

WHAT IS PCs FOR PEOPLE?

PCs for People is a non-profit corporation located in St. Paul, MN that refurbishes computers donated by local businesses and individuals and distributes them to those in need.

Our mission is to create new opportunities for people who have limited experience with technology due to social, physical and/or economic circumstances by providing them with personal computers and education.

PCs for People was originally established in Mankato, MN in 1999 by a Blue Earth County social worker. After arranging a single donation for a local teen who was computerless, the need for a program to match donated computers with individuals was realized. Due to the success of the program in Mankato, in August 2008 PCs for People opened a new office in St. Paul. Since that first donation over nine years ago, more than 1,800 computers have been donated to families and individuals.

PCs for People also provides educational experience, internships, as well as volunteer opportunities. The program allows people to give something back to the community and to increase their knowledge of computers.

WHAT DO I GET?

When you receive a computer system from PCs for People, you will get each of the following:

- Computer
- Monitor
- Keyboard
- Mouse

Each computer is capable of doing basic tasks such as browsing the Internet, word processing, listening to music, watching video, and simple photo editing. Each computer will have at minimum the following specifications:

- Windows XP operating system
- 700 MHz CPU (*or greater*)
- 256MB RAM (*or greater*)
- CD ROM drive
- Disk Drive - 3½ inch
- Integrated sound card
- Integrated network card

Each computer comes loaded with the following software:

- Firefox - Internet browsing
- OpenOffice - Word Processing, Spreadsheet, Presentations
- Adobe Reader
- AVG - Antivirus
- AdAware - Spyware removal

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

We ask for a \$45 donation for the computer system. This donation covers the costs of the operating system, upgrades, and disposal.

At any given time, we may also have additional computer accessories available for purchase such as printers, routers, PCI cards, etc.

WHAT IF MY PC BREAKS?

PCs for People warranties equipment for 90 days (hardware) and will replace it if it's not functional. However, other issues due to user error such as physical damage, viruses, spyware, and other software related issues are the responsibility of the user. Repairs due to viruses or other software complications will be charged a \$25 fee.

After the 90-day warranty, PCs for People will make repairs but will charge a small fee of \$25.

There is a limit of one computer per family/individual per year.

How Do I QUALIFY?

To receive a computer from PCs for People a potential recipient must meet one of these conditions:

- Lives below the 150% poverty level
- Has a family member with a disability
- Works with a social worker
- Receives government assistance and/or is enrolled in a program such as:
 - » Adult & Child Mental Health Case Management
 - » Employment Services
 - » Medicaid
 - » Food Support of Financial Assistance
 - » Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
 - » Section 8 or other Federal Public Housing Assistance
 - » Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
 - » The National School Lunch Program's "Free Lunch" Program
 - » Head Start

For households that qualify under the net income test (150% poverty level) the following documentation will be acceptable as part of the application process:

- The prior year's state, federal or tribal tax return
- Three consecutive months worth of income statements from an employer or paycheck stubs within the current calendar year
- A Social Security statement of benefits
- A Veteran Administration statement of benefits
- A retirement/pension statement of benefits
- An Unemployment/Workmen's Compensation statement of benefits
- Federal or tribal notice letter of participation in General Assistance
- A divorce decree, child support or other official document

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: *How do I get access to the Internet?*

A: Each computer comes ready to accept a high-speed Internet connection. High-speed Internet can be purchased from your cable or phone company. Most companies charge between \$15-\$45 dollars per month.

Q: *Do I need an appointment or can I just drop in?*

A: You will need to call ahead and add your name to our waiting list. When a computer is ready for you we will call you to set up an appointment.

Q: *What do I need to bring with me to my appointment?*

A: See the bottom half of the "How Do I Qualify" section of this brochure.

Q: *Are the computers new?*

A: No. Each computer is 3-5 years old and has been refurbished to its original working order.

Q: *Where are you located?*

A: PCs For People is located at 508 Prior Ave North in St. Paul. We are located one block south of University Avenue on the east side of the street.

Q: *What days are you open?*

A: We schedule appointments from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday.

Q: *How do I go about getting a repair?*

A: Please call (651) 354-2552 to schedule a time to bring your computer in.

Q: *Do you deliver?*

A: No, we do not deliver computers or computer equipment.

Q: *Can I donate something?*

A: Yes. Please review our "Donating a Computer Brochure" or e-mail csorensen@pcsforpeople.com.

Receiving a Computer



pcsforpeople

(651) 354-2552

www.pcs4people.com

**PCs For People
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St. Paul, MN 55104**