



THE BROADBAND EQUITY ACCESS AND DEPLOYMENT (BEAD) PROGRAM

PROGRAM DETAILS FOR APPLICANTS

MAY 2022



Introduction

Eligible Entity application process

- 1 Letter of Intent and planning funds application
- 2 Five-Year Action Plan
- 3 Initial Proposal
- 4 Final Proposal

Eligible Entity and subgrantee obligations



INTRODUCTION

Today's webinar will focus on BEAD – the largest of the four high-speed Internet programs administered by NTIA¹

Today's focus

BEAD

\$42.45B

Broadband Equity, Access & Deployment Program

A program to get all Americans online by funding partnerships between states or territories, communities, and stakeholders to build infrastructure where we need it and increase adoption of high-speed internet.

DIGITAL EQUITY

\$2.75B

Digital Equity Act

Three programs that provide funding to promote digital inclusion and advance equity for all. They aim to ensure that all communities can access and use affordable, reliable high-speed internet to meet their needs and improve their lives.

TRIBAL

\$2.00B

Tribal Connectivity Technical Amendments

A program to help tribal communities expand high-speed internet access and adoption on tribal lands.

MIDDLE MILE

\$1.00B

Enabling Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure

A program to expand middle mile infrastructure, to reduce the cost of connecting unserved and underserved areas.

1. National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)
Note: Funding amounts inclusive of all administrative set-asides

BEAD Program will provide ~\$42.45B for infrastructure planning and implementation

Funding pool
\$42.45B

A program to get all Americans online by funding partnerships between states or territories, communities, and stakeholders to build infrastructure where we need it and increase adoption of high-speed internet.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Entities eligible to apply for this program include:

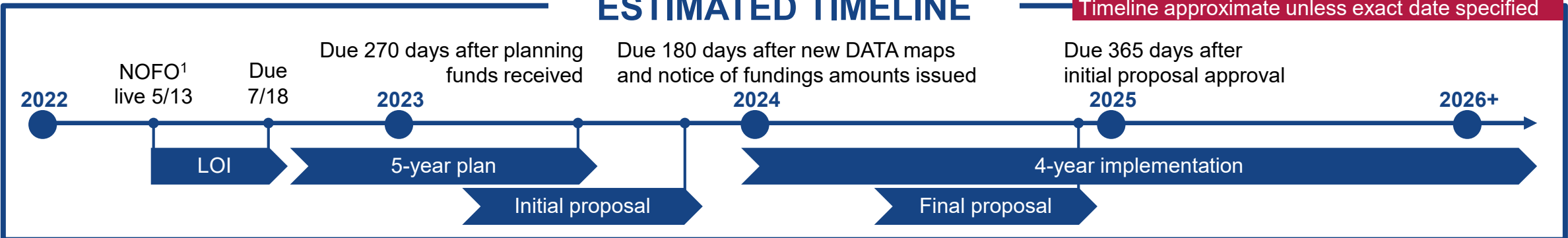
- All 50 States
- The District of Columbia and Puerto Rico
- Other Territories: U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Example eligible uses of funds include:

- ☆ Planning for deployment of Internet
- ☆ Deploying or upgrading Internet
- ☆ Installing Internet in multi-tenant buildings
- ☆ Implementing adoption and digital equity programs
- ☆ Workforce and job training

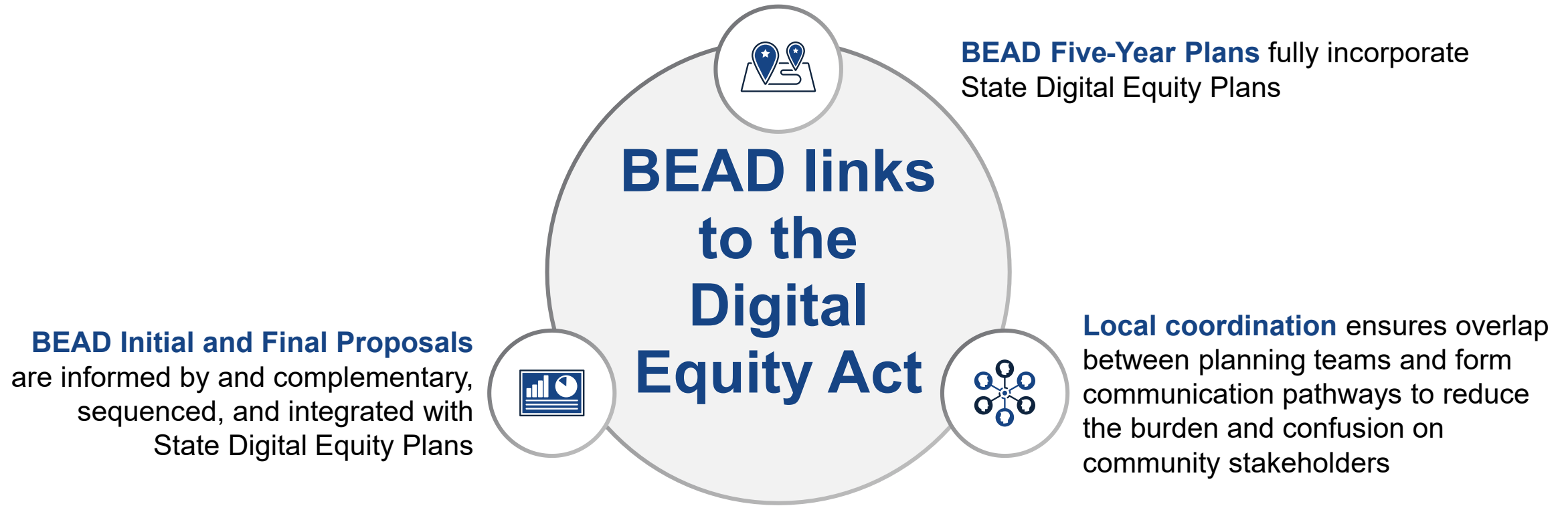
ESTIMATED TIMELINE

Timeline approximate unless exact date specified



1. Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), available [here](#).

