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Dept. of Education Announces Free Tablets and Internet for USVI Students

D.O.E. partners with Heritage Wireless to provide free digital resources to students on the Free and Reduced Breakfast and Lunch Programs

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The V.I. Dept. of Education, in collaboration with Heritage Wireless and Senator Donna Frett-Gregory, has announced a significant opportunity for K-12 students enrolled in public and private schools in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Eligible students, particularly those enrolled in the Free and Reduced Breakfast and Lunch Programs, can now benefit from free tablets and internet services. This initiative is part of the U.S. Affordable Connectivity Program, a \$15 billion congressional effort to support low-income Americans.

According to the department, avail of this offer, parents and guardians must complete an [application process](#), which is crucial to determine eligibility. The deadline for application submission is February 2, 2024, and can be accessed online. This program is not just limited to public school students but also includes eligible private school students. The distribution of tablets and internet service hinges on the submission of these applications.

The department emphasized the importance of this opportunity in enhancing educational access and encourages parents to meet the application deadline. Gratitude was also extended to Ms. Frett-Gregory for her role in facilitating this beneficial partnership with Heritage Wireless. For further information or assistance, parents can contact Dr. Maria Melendez-Tirado, Chief Turnaround Officer at the Dept. of Education.

This initiative is a significant step towards bridging the digital divide, ensuring that students from low-income families have access to essential educational resources. The VIDE remains committed to supporting the educational needs of all students across the U.S. Virgin Islands.

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