

# Benefit of the Bargain Round

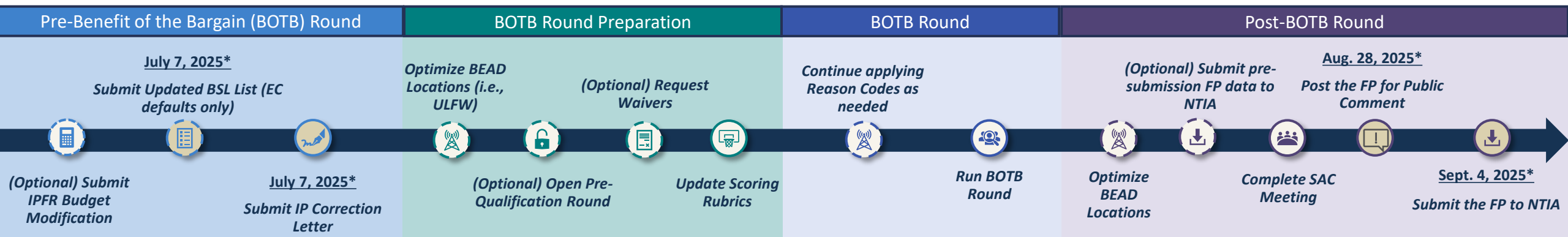
Timeline and Checklist for SBOs



*This document is intended solely to assist recipients in better understanding the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program and the requirements set forth in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, [Notice of Funding Opportunity \(NOFO\)](#), as modified by the [BEAD Restructuring Policy Notice \(RPN\)](#). This document does not and is not intended to supersede, modify, or otherwise alter applicable statutory or regulatory requirements, the terms and conditions of the award, or the specific application requirements set forth in the NOFO not modified by the RPN. In all cases, statutory and regulatory mandates, the terms and conditions of the award, and follow-on policies and guidance, shall prevail over any inconsistencies contained in this document.*

July 2025

# Benefit of the Bargain Timeline and Checklist



## Pre-BOTB Round Checklist:

- ☐ (If applicable) Submit IPFR Budget Modification
- ☐ (If applicable) Submit updated BSL list by **July 7 (the only required BSL list at this stage is locations newly eligible due to federal EC default)**
- ☐ Submit IP Correction letter by **July 7**
- ☐ Rescind preliminary/provisional awards

## BOTB Prep Checklist:

- ☐ Remove non-statutory burdens from SGS process
- ☐ Modify the SGS process to score all applicants under the same terms
- ☐ (If applicable) Reopen prequalification process (may choose to make part of application)
- ☐ Optimize BEAD Locations (i.e., use Reason Codes 1-6, ULFW Process)
- ☐ (If applicable) Request waivers (e.g., EE state laws conflicting with PN requirements)
- ☐ Receive approval of IP Correction letter
- ☐ Post the new eligible BSL list for a reasonable amount of time

## BOTB Round Checklist:

- ☐ Review qualifications and score applications
- ☐ Select subgrantees
- ☐ Notify preliminarily selected subgrantees
- ☐ Complete direct negotiations
- ☐ Continue applying Reason Codes as needed
- ☐ **When all items are checked off, move to the Post-BOTB Round phase**

## Post-BOTB Round Checklist:

- ☐ Optimize BEAD Locations (i.e., use Reason Code 7)
- ☐ (Optional) Submit pre-submission FP data to NTIA for review
- ☐ Complete SAC Meeting
- ☐ Post the FP for public comment no later than August 28
- ☐ Incorporate public comments into the FP, as applicable
- ☐ **When all items above this are checked off, then you may submit your FP by Sept 4**

### Key:

 | EE Task

 | EE Deadline

When all Pre-BOTB and BOTB Round Preparation items have been checked off, you may open your BOTB round.