The BEAD Program is closely linked to the Digital Equity Act



States and territories should view the BEAD NOFO and State Digital Equity Planning Grant Program NOFO holistically under a **singular, unified objective of closing the digital divide**

The BEAD Program helps deliver broadband access, affordability, and adoption



Access



Increases access for unserved and underserved households to ensure that all Americans have access to high-speed Internet



Ensures Americans have access to **high-quality, broadband services** to support full participation in the 21st century economy and beyond



Affordability



Supports **affordability** of broadband services, esp. in low-income households



Fosters a system that **promotes long-term, sustainable, affordable solutions**



Adoption and equity



Enables investment in digital skills training to increase the number of households adopting high-speed Internet and narrow adoption disparities



Makes investments to ensure Americans can **participate in economy & society, reducing inequities** across sectors, including healthcare, workforce & education

Funding is initially based on a minimum allocation with additional funding allocations based on high-cost and unserved locations



New FCC Broadband DATA Maps will be utilized

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) will publish new broadband coverage maps (Broadband DATA Maps)

The Broadband DATA Maps will be used to determine an Eligible Entity's total funding allocation



Eligible Entities receive a minimum allocation

Minimum allocations by entity:

- **\$100M** for each State, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico
- **\$25M** for American Samoa, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands



Additional allocation based on unserved locations

Additional allocation is based on the number of **unserved locations in high-cost areas** in the Eligible Entity and the **number of unserved locations** in the Eligible Entity

BEAD to prioritize complete coverage of unserved locations and underserved locations (where funding permits)



Complete coverage of **unserved locations** (incl. by deploying Wi-Fi to multi-family buildings)



Complete coverage of **underserved locations** (where funding permits)



NTIA urges use of remaining funds for **Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs)** before other eligible uses

Note: If an Eligible Entity has a plan to deploy service to all unserved and underserved locations within its jurisdiction, it may pursue non-deployment initiatives before or while deployment projects are underway

Federal Program Officers are the point of contact for Eligible Entities during application and implementation processes



Eligible Entities can submit questions through their Federal Program Officers



E.g., questions related to the program or application process may be submitted to Federal Program Officers



Eligible Entities should submit select materials to their Federal Program Officers



E.g., results of any audits conducted of grantees and subgrantees shall be reported to Federal Program Officers



Eligible Entities should submit requests through their Federal Program Officers



E.g., requests for approval of uses of funds not listed in the NOFO should be made in writing to the Assistant Secretary and submitted through the appropriate Federal Program Officer



ELIGIBLE ENTITY APPLICATION PROCESS

Each Eligible Entity will receive BEAD grants and distribute funds to subgrantees

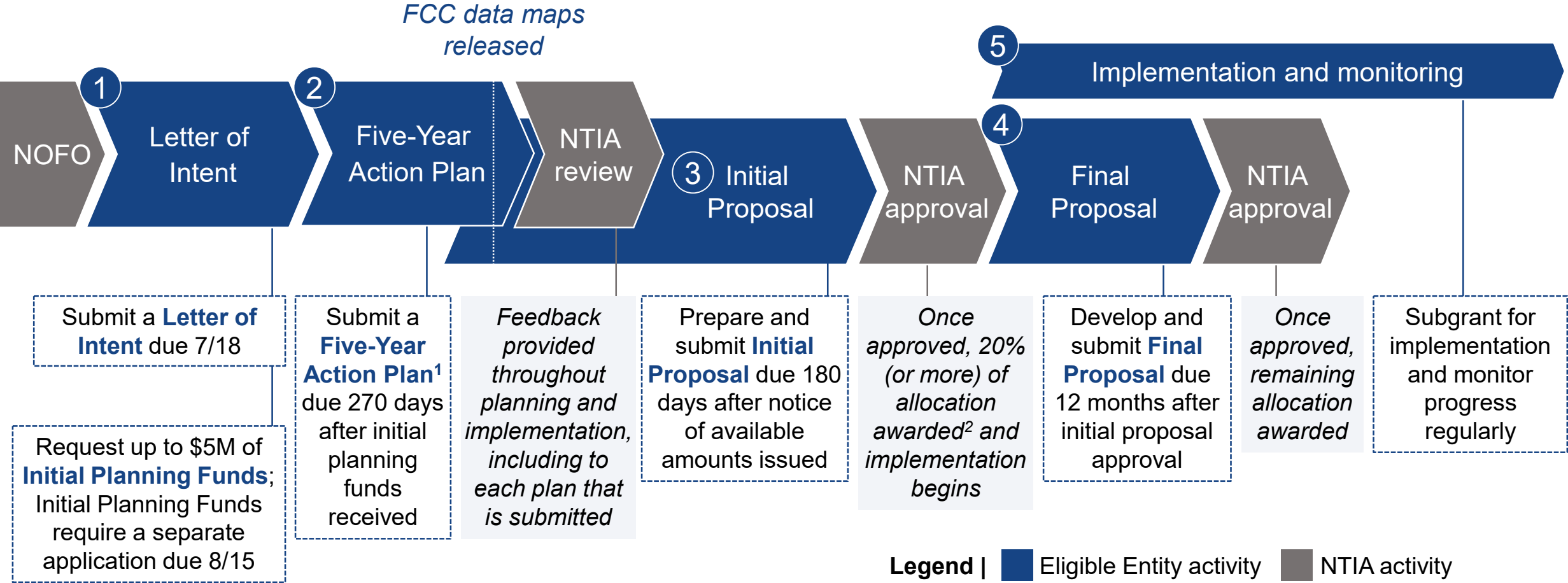


- **"Eligible Entity"** refers to all 50 U.S. States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and other U.S. Territories (including the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands)

*If an Eligible Entity fails to submit or gain approval for a "Covered application" (LOI, initial proposal or final proposal) by the relevant deadline, a **political subdivision, or consortium of political subdivisions** of the entity, may submit a covered application*

