The Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) has distributed funding under the CARES Act of 2020. This funding enabled the school administration and teachers to identify their technology needs to reopen schools and provide distance learning opportunities for all students.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there are supply chain issues for computers throughout the country that could prevent the Bureau Operated Schools from receiving and distributing that equipment prior to September 16, 2020, when schools reopen.

Here’s an overview of what to expect in the coming months for Bureau Operated Schools as we receive and distribute the equipment.

**SPECIFIC TO BUREAU OPERATED SCHOOLS**

All equipment is being received by the regional BIA Property Officers and will be property tagged with documentation provided to the Schools Certified Property Official for distribution. The equipment will be provided via in-person transport to the school or through 3rd party package carriers for distribution. The following is the type of equipment students will receive:

- Computer
- Jetpack configured for various cellular providers
- Solar charger for students who have no electricity in their homes

In addition, families will be provided with guidance regarding set up and connectivity to the Internet and a selected Learning Management System (LMS) as well as documentation templates to allow the schools as well as BIE to manage the equipment inventory and distribution process.
STUDENTS AND PARENTS/GUARDIANS

The Bureau Operated school will contact parents/guardians to ensure they have correct information on the cellular carrier for the student’s home. An appointment will be set up for the student and a parent/guardian to come to the school to pick up the equipment.

At the appointment, students will receive either 1, 2 or 3 pieces of equipment:

1. Computer
2. Jetpack configured for student’s cellular provider
3. Solar charger for students who have no electricity in their homes

There will be documentation to complete regarding the receipt and care of the equipment; DI-105 form and the BIE IT Equipment Assignment form.

Once students have received the equipment, their Teacher or a Technical Point of Contact will walk them through the following to ensure students have an understanding of equipment use.

Instruction sheets will also be provided for students that includes contact information for any issues they might encounter with the equipment or connections, such as:

1. Power up the computer
2. Power up the jetpack device
3. Connect to the Internet
4. Connect and guide through the processes for student’s selected Learning Management System (LMS)

We look forward to seeing BIE students and staff Return to Learn! on September 16th!