

Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program Round 3 (TBCP 3) NOFO Primer

This document is intended solely to assist applicants in better understanding the Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program 3 and the requirements set forth in the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for this program. 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. In all cases, statutory and regulatory mandates, the terms and conditions of the award, the requirements set forth in the NOFO, and follow-on policies and guidance, shall prevail over any inconsistencies contained in this document.



TBCP 3 | NOFO Primer

PROGRAM OVERVIEW | NOFO I.A

NTIA Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program Round 3 (TBCP 3), authorized by the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 and amended by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021, solicits applications for an additional round of funding.



The purpose of TBCP 3 is to advance broadband Use and Adoption (U&A) and the broadband Infrastructure Deployment (ID) within Tribal communities.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS | NOFO III.A



Eligible applicants for a TBCP 3 grant include: (i) a **Tribal Government**; (ii) a **Tribal College or University**; (iii) the **Department of Hawaiian Home Lands** on behalf of the Native Hawaiian Community, including Native Hawaiian Education Programs; (iv) a **Tribal organization**; (v) an **Alaska Native Corporation**. Eligible Applicants must submit a single application to be eligible for program funding. **Consortium** applicants are also permitted.



Eligible applicants that previously received TBCP grant funding may apply for additional grant funding under this NOFO.

AWARD AMOUNTS | NOFO II.A and II.C



TBCP 3 Total Funding Available: In total, approximately **\$540M** of funding will be available for eligible applicants through TBCP 3.



Award Amounts: Funds will be awarded through a competitive process. NTIA expects to make awards under this program within the following funding ranges:

- *Broadband Use and Adoption Projects: \$500,000 to \$2,500,000*
- *Broadband Infrastructure Deployment Projects: \$1,000,000 to \$25,000,000*



Federally Recognized Tribes delineated by the U.S. Department of the Interior's Bureau of Indian Affairs that have not previously received a TBCP award will be eligible for an **Equitable Distribution award of up to \$500,000**.

Note: This funding range is not a required minimum or maximum, but applicants requesting funding for projects outside of this range must provide an explanation for why their application falls below or above this range and provide a compelling justification for deviating from this range.

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APPLICATION PRIORITIZATION | *NOFO V.C.1*

To ensure funds are used to maximize the overall effectiveness of Federal funding programs and are used to obtain the greatest reach, NTIA will prioritize applications along the following criteria. Application reviews will start with the first group:

- 1 Applications proposing standalone Broadband Use and Adoption projects** from a Tribal Government or its designee that has issued a Tribal Resolution approving deployment of BEAD services on its lands, including Consortium applications.
- 2 Applications proposing standalone Broadband Infrastructure Deployment projects** to Unserved Households, including Consortium applications.
- 3 All other projects**, aside from Equitable Distribution awards, including connections to Community Anchor Institutions.

ELIGIBLE USES OF FUNDING | *NOFO IV.B and II.B*

Grant recipients may only use award funds to pay for **allowable costs**¹ under the TBCP 3. **Section 905(c)(5) of the Act** states that an Eligible Applicant may use grant funds made available under the TBCP 3 for: (a) **broadband infrastructure**; (b) **affordable broadband programs**; (c) **distance learning**; (d) **telehealth**; (e) **digital inclusion efforts**; and (f) **broadband adoption activities**.²

USE AND ADOPTION EXAMPLES



Device Distribution Programs



Digital Skills Training Programs



Broadband Subsidy Programs

BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE EXAMPLES



Network Deployment and Facilities
Equipment



Long-term Facilities Leases



Engineering and Network Design



Funding Restrictions: Administrative costs are **capped at 2%** of the grant amount. Specific activities may be subject to additional funding restrictions.




Period of Performance: Funds must be expended within **four years** for both Use and Adoption and Infrastructure Deployment projects, unless extended by the Assistant Secretary.

¹ Specific activities may be subject to additional funding restrictions.

² The complete list of eligible activities may be found in Section IV.B.1 of the NOFO.

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APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS | NOFO IV.A

 Applicants are **allowed to submit one TBCP 3 application only**, either for ID or for U&A, whether as a single applicant or as part of a consortium. Applicants may also submit an application to the Native Entities Grant Program (NEGP).

All applications must include:

- Federal Financial Assistance Forms: SF-424, CD-511, SF-LLL
- Project Information Form
- Funded and Unfunded Entity Form
- A Tribal Government Resolution or equivalent formal authorization providing express authority to file an application
- A Tribal Resolution, approving deployment of BEAD services (if applicable)
- Resumes of Key Personnel
- Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement with a Cognizant Federal Agency (if applicable)
- All required certifications

All infrastructure deployment projects must include:

- SF 424-D
- ID Project Narrative
- ID Consolidated Budget Form
- ID Tribal Resolution of Consent
- Network Sustainability Plan
- Maps of Proposed Service Areas
- Physical Network Diagrams

All Use and Adoption projects must include:

- SF 424-B
- U&A Project Narrative
- U&A Consolidated Budget Form

APPLICATION MILESTONES | NOFO Section G and IV.G



Application Due Date: The application window for eligible applicants opens on June 17, 2026. Applications must be received on Grants.gov, email, or, if submitted by mail or courier, postmarked or show clear evidence of mailing, no later than 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time (ET) on **September 17, 2026**.



Issuing Awards: NTIA expects to begin making awards in Spring 2027 on a rolling basis.



Application Submission: Applicants are **encouraged** to submit their applications through Grants.gov using opportunity number 2026-NTIA-TBCP. However, applications may be submitted through any one of the following ways:



By Grants.gov:
www.grants.gov



By Mail or Courier to:

Tribal Connectivity and Nation to Nation Coordination
Office of Internet Connectivity and Growth
National Telecommunications & Information Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room 4878
Washington, DC, 20230



By Email:
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