- **"Subgrantees"** are entities that receive grant funds from an Eligible Entity to carry out eligible activities – this includes traditional and non-traditional providers (i.e., electric co-ops, nonprofit orgs, public-private partnerships, public or private utilities, public utility districts, Tribal entities, or local govts)

Eligible Entity application includes five key steps



1. Required for entities that receive initial planning funds 2. Must be used for projects in areas with >80% unserved locations or high poverty areas
 Note: funding amounts inclusive of all administrative set-asides

1

ELIGIBLE ENTITY APPLICATION PROCESS

*LETTER OF INTENT AND
PLANNING FUNDS APPLICATION*

1

Letter of Intent | Eligible Entities must submit a Letter of Intent by July 18, 2022, to participate in the BEAD Program

Letter of Intent requirements

- Statement that the Eligible Entity plans to participate
- Identification of the office that will receive and administer any BEAD Program award funds and its main point of contact
- Request up to \$5M for initial planning funds (optional)

An Eligible Entity requesting initial planning funds will need to submit their applications for initial planning funds and required documentation through the NTIA Application Portal by August 15, 2022



NTIA Application Portal

Letters of Intent must be received through the NTIA Application Portal no later than 11:59 p.m. EDT on July 18, 2022

Please contact BEAD@ntia.gov with any questions and ngphelpdesk@ntia.gov for technical support with the portal

2

ELIGIBLE ENTITY APPLICATION PROCESS

FIVE-YEAR ACTION PLAN

Five-Year Action Plan | Eligible Entities that receive Initial Planning Funds must submit their Five-Year Action Plans



\$5M
funding
available

An Eligible Entity may choose to request ≤\$5M Initial Planning Funds

An Eligible Entity that receives Initial Planning Funds must submit a Five-Year Action

Example uses for Initial Planning Funds for planning and pre-deployment activities

- Establishing capacity in office of Eligible Entity running program
- Research and data collection
- Development of a preliminary budget for pre-planning activities
- Publications, outreach & communication support
- Providing technical assistance to potential subgrantees
- Training for employees (e.g., Eligible Entity, stakeholders, etc.)
- Conducting surveys of unserved, underserved, and underrepresented communities
- Local coordination, including capacity building

2

Five-Year Action Plan | Eligible Entities that receive planning funds must submit a Five-Year Action Plan

- 1 Details of the **existing broadband program**, including its activities, any previous entity-wide plans or goals for availability of broadband, and any prior experience awarding broadband deployment grants
- 2 **Current funding available for broadband deployment** or other related activities and the sources of that funding, including additional funds that may be pursued but are not yet in hand
- 3 **Existing efforts funded by the federal government** or an Eligible Entity within the jurisdiction of the Eligible Entity to deploy broadband and close the digital divide.
- 4 **Current employees** who will assist in implementing and administering the BEAD Program and their duties, as well as any existing contracted support, and any planned expansion
- 5 **Known or potential obstacles or barriers** to implementation and corresponding plans to address them.
- 6 **An asset inventory** that catalogues broadband adoption, affordability, equity, access, and deployment activities and provides details regarding any relevant partners
- 7 Details of its **external engagement process**, demonstrating collaboration with local, regional, and Tribal / Native entities
- 8 Available federal, Eligible Entity, or local **broadband availability and adoption data**
- 9 **Local broadband service needs and gaps**, including un- or underserved locations and CAIs without gigabit service, and/or any plans to make determinations where availability is unclear
- 10 **A comprehensive, high-level plan** for providing universal, reliable, affordable, high-speed broadband service throughout the jurisdiction
- 11 **Digital equity and inclusion needs, goals, and strategies**, including ways it plans to utilize BEAD funding, Digital Equity Act funding and/or other funding in concert
- 12 Alignment of the Five-Year Action Plan with **other existing and planned priorities**, incl. economic development, telehealth, workforce development, related connectivity priorities
- 13 **Technical assistance and additional capacity needed** for successful implementation of the BEAD Program

Five-Year Action Plan | Eligible Entities may use template or an existing plan



Templates will be published on grants.ntia.gov

The Assistant Secretary will publish an online template for submission of the Five-Year Action Plan

The use of this template is optional

If an Eligible Entity does not use the online template., it must also provide an index, crosswalk, or similar document to allow the reader to quickly and efficiently locate content



Eligible entities may use existing plans

An Eligible Entity may submit an existing plan and supplemental materials to fulfill requirements

Existing plans must have been completed within 1 year of receipt of Initial Planning Funds

An Eligible Entity may not use BEAD funds to previously incurred costs

3

ELIGIBLE ENTITY APPLICATION PROCESS

INITIAL PROPOSAL

Initial Proposal | Initial Proposals are due within 180 days of the release of the Notice of Available Amounts

Timing	Content	Review	Approval
<p>Once the Notice of Available Amounts is issued, the Assistant Secretary will invite Eligible Entities to submit Initial Proposals</p> <p>Each Eligible Entity will have 180 days to submit its Initial Proposal</p>	<p>Initial Proposal is the first draft of an Eligible Entity's Final Proposal for funding</p> <p>Draft should explain how the Eligible Entity plans to ensure access to a reliable, affordable, high-speed broadband connection</p> <p>Draft should describe challenge process for stakeholders to challenge whether a location is eligible for funds and process for selecting subgrantees</p>	<p>Prior to submission, each political subdivision and Tribal / Native entities must have opportunity to submit a plan for consideration and comment on the proposal</p> <p>Assistant Secretary will then begin the iterative review process in the order Initial Proposals are submitted</p> <p>Assistant Secretary decides if proposed use of funds:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complies with statute 2. Is in the public interest 3. Effectuates the purposes of the statute 	<p>When the Assistant Secretary approves of the Initial Proposal, the Eligible Entity may receive 20% of its total allocation for expenditures specifically approved in the initial proposal</p>

