The Digital Equity Act focuses on addressing the needs of “Covered Populations,” identity groups and communities disproportionally impacted by digital inequity:

- Low-income households
- Aging populations
- Incarcerated individuals
- Veterans
- People with disabilities
- People with language barriers
- Racial and ethnic minorities
- Rural inhabitants

Planning funds will be used to develop State Digital Equity Plans, which must contain several components:

- **Vision**
  - Stated vision for digital equity

- **Objectives**
  - Measurable objectives
  - Assessment of how those objectives will impact the State’s plans and outcomes

- **Barriers to Digital Equity**
  - Identify barriers to digital equity
  - Include a digital needs assessment

- **Outreach and Engagement**
  - Description of plan to collaborate with key stakeholders to achieve its digital equity goals
  - List of organizations that collaborated on and contributed to digital equity plans
  - Coordination and outreach strategy

- **Integration**
  - Asset inventory of current strategies
  - Description of incorporation of local plans
  - Description of coordination of use of capacity grant funds with BEAD funds

- **Implementation**
  - Implementation strategy
  - Timeline