



Application

ComputerBank Illawarra
Registered No. BN98176114

Physical Address: 28 Jardine Street, Fairy Meadow NSW 2519
Postal Address: PO Box 531, Fairy Meadow NSW 2519
Tel: 02 42 848 676

“Free & Low Cost Computers for The Illawarra.”

Open Every Friday from 10am – 3pm @ 28 Jardine Street, Fairy Meadow NSW 2519 for Donations/Deliveries/Queries

ComputerBank Illawarra commenced operations in October 2005 to provide access to computers for disadvantaged people. ComputerBank is a not for profit, non government, volunteer based organisation. As part of our commitment we provide free basic computer systems to disadvantaged individuals, families, and community groups.

Applying for a Free ComputerBank Computer – Information Sheet

Who is eligible?

You are eligible if you are on a low income, the holder of a concession card and can pick up the computer from ComputerBank in Fairy Meadow.

Fill in the application form supplied with this sheet. Your application must state why you would like a computer and include a supporting letter. We will accept a supporting letter from a social service agency, case worker, support worker, education institution, psychiatrist, psychologist, government department or religious leader. Your support letter should include proof of low income and a brief description of why you need a computer. We **do not** accept support letters from Doctors (GPs). All information obtained by ComputerBank will be treated confidentially.

The basic free ComputerBank system comprises:

1. The Desktop computer hardware is usually a minimum Pentium III, with 256 Mb RAM on a 10 - 20 Gig hard drive. It also has a floppy disk drive, CD Rom Drive, minimum 15” Monitor, a keyboard and mouse. These minimums may change from time to time, as we have parts available.
2. Linux Operating System. – This is a form of Linux OS, and is a complete operating system. THIS SYSTEM WILL NOT HAVE SUPPORT TO RUN WINDOWS PROGRAMS OR WINDOWS GAMES.
If windows is installed over Linux you will no longer receive OS support.
3. The following free and open source software is installed: Open Office for word documents, spreadsheets, Impress is a PowerPoint equivalent, Draw for drawing, built in PDF Writer and Reader etc (compatible with Microsoft Windows)
4. Touch typing tutor. The GIMP imaging program and basic card and kids’ games, *if required.*
5. Included, also, is the Mozilla web browser, Thunderbird Email reader and chat software, if required. These programs will be useful if you purchase a modem and organise an internet connection.
6. The computer comes with a *basic instruction sheet on the computer or a small Starter manual on Mandriva KDE OS. When you come to pick up your computer we provide up to 1hr free training. (You are always welcome to ring us on Wednesdays and Fridays, between 10am and 3pm for advice.)*
7. See our webpage for linux forums to join www.cbi.org.au – there you can ask questions

Unlike Microsoft Windows computers, the Linux operating system and most of the software included with it is available to use, copy, modify and distribute free of charge under the General Public License (GPL). The computers have been designed and built from the ground up by highly skilled volunteers at ComputerBank. The computers are donated by organisations and individuals.

We do NOT supply *or support* Windows systems or windows software. We do not configure “dual boot” systems.

Standard Computerbank computer options:

Select one option only.

- a) Basic computer, usually PIII with CDROM 10 Gig+ (Sound if it is built in.) No charge.

If you want a faster system:

- b) System upgrade P4, 1.5MHz >160+Mg RAM, 20+ Gig hard drive \$30.

Extras available with the basic computer for a fee when parts are needed to be sourced:

\$15 Sound card (if on motherboard it is free) speakers are extra.

\$15 CD ROM drive

\$10 Sml External Speakers

\$15 External Modem 56.5 Kb If you have a modem and an Internet connection your Computerbank computer will let you browse the Internet, write and receive email and chat.

If you want any of these extras include a \$10 deposit with your application. The deposit can be by money order, cheque (payable to "ComputerBank Illawarra") or by cash in person. **Deposit cheques are not cashed until the computer is picked up and any balance is paid. If you fail to pick-up your computer after 3 attempts your application will be cancelled and deposit kept for administration costs.**

Internet Services

DSL To run DSL you need a DSL Modem with an Ethernet connection for your computer to connect to. If **you have trouble connecting with your DSL modem. We will do our best to help but we will need the passwords and user names for the modem and connection.**

Dial Up

Computerbank does NOT provide a free Internet service. ComputerBank **can advise you how** to find an **introductory** Internet **dial up** service provider once your application has been approved. **Or** you can organise your **own** Internet service **before collection or delivery.** **We need the settings** so that we can set it up for you. Instructions are provided in our user **lesson** or you can bring your computer back at a later date if you are unable to do this. We find it time consuming and unproductive setting up Internet connections over the phone.

Printers (prices are guide only)

We do not provide printers. Some of the printers that work with Computerbank computers include:

Epson C45: \$65 (USB only) Epson C65: \$109 (USB only) Epson C43UX: \$80 - \$100 (USB only) Hewlett Packard Deskjet 3820: \$119.00 (USB or Parallel) HP Deskjet 3550: \$50 - \$100 (USB only) HP PSC1315 printer, scanner and copier in one: \$130-140 (USB only) Prices from [IT Supermarket](#) at 26th June, 2005.

Before buying a printer not on this list, check with us to make sure it will work with your ComputerBank computer. Also check the cost of ink replacement – some ink replacements cost over \$90.