Initial Proposal | Initial Proposals include 19 components

Outline of long-term objectives ☆	Detail use of strong labor standards and plan for labor-related subgrantee selection criteria
Support of local, Tribal, and regional broadband planning efforts ☆	Detail plan to achieve a diverse and highly-skilled workforce
List of existing efforts to deploy broadband ☆	Support of minority- and women-owned businesses
Certification that local coordination was conducted	Steps to reduce costs and barriers to deployment
Identification of un- and underserved locations	Assessment of climate threats and mitigation methods
Description of how definition of CAI¹ was applied	Description of low-cost plans to be offered
Detailed plan to conduct challenge process	Description of intended use of 20% funding
Detailed plan to award subgrants , including Extremely High Cost per Location Threshold	Disclosures around plans to waive laws that restrict public sector participation
Explanation of preferences for non-deployment eligible activities	Certification of intent to comply with requirements
Description of initiatives Eligible Entity will implement without subgrant	

1. Community Anchor Institution

Legend | ☆ References to a completed Five-Year Action Plan satisfies this requirement

3

Initial Proposal | Funding allocation includes three components and is based on new FCC maps

Eligible Entities are invited to submit Initial and Final Proposal after the Assistant Secretary issues the Notice of Available Amounts to Eligible Entities, including:

<p>Minimum allocation</p>	<p>\$100M for each State, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico</p> <p>\$25M for American Samoa, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands</p>
<p>High-cost allocation</p>	$\frac{\text{\# unserved locations in high-cost areas in the Eligible Entity}}{\text{\# unserved locations in high-cost areas in the US}} \times \$4.245B$
<p>Remaining funds allocation</p>	$\frac{\text{\# unserved locations in the Eligible Entity}}{\text{\# unserved locations in the US}} \times \text{Remaining funds}^1$

New FCC Broadband DATA Maps will be utilized to identify unserved locations²

Eligible Entities shall develop a **challenge process** for stakeholders to challenge whether a location or CAI is served, unserved, or underserved

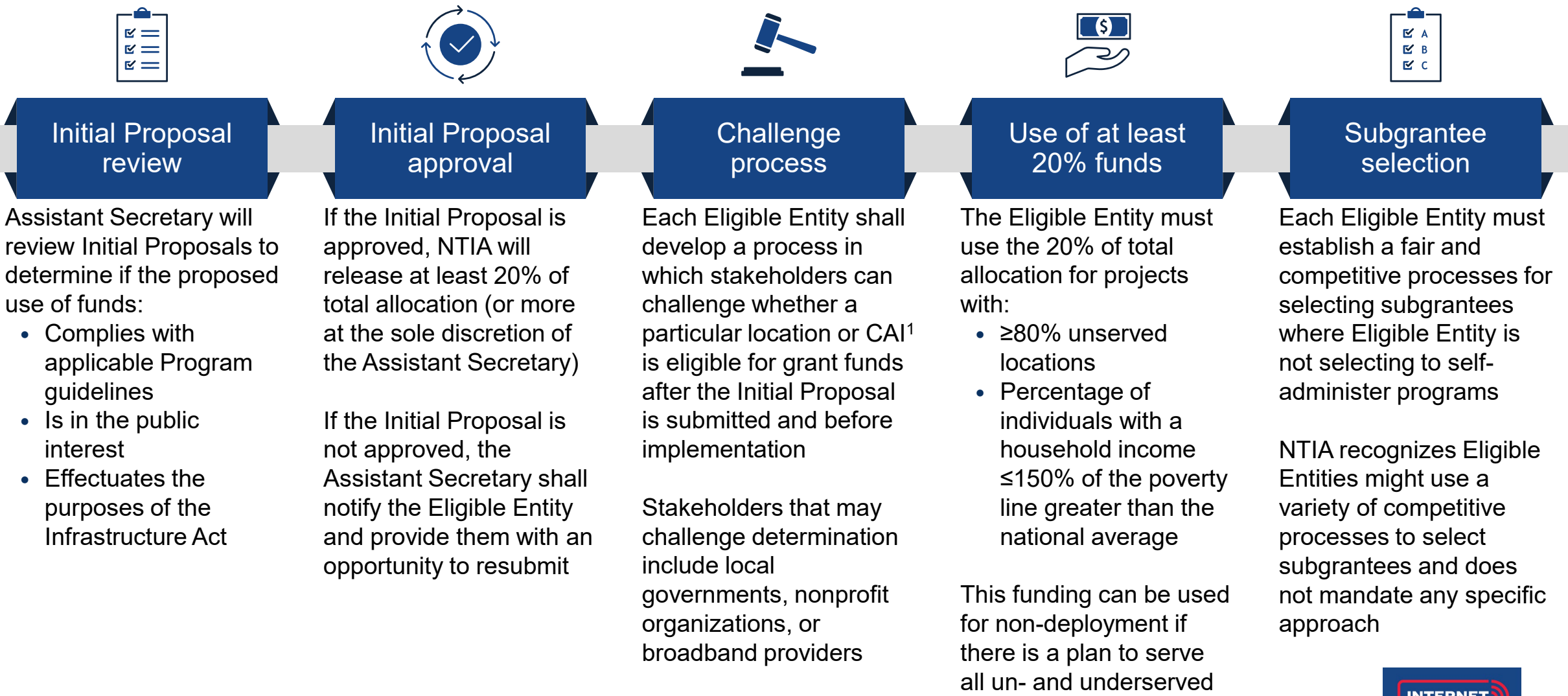
At least 60 days before allocating funds, Eligible Entities must **document the final list** of unserved locations, underserved locations, and eligible community anchor institutions

Note: Eligible Entities can use no more than 2% for administrative purposes

1. \$41.6B – minimum initial allocation – high-cost allocation 2. The Assistant Secretary will, in coordination with the Commission, choose a date certain upon which the Broadband DATA Maps will be utilized to identify unserved locations (the “Allocation Date”)

3

Initial Proposal | If the Initial Proposal is approved, NTIA will release at least 20% of total allocation for select purposes



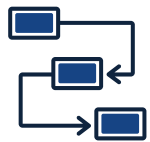
1. Community Anchor Institution

3

Initial Proposal | The eligible entity must conduct a process for stakeholders to challenge if a location is eligible for funds



