Computers for Teachers (CFT) has provided a laptop computer to approximately 42,000 Queensland school teachers with a permanent employment fraction of 0.4 Full Time Equivalent and above. This allows staff to improve teaching and learning, and communication via new technologies.

With Independent Public Schools being given more opportunities to cater to the needs and expectations of their local communities, the CFT selected model may no longer provide an appropriate solution for their teachers.

This document outlines advantages and disadvantages, should Independent Public Schools consider opting-out of the CFT deployment.

**Option 1: Continue with the CFT program as is**

**Advantages:**

* Laptops are replaced at end-of-life (based on a four-year cycle from date of deployment to each teacher).
* The project management of this replacement, including the selection via an Invitation to Offer process and contract negotiation, is performed by the CFT team on your behalf.
* The bulk buying power of the CFT yearly contract negotiates a better overall solution in the longer term.
* The CFT agreement provides loan devices if a warranty repair cannot be completed onsite within a specified timeframe.
* CFT non-warranty repairs are managed by the CFT team, whereas repairs through the Whole of Queensland Government Standing Offer Arrangement ICTSS.13.12 (Education Schedule) are fully managed by the school.
* Schools will only pay up to $250 for non-warranty repairs as CFT provides a self-insurance scheme (unless the laptop is deemed a write-off from damages caused by theft, fire, flood or negligence).
* CFT manages the devices on your behalf and works with vendors to solve issues that arise throughout the deployment and life of the laptop.
* Weekly detailed reporting allows the CFT team to monitor service levels and follow up where the repair process may have stalled.
* The CFT image on the laptop undergoes extensive testing prior to deployment.
* The laptop image includes a recovery software solution, vendor specific software and drivers, VPN, connectivity software, local admin access for the CFT user, selected desktop shortcuts and a preconfigured power plan for optimal battery usage.
* CFT devices utilise the OneSchool Asset Management Provisioning System (OAMPS). This includes an automatic joining process to the network, automatic financial processes in OneSchool and management features such as loans, loan agreements and reporting.
* OAMPS also provides reporting of faults via vendor reporting.
* CFT provides technical support including user manuals, knowledge-based articles and the principal’s hotline.
* CFT organises the collection and disposal of out of warranty laptops in accordance with government policy.

**Disadvantages:**

* Individual schools do not have direct input into the model offered, and the selected model may not meet the needs of the teachers or the school’s vision for Information and Communications Technology (ICT) delivery. A panel of teachers is selected from a range of schools receiving replacement laptops to comment on and review the models for usability, durability and aesthetics.
* Schools do not have flexibility to work beyond the rules of the CFT program in the areas of servicing, technical changes and timing of deployments and disposals.

**Option 2: Opt-out and receive a financial payment in lieu of CFT laptops**

**Advantages:**

* Schools can select a device based on the needs of their teachers and each school’s vision for ICT delivery.
* Schools have the flexibility to establish their own processes regarding servicing and replacement timeframes, deployment and disposals.
* When schools purchase from the current range offered under the Whole of Queensland Government Standing Offer Arrangement ICTSS.13.12 (Education Schedule) purchasing agreement, they benefit from bulk purchasing pricing, extended warranty conditions and a level of protection.

**Disadvantages:**

* Loan devices for warranty repairs will not be available.
* Non-warranty repair costs will need to be fully covered by the schools. The CFT $250 repair safety net (self-insurance) will not be available.
* The school-purchased devices will not benefit from the CFT image development and software process. The schools will need to develop their own laptop image in line with departmental standards.
* Access to OAMPS, the automatic joining process and the automatic OneSchool finance processes will not be available.
* Schools will be required to comply with green disposal and data security for the disposal of the devices when they reach end of life.
* CFT technical support will not be available for these devices.

**How will the opt-out option work?**

A school will have the option to opt-out of the CFT program in the year that the majority of the CFT laptops are due for replacement.

Schools will need to purchase their new laptops and will be reimbursed in the next financial year by CFT.

The payment is a point-in-time grant, calculated from the current contract price of the laptop or the price paid by the school for their staff laptops (whichever is less), and multiplied by the number of eligible staff at the time of calculation.

The payment is for the life of the laptops (four years) and does not adjust with staffing changes over this time. Proof of purchase of devices is required prior to reimbursement.

If staff numbers increase or decrease during this time, there will be no additional payment or deduction of payment.

For example, school A has 100 eligible CFT teachers and the current laptop price at date of calculation is $1,500.00. Therefore, the school will receive at most $150,000.00 (less if it purchases 100 laptops of lesser value).

**How do I apply?**

Notify the Manager, Computers for Teachers that you wish to opt out of the CFT program. Principals should seek validation of their approach from their regional technology manager.

**For more information on applying to opt out:**

**Please contact:**

Manager, Learning Technologies

Computers for Teachers

3034 5361

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