology collection sites across the Portland Metro region over a two-week period beginning on May 27. Employers will be encouraged to share the campaign with their employees and customers. The general community will be also encouraged to participate. Our goal through TechNOW is to donate at least 10,000 computers to students in need.

Become a TechNOW Business Supporter: Oregon's employer community is a key constituent in this campaign. This is an opportunity for Oregon's employers to come together and make a difference, donating resources and mobilizing their employees and customers to give to support Oregon's next generation.

Supporting the drive is simple, and there are options for companies of every size to participate. We encourage each of you to choose at least one of the following ways to participate in the drive:

1. **Make a corporate donation** - commit technology and/or financial support to Free Geek
2. **Engage your employees** - encourage your employees to donate personal technology and dollars
3. **Share with your customers + partners** - promote the TechNOW campaign on social media with your employees, clients, members, vendors, and fans

To get started, access our TechNOW business participation and social media toolkits [here](#).

If you have any questions about the TechNOW campaign please contact [Nicole Frisch](#).

To confirm your participation and to be listed on the TechNOW site as a business supporter, please contact [Kyle Ritchey-Noll](#).