First, each Eligible Entity must develop and describe in the Initial Proposal, a process to challenge its determination of whether a particular location or CAI¹ is eligible for grant funds



Second, the Eligible Entity shall conduct the challenge process (once approved by the Assistant Secretary) before allocating grant funds received from BEAD for the deployment of broadband networks



Third, after resolving each challenge and at least 60 days before allocating funds for deployment, an Eligible Entity must provide public notice of the final classification of each unserved location, underserved location, or eligible community anchor institution



Fourth, NTIA has discretionary authority to reverse the determination of an Eligible Entity with respect to the eligibility of a particular location or community anchor institution

Initial Proposal | Eligible Entities must use first 20% of total funds for select purposes except in case of waiver



If Initial Proposal is approved, NITA will release at least 20% of total allocation

If the Initial Proposal is approved, NTIA will release at least 20% of total allocation (or more at the sole discretion of the Assistant Secretary)

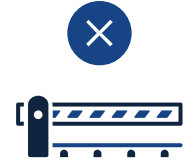
This funding can be used for non-deployment if there is a plan to serve all un- and underserved



Eligible Entity may use funds for select purposes after challenge process and subgrantee selection

Upon completion of the challenge process and the subgrantee selection process, an Eligible Entity may use this at least 20% of total allocation for projects that:

1. Consist of at least 80 percent unserved locations; and
2. Are in a location in which the percentage of individuals with a household income at or below 150 percent of the poverty line applicable to a family of the size involved that is higher than the national percentage of such individuals



Assistant Secretary may waive limitations on the use of this at least 20% of total allocation

An Eligible Entity may use this at least 20% of total allocation for other eligible uses only if the Eligible Entity is able to demonstrate to the Assistant Secretary that the Eligible Entity has a plan to its the unserved and underserved locations in the Eligible Entity's Final Proposal

In this case, the Assistant Secretary may waive, in whole or in part, limitations on the use of at least 20% of total allocation

Initial Proposal | Eligible Entities must establish fair, open, and competitive processes for selecting subgrantees

Principles for the Eligible Entity's subgrantee selection process:

- May fund an unserved or underserved project area as small as a **single location**
- May include **Middle Mile Infrastructure** in or through any area required to reach interconnection points or otherwise required to serve an unserved location, underserved location, or eligible Community Anchor Institution
- May not fund a project already subject to a **federal or State commitment** for broadband deployment unless Eligible Entity demonstrates to the Assistant Secretary that it is necessary to achieve the goals of the program and receives a waiver
- Must **maximize the public benefits** by maximizing match and reducing costs to consumers
- May seek bids for unserved locations, underserved locations, and CAs **collectively or separately**
- May not exclude **different types of subgrantees** from eligibility (e.g., cooperatives, nonprofits, public-private partnerships, private companies, public or private utilities, public utility districts, or local governments)
- May solicit proposals from prospective subgrantees at the **geographic level of its choosing** (e.g., per-location, per-census block, etc.) or ask prospective subgrantees to define their own proposed project areas
- Must include the **level of BEAD subsidy** required to serve a specific location
- May encourage providers to **expand their existing/proposed service areas** and may consider inducements (e.g., use State funds for match) if the Eligible Entity has **received no proposals** to serve a location that is unserved or underserved
- Must submit proof of the **Tribal Government's consent** to deployment to Unserved Service Projects or Underserved Service Projects that include any locations on Tribal Lands
- May decline to select a proposal that **exceeds the extremely high cost per location threshold**

Further guidance will be provided in subsequent webinars

3

Initial Proposal | Complete coverage of unserved locations and underserved locations (where funding permits)



First, Eligible Entities must serve all unserved locations (incl. serving multi-tenant buildings)

- **Unserved locations** without reliable internet and with download speeds <25 Mbps, upload speeds <3 Mbps, and latency <100ms



Second, Eligible Entities must serve all underserved locations

- **Underserved locations** without reliable internet and with download speeds <100 Mbps, upload speeds <20 Mbps, and latency <100 ms



Next, NTIA strongly urges Eligible Entities serve Eligible Community Anchor Institutions

- **Eligible Community Anchor Institutions** are entities (e.g., school, library, hospital) that facilitate greater use of high-speed Internet service by vulnerable populations and have download speed <1 Gbps
- **Other eligible uses** include affordability programs, cybersecurity training, workforce development, etc.
- If an Eligible Entity wants to use funds for other eligible uses instead of eligible Community Anchor Institutions, then it must provide a strong rationale

Note: If an Eligible Entity has a plan to deploy service to all unserved and underserved locations within its jurisdiction, it may pursue non-deployment initiatives before or while deployment projects are underway

Initial Proposal | When selecting among proposals, Eligible Entities must use an approved process with certain criteria

Process must first assess which locations have one or more proposals that meet two criteria:

1. Satisfy subgrantee requirements
2. Priority Broadband Projects

Priority Broadband Projects are projects that will rely entirely on **fiber-optic technology** to reach end-user premises

Except that an Eligible Entity may disqualify any project that *surpasses the Extremely High Cost Per Location Threshold*

Primary criteria must account for **≥75%** of the total selection criteria available in choosing between proposals

Priority Broadband Projects

If there is **only one** priority project proposal for an area, that proposal is the default winner unless a waiver granted

If there is **more than one** priority proposal, run competition, affording benefits to the following factors:

- ★ Minimal BEAD Program outlay
- ★ Affordability
- ★ Fair labor practices
- ★ Speed to deployment
- ★ Workforce development
- ★ Open access
- ★ Local and Tribal coordination

Non-priority projects

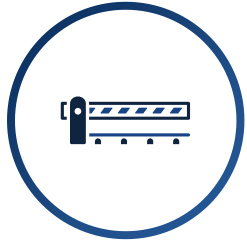
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- ★ Minimal BEAD Program outlay
- ★ Affordability
- ★ Fair labor practices
- ★ Speed to deployment
- ★ Speed and tech capabilities
- ★ Workforce development
- ★ Open access
- ★ Local and Tribal coordination