Training and Support

ComputerBank offers training to all successful applicants. Your current computer skills (or lack of) will not affect your eligibility; we will help you learn all you need to know to get going. We encourage you **to attend at least one training session.** We will book the training time with you when your application is approved.

During the first three months of receiving a computer ComputerBank provides telephone support on Wednesdays and Fridays between 10am-3pm (subject to volunteer resources). **We also provide Email support to users of our systems.** cbi@fishinternet.com.au

Other important Information

- We will call you when your application is approved and book your training session. If you are worried about the progress of your application we don't mind if you call us.
- Our voluntary service operates on a first come first served basis. We cannot commit to your deadlines.
- All applications go onto a waiting list. The waiting list for individuals wanting a desktop computer is around **two months.** For groups this may be longer.
- ComputerBank is unable to deliver computers, please ensure you can organise your own transport for your computer (courier, friend, taxi, social worker, or other).
- **If you have any additional peripherals (eg: printer, scanner, modem, etc.) which need to be configured with the computer, they must be brought into the office one week before picking up your computer, otherwise we make no guarantee that they will work.**
- If you fail to attend booked training sessions and you do not let us know in advance - you will be required to re-apply. Your application will return to the end of the waiting list.
- Our service is a volunteer service. When you come to ComputerBank we would appreciate it if you could remember this and thank our volunteers for the work they do.
- **We are a volunteer organisation working to "Bridge the Digital Divide."** Please note that due to these restrictions there is a limit to how many machines an individual or organisation can receive. ComputerBank depends on donations of hardware and labour.

Application Form for a Computer System: Individual, Family or Household

Please complete this form and post it to:
ComputerBank Illawarra, PO Box 531, Fairy Meadow NSW 2519

All fields marked with an asterisk (*) must be completed

Note: Only one computer per family or household. **Organisations have a limit of machines (Five Machines per organisation per application)**

1. Have you received and read the ComputerBank information sheet about applying for a computer, and do you agree with the terms of our service? **Our computers don't have WINDOWS installed, they have LINUX installed.** Please Circle - **YES NO** (if NO, please ask us for the information sheet)

2. Applicants Name:.....

3. Address:.....

4. Telephone: Business Hours..... * After hours/mobile.....

5. Email (if available).....

6. Year of birth?..... **or** Age Range (circle): Over 70 50 and Over Over 18 Under 18 Under 12

7. Country of Birth:.....

8. Main Spoken Language:.....

9. What type of Concession entitlement do you receive?.....

10. Concession Card Number:.....

11. Referring Agency (the organisation providing your **support letter**)

Please tell your support person we may contact them if we require more information

12. Why do you need a computer? What will the computer be used for?

12a. Do you already have a computer? If you do, why do you need another one?.....

12b. Will other people use and benefit from the computer. If so, how?

13. Do you have any special needs that we need to know about? For example an eye sight problem, literacy or language issues or a need for adaptive technology? **Educational programs for kids?** If so, please explain briefly.

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14a. If we cannot supply you with Microsoft Windows based system, would you still wish to receive a computer?
Please Circle - **YES NO ? If no, we can't provide another OS support services as we have limited resources.**

14b. If we cannot supply you with a modem for Internet access would you still wish to receive a computer?
Please Circle - **YES NO**

15a. How would you describe your computer skills? Please circle one:
a) Non existent b) Basic c) Intermediate d) Advanced

15b. What Operating system and application software are you most familiar with? (Eg: Windows, Apple Mac, DOS, OS/2, Ubuntu, Mandriva, PCLinuxOS and UNIX)?.....

15c. Have you heard about the **Linux operating system?** If yes, what kind of exposure have you had?.....

16. Are you able to attend a training session upon pick up at ComputerBank Illawarra in Fairy Meadow?

Please Circle - YES NO

17. Will you be able to arrange collection of the computer? You will need to arrange your own transport (courier, taxi, friend, social worker, or other). Please Circle - YES NO

18. From time to time Computerbank would like to be able to conduct follow up interviews and surveys with computer recipients - this process will be valuable in assisting us to provide a quality service. Would you be interested in participating? Please Circle - YES NO

19. Please add any additional comments that you feel would support your application.

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20. Place a tick (✓) against the type of computer configuration you would like:

Standard Computerbank computer options:

Select one option only.

- a) Basic computer (usually PIII with CDROM 10 – 20 Gig , sound if is built-in)No charge
- b) or Computer as above *with sound card.....(add \$15)
- c) or Computer as above with CDROM(add \$15)
- d) or sound card and speakers (add \$25 if not already on board)
- e) Basic Network Card if not on board(add \$10.00)

Other upgrade options:

- a) Pentium IV upgrade (more memory and bigger hard drive, sound)(add \$30)
- b) Second hand CD writer* (> 24 X speed play).....(add \$15)
- c) New dual layer DVD burner * (subject to market prices).....(add \$25 to \$60)
- d) 56K external modem (dial up)*(add\$15)
- e) Speakers *(add\$15)

*subject to availability *or if not on board

Total Cost owing : \$.....

\$10 minimum deposit with this application if you want extras: \$.....

Amount to be paid at time of pick-up: \$.....

We can discuss extras with you when we phone you to arrange your training and the collection of the computer.

21* Have you attached your support letter to this application? Please Circle - YES NO

22 If extras are required, is the deposit included with the application? Please Circle – YES NO

Signature of Applicant (s):

Date: