

## Broadband Infrastructure Program (BIP) BIP 1-Year Anniversary

### *Frequently Asked Questions*

**Q: How can a fiber infrastructure company be matched with grant recipients to offer our services if there is a broadband workforce shortage?**

**A:** The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) does not match internet service providers (ISPs) with grant recipients. For any funding opportunity, it is the responsibility of the applicant to find providers to work with and include as part of their application. Interested parties might consider reaching out to your state broadband office and/or state NTIA Federal Program Officer (FPO) to see what opportunities there are to partner with different organizations.

**Q: Is there a way for the public to access a list of the entities implementing these projects?**

**A:** The identities of award recipients are public information and can be found on websites such as [BroadbandUSA.com](https://www.broadbandusa.gov). The companies performing the work are chosen by subrecipients following Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) procurement rules and are not published publicly.

**Q: Is the Huntingdon County project deploying fixed wireless technology?**

**A:** Yes, Huntingdon County is a fixed wireless project. For more information, please visit [BroadbandUSA.com](https://www.broadbandusa.gov).

**Q: Do commercial service providers share revenue with the government in exchange for having infrastructure funded for them?**

**A:** Pursuant to [2 CFR § 200.307](#), Program Income generated during the Period of Performance is used to defray costs. There are no Federal requirements governing the disposition of income earned after the end of the period of performance for a Federal award unless the Federal awarding agency regulations or the terms and conditions of the Federal award provide otherwise. Neither of those conditions apply to the BIP.

**Q: How can the public find available requests for proposals (RFPs) for the telecom projects covered under the BIP?**

**A:** Pursuant to the procurement standard outlined in the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards ([2 CFR 200](#)), RFPs are required to be published for all competitive procurements. Publication methods vary, and Federal regulations do not specify how publication must be done. A common method is to post RFPs on the website of the award recipient. Interested parties might consider reaching out to your state broadband office and/or state FPO to see what opportunities there are to partner with different organizations.

**Q: Will the local or private entities take ownership of the constructed networks funded by the BIP?**

**A:** Pursuant to [2 CFR §§ 200.311; 200.313](#), responsibilities related to real property and equipment acquired or improved with Federal funds rest with the grant recipient. While the recipient(s) hold(s) title to the assets, the Federal government retains a Federal Interest irrespective of ownership. This Federal Interest is an undivided equitable reversionary interest in a BIP-funded property that exists for the duration of the useful life of this property. The amount of the Federal Interest is computed as the percentage of the then current fair market value of the BIP-funded property attributable to NTIA's participation in the project (see 2 CFR §§ 200.311(c); 200.313(e)). Costs to insure, maintain, and manage the acquired property are covered by the title holder, while restrictions are placed on the use and disposition of real property and equipment acquired or improved with Federal funds. During the duration of the Federal Interest, a recipient may not sell, lease, assign, mortgage, or otherwise convey any interest in a BIP-funded property without the prior written approval of the Grants Officer. Furthermore, a recipient must comply with Federal laws and regulations, Department of Commerce policies, Executive Orders, and Office of Management and Budget requirements incorporated into the terms of a BIP award.