3

Initial Proposal | Eligible Entity must identify "Extremely High Cost per Location Threshold"

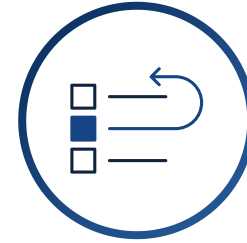


Eligible Entities must identify Extremely High Cost per Location Threshold in Initial Proposal

The Extremely High Cost per Location Threshold is a BEAD subsidy cost per location above which an Eligible Entity may decline to select a proposal if an alternative technology meeting would be less expensive

In the Initial Proposal, Eligible Entities must identify or detail a process for identifying an Extremely High Cost Per Location Threshold

NTIA expects Eligible Entities to set the Extremely High Cost Per Location Threshold as high as possible to help ensure that end-to-end fiber projects are deployed wherever feasible



Eligible Entities use Extremely High Cost per Location Threshold in subgrantee selection

An Eligible Entity may decline a proposal that requires a BEAD subsidy that exceeds the threshold if an alternative technology meeting the program's technical requirements is less expensive

If no technology meeting the program's requirements is deployable for a subsidy less than the threshold, an Eligible Entity is authorized to select a proposal involving a less costly technology that does not satisfy the program's baseline technical requirements



3

Initial Proposal | Subgrantees must meet general and specific qualification requirements

General qualifications

Eligible Entities shall ensure that any prospective subgrantee is capable of carrying out activities funded by the subgrant in a competent manner and in compliance with all applicable laws



Seven specific qualifications:

Financial capability: Certification of financial qualifications, letter of credit, audited financial Statements, and project pro forma analyses

Managerial capability: Resumes for key personnel, org charts, and narrative describing qualifications

Technical capability: Network design, diagram, project cost, buildout timeline and milestones, and capital investment schedule

Compliance with laws: Permit worker-led health and safety committees that management will meet with upon reasonable request

Operational capability: Certification of operational capability and certification for experience (e.g., for broadband service experience)

Ownership: Provide ownership info, including name address and citizenship of any party with >10% stock in applicant¹

Other public funding: Disclose any applications for broadband service projects using public funds

1. Consistent with requirements set forth in 47 C.F.R. § 1.2112(a)(1)-(7)

Initial Proposal | Matching funds $\geq 25\%$ of project costs are required for deploying broadband service projects

Requirement

Matching funds $\geq 25\%$ of project costs provided by subgrantee, an Eligible Entity, local government, a utility, a cooperative, a nonprofit, a for-profit company, regional planning or governmental organization, or any combination thereof

Preference for minimum subsidy

Eligible Entities are required to incentivize matches $> 25\%$ to reduce the federal share of projects and extend the reach of BEAD Program funding

Federal funds

Federal funds may not be used as matching funds, except as expressly provided to deploy broadband service under four acts¹

In-kind matches

Matching funds may be cash or in-kind contributions consistent with the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards set forth at 2 C.F.R. Part 200

Match waivers

The Assistant Secretary will grant match waivers only in extraordinary circumstances to serve the public interest and effectuate the purposes of the BEAD Program (e.g., projects in designated “high-cost areas”)

1. (1) The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (Public Law 116-127; 134 Stat. 178), (2) the CARES Act (Public Law 116-136; 134 Stat. 281), (3) the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Public Law 116-260; 134 Stat. 1182), and (4) the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Public Law 117-2; 135 Stat. 4)

4

ELIGIBLE ENTITY APPLICATION PROCESS

FINAL PROPOSAL

Final Proposal | Final Proposals are due within a year of the Initial Proposal's approval



Timing

Once an Eligible Entity's Initial Proposal is approved, it will have **12 months** to submit a Final Proposal

Before submitting the Final Proposal, an Eligible Entity must complete the challenge process and the subgrantee selection process

Content

The NOFO describes minimum requirements for the Final Proposal, and NTIA will provide an **online template** for submission

Review

Prior to submission, each political subdivision and Tribal / Native entities must have opportunity to submit a plan for consideration and comment on the proposal

Assistant Secretary will review in the order Final Proposals are submitted

Assistant Secretary will decide whether the proposed use of funds complies with the statute

Approval

When the AS approves of the Final Proposal, the Eligible Entity will **receive remaining BEAD Program funds**

Final Proposal | Final Proposals include 15 components

- Plan that specifies the **outcome of the subgrantee selection process**
- Timeline** for implementation
- Processes for **oversight and accountability**
- Certification that **local coordination was conducted**
- Description of the **results of the challenge process**
- Certification that it will **serve all unserved locations**, if seeking to fund underserved, CAI, or other projects
- Description of all planned **uses of funding** that are **not** broadband infrastructure **deployment**
- Means by which **subgrantees were selected for non-deployment** eligible activities

- Description of efforts to support **participation of non-traditional providers**
- Implementation **status of plans** described in the Initial Proposal – *additional details on next slide*
- Specific commitments made by selected subgrantees to warrant a **Priority Broadband Project**
- Specific commitments made by subgrantees to warrant **benefits in selection (e.g., primary criteria)**
- Environmental** documentation and plan to comply w/ environment and national historic preservation reqs
- Plans to deploy to **Un-/Underserved Service Projects** and **Resolution of Consent** for projects on Tribal Lands
- Description of **unsuccessful applications** that were **affected by laws of the Eligible Entity**

Legend | References to a related requirement in the Initial Proposal

Final Proposal | Implementation status of plans detailed in Initial Proposal includes five components



Steps to streamline **permitting processes** and provide **cost-effective access** to poles, conduits, ROW¹, etc.



Labor and workforce activities, including how the Eligible Entity implemented and applied the labor-related subgrantee selection criterion required herein;



Utilization of **minority businesses, women-owned business enterprises**, and **labor surplus area firms**



Low-cost plan requirements



Climate change and resiliency

1. Right-of-way

Final Proposal | Final Proposal approval results in remaining 80% of funding released



80%
funding
available

Once the Final Proposal is approved, the remaining Program funds (80% of total allocation) will be available to the Eligible Entity

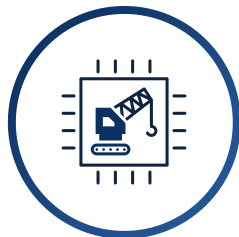
Eligible uses for these general funds are categorized into last-mile deployment-related uses and non-last-mile-related uses

Example eligible uses of general funds¹

- Deployment projects in un- and underserved areas
- Connecting eligible community anchor institutions
- Data collection, broadband mapping & planning
- Installing internet in multi-family residential buildings
- Infrastructure, facilities, and broadband deployment
- Broadband adoption
- Training and workforce development
- Digital Equity programs

1. See more specific examples on next page

Final Proposal | NOFO provides specific examples of eligible uses of funds



Last-mile deployment-related uses

- Construction, improvement, and/or acquisition of facilities and telecom equipment
- Long-term leases of facilities required to provide qualifying broadband service
- Deployment of internet and Wi-Fi infrastructure in an eligible multi-family residential building
- Engineering design, permitting, and work for environmental reviews
- Personnel costs for BEAD implementation
- Network software upgrades, including, but not limited to, cybersecurity solutions.
- Training for cybersecurity professionals who will be working on BEAD-funded networks.
- Workforce development



Non-exhaustive

Non-last-mile-related uses

- User training with respect to cybersecurity, privacy, etc.
- Remote learning or telehealth services/facilities
- Digital literacy/upskilling and computer science, coding and cybersecurity education programs
- Implementation of Eligible Entity digital equity plans
- Broadband sign-up assistance and tech support
- Multi-lingual outreach to support adoption
- Prisoner education to promote pre-release digital literacy, job skills, online job-acquisition skills, etc.
- Digital navigators
- Direct subsidies for use toward broadband subscription
- Costs associated with stakeholder engagement, including travel, capacity building, or contract support

5

ELIGIBLE ENTITY APPLICATION PROCESS

*IMPLEMENTATION
AND MONITORING*

Implementation and monitoring | Both Eligible Entities and subgrantees must comply with reporting requirements



Reporting requirements for eligible entities

Initial report (within 90 days after receiving any grant funds):

- Planned and actual use of funds
- Planned and actual subgrant process
- Mechanisms to ensure subgrantees comply with eligible uses

Semiannual report (no later than 1 year after receiving grant funds, then semi-annually):

- Use of grant funds
- Service provided with the grant funds and the status of projects
- Locations at which broadband service was made available or will be made available or utilized, and the comparative demographics of those served
- Certification of compliance with additional reporting requirements

Final report (no later than 1 year after all grant funds expended):

- Service provided with the grant funds and the status of projects
- Locations at which broadband service was made or will be made, locations at which broadband service was utilized, and the comparative demographics of those served
- Each report from subgrantees
- Certification of compliance with additional reporting requirements

Reporting requirements for subgrantees

Semiannual reports describe type of project and/or other eligible activities and duration of the subgrant, including at a minimum:

- List of addresses that will be served and each project status
- New locations served within each project area at the relevant reporting intervals, and service taken (if applicable)
- Whether each address or location is residential, commercial, or a community anchor institution
- Types of facilities that have been constructed and installed;
- Peak and off-peak actual speeds of services
- Maximum advertised speed of services
- Non-promotional prices, including fees for different tiers
- All interconnection agreements requested and current status
- Number and award amount of contracts and subcontracts awarded that are minority or women owned business entities
- Include any other data needed to comply with data and mapping standards for broadband infrastructure projects
- Federal Financial Report (SF-425)
- Additional reporting for projects >\$5M
- Comply with Eligible Entity's other reasonable requirements



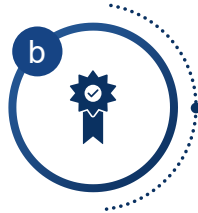
ELIGIBLE ENTITY AND SUBGRANTEE OBLIGATIONS

Eligible Entity obligations | Eligible Entities must meet eight programmatic requirements



Consider all provider types

May not exclude co-ops, nonprofits, public-private partnerships, private companies, utilities, public utility districts, or local government from eligibility



Ensure subgrantee accountability

Must include sufficient accountability procedures to ensure subgrantee compliance with Program reqs



Local coordination

Must coordinate with political subdivisions and local, Tribal, and community-based orgs



Equitable and nondiscriminatory distribution of funds

Must distribute funds and ensure subgrantee uses funds in an equitable and nondiscriminatory manner



Fair labor practices

Must give preferential weight to projects based on the strength of their fair labor practices



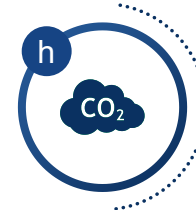
Highly skilled workforce

Must make appropriate investments to develop a highly-skilled, diverse workforce



Civil rights and nondiscrimination laws

Must require subgrantees to agree to abide by the non-discrimination requirements



Climate resiliency

Must demonstrate that they have sufficiently accounted for current and future weather- and climate-related risks

Select details on next slides

C

Local coordination | Eligible Entities to detail ongoing local coordination efforts and plan to fulfill future requirements



Geographic coverage



Coordination must incl. Tribal, rural, suburban, and urban areas

Each political subdivision and Tribal / Native entity must be given:

- Opportunity to submit a plan for Eligible Entity consideration
- Opportunity to comment on Eligible Entity proposals



Diverse stakeholders



Coordination must include a diversity of stakeholders

Eligible Entities must ensure Tribal / Native entities are involved in developing plans (incl. via a formal Tribal consultation process)

Example stakeholders include State agencies, CAIs, non-profits, etc.



Outreach mechanisms



Coordination must include multiple mechanisms to ensure broad awareness and participation

Example mechanisms include listening sessions, public meetings, websites, social media, etc.



Transparency



Coordination must include clear procedures to ensure transparency

Examples include websites, periodic reports, in-person meetings, etc.



Un-/underserved and under-represented communities



Coordination must target un-/underserved, and underrepresented communities that have historically faced barriers in participating in federal programs

Examples include an advisory board with representatives, surveys to better understand needs, etc.

Fair labor practices and highly skilled workforce | Entities must also consider fair labor practices and plan for a highly skilled workforce



Fair Labor Practices

Eligible Entities are required to give **preferential weight** to projects based on the strength of the showing in their application on **fair labor practices**

Initial and Final Proposals must have descriptions of how subgrantees will:

- Demonstrate their compliance with **federal labor and employment laws**
- Ensure compliance in **their own labor and employment practices**, as well as those of their contractors and subcontractors



Highly Skilled Workforce

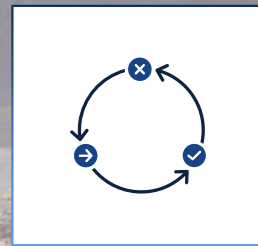
Eligible Entities and subgrantees should invest in developing a highly-skilled, diverse workforce for the new jobs that need to be filled

Initial and Final Proposals must include descriptions of how the EE will:

- Ensure subgrantees use a **highly trained workforce** able to carry out work safely and effectively
- Develop and promote **sector-based partnerships**
- Create **equitable on-ramps** into broadband-related jobs
- Ensure that the new jobs are available to a **diverse pool** of workers

h

Climate resiliency | Applicants must account for current and future weather- and climate-related risks



Identify **geographic areas** for an initial hazard screening and time scales for such screenings



Identify the most important **weather and climate hazards** in these areas



Characterize **risks to new infrastructure** funded by BEAD for 20 years following deployment



Identify how the proposed plan will **avoid or mitigate the risks** identified



Detail the applicant's plans for periodically **repeating this process** over the life of the project

Subgrantee obligations | Subgrantees must meet three programmatic requirements

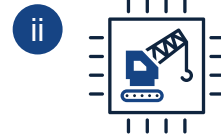


Network capabilities

Speed: $\geq 100/20$ Mbps or 1/1 Gbps for CAIs

Latency: 95% of measurements below 100 ms round-trip time

Outages: <48 hrs over any 365-day period except in the case of natural disasters or force majeure



Deployment requirements

Deadlines: Deploy and begin service not later than four years after subgrant received (with possible one year extension)

Milestones: Meet milestones established by Eligible Entities

Conduit access points: Include interspersed conduit access points at regular and short intervals for interconnection



Service obligations

Low-cost plan: Offer a low-cost option for all eligible subscribers

Consumer protections: Do not impose data usage caps

Access to service: Reasonable and non-discriminatory terms and conditions

Public notice: Conduct awareness campaigns to increase adoption

Interconnection and wholesale access: Permit interconnection for MM infrastructure receiving funding

Cybersecurity and supply chain: Adhere to baseline requirements

Service obligations | Subgrantees must offer at least one low-cost broadband service option for all eligible subscribers

Eligible Entities to propose "low-cost broadband service option" definition for approval

Eligible Entities shall submit a proposed definition to the Assistant Secretary for approval in their Final Proposal

In determining whether to approve a definition, the Assistant Secretary will consider, among other factors:

- 1 Cost to an Eligible Subscriber¹ after subsidies (both monthly and non-recurring charges)
- 2 Plan's basic service characteristics
- 3 Ability to apply Affordable Connectivity Benefit subsidy
- 4 Ability to upgrade to any new low-cost service plans offering with better technical specifications

The "low-cost broadband service option" is in addition to requirement to submit a **middle-class affordability plan** to ensure that all consumers have access to affordable high-speed internet access

Example definition for option that the Assistant Secretary is likely to approve

Speed: $\geq 100/20$ Mbps or FCC performance benchmark²

Upgrades: Permits eligible subscribers with one low-cost broadband service option to upgrade to another low-cost broadband service option with higher speeds at no costs

Latency: ≤ 100 ms

Data caps, surcharges, etc.: Not subject to data caps, surcharges, or usage-based throttling; subject only to the same acceptable use policies as other broadband plans

Subsidies: Subgrantees required to participate in ACP; eligible subscribers that are eligible for a subsidy can apply the subsidy to the option

Cost: $\leq \$30$ incl. taxes and fees for at least one option



1. Any household seeking to subscribe to broadband Internet access service that qualifies for the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) or any successor program 2. The performance benchmark for fixed terrestrial broadband service established by the FCC pursuant to Section 706(b) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended



NEXT STEPS

This webinar focuses on info for BEAD applicants, but every stakeholder is invited to be involved in the BEAD program

Illustrative, non-exhaustive

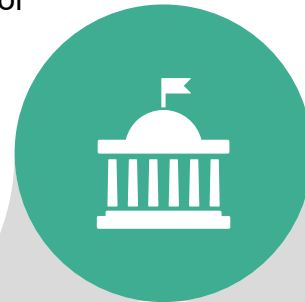
Telecom provider

- Apply to be a BEAD subgrantee
- *Note: Telecom providers may include government owned entities*



Community anchor institution

- Benefit from BEAD funding for faster Internet
- Advocate for community interests across programs



Community orgs

- Coordinate on planning and execution
- Advocate for community interests across programs



Tribal government

- Coordinate, consult, and partner with states during BEAD planning

Local government

- Collaborate with states during BEAD planning

Individual

- Participate in digital skill and literacy courses funded by programs
- Contact local reps for more information

Next steps for applicants related to the BEAD Program

- 1 Identify your State or Territory's Federal Program Officers (i.e., your BEAD point of contact)
- 2 Organize and conduct outreach via your State or local broadband office
- 3 Submit questions to BEAD@ntia.gov
- 4 Attend future NTIA webinars and engage with NTIA
- 5 Submit a Letter of Intent for the BEAD Program by July 18, 2022
- 6 Decide whether to request up to \$5M for Initial Planning funds by August 15, 2022

For specific inquiries, please contact the appropriate office

Programmatic inquiries

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