




INTERNET FOR ALL

FUNDED BY THE BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW
ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE'S NATIONAL
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION



CITY COUNCIL
MARCH 2023

1



The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is a once-in-a-generation investment in infrastructure and competitiveness


Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

- \$1.2T bill passed by Congress and signed into law by President Biden on November 15, 2021
- Largest ever investments in high-speed Internet, rail and transit, clean energy, and water
- Allocated funding to over 350 distinct programs across more than a dozen federal departments and agencies

This historic legislation will:

- Deliver **clean water** to all families and eliminate the nation's lead service lines
- Ensure every American has access to affordable, reliable, **high-speed Internet**
- Repair and rebuild **roads and bridges**
- Improve **transportation options** and reduce greenhouse emissions
- Upgrade our nation's **airports and ports** to strengthen our supply chains
- Make the largest investment in **passenger rail** since Amtrak's creation
- Build a national network of **electric vehicle chargers**
- Upgrade **power infrastructure** to deliver clean, reliable energy
- Make **infrastructure resilient** against the impacts of climate change, cyber-attacks, and extreme weather events
- Deliver the largest investment in tackling **legacy pollution** in US history

Please see [Build.gov](https://www.build.gov) for more details on the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law



2

NTIA will administer ~\$48B through four programs that drive high-speed Internet access, affordability, and adoption

NTIA will administer ~\$48B of funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

BEAD	DIGITAL EQUITY	TRIBAL	MIDDLE MILE
\$42.45B	\$2.75B	\$2.00B	\$1.00B
Broadband Equity, Access & Deployment Program	Digital Equity Act	Tribal Connectivity Technical Amendments	Enabling Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure
<p>A program to get all Americans online by funding partnerships between states or territories, communities, and stakeholders to build infrastructure where we need it to and increase adoption of high-speed Internet.</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>A program to help tribal communities expand high-speed Internet access and adoption on tribal lands.</p>	<p>A program to expand middle mile infrastructure, to reduce the cost of connecting unserved and underserved areas.</p>

FCC to administer \$14.2B

For Affordable Connectivity Program, which replaced the EBB program

USDA to administer \$2.0B

Via the Rural Utilities Service

Private Activity Bonds \$0.6B

Authorizes State and local governments to use private activity bonds for rural broadband

3

3

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 to 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

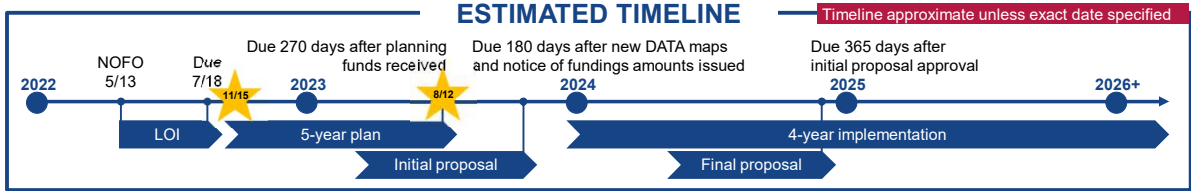
☛ Installing Internet in multi-tenant buildings

☛ Implementing adoption and digital equity programs


☛ Workforce and job training

4

4



BEAD funding includes three components and is based on new FCC maps



Three components of funding:


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

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


Eligible Entities shall develop a **challenge process** for stakeholders to challenge whether a location or community anchor institution is eligible for grant funds


Eligible Entities must **document the final list** of unserved locations, underserved locations, and eligible community anchor institutions

1. \$41.6B – minimum initial allocation – high-cost allocation


5

Eligible Entities have the option to submit a Five-Year Action Plan and receive Initial Planning Funds






Eligible Entities that agree to submit an optional Five-Year Action Plan may receive up to \$5M of Initial Planning Funds

NOTE: American Samoa, CNMI, Guam, and USVI can receive up to \$1.25M each.

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

- Ensure there is in-office capacity that is adequate to run the 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

Internet for All logo


6



BEAD will prioritize complete coverage of unserved locations and underserved locations (where funding permits), then CAIs



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



The BEAD Program will include a low-cost broadband service option for all Eligible Subscribers



Low-cost option is available to Eligible Subscribers

- **Eligible Subscriber** means any household that qualifies for the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) or a successor program

Please see the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) website for more details on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) ([link](#))



Eligible Entities will define parameters for low-cost plans

- Eligible Entities will define the parameters for low-cost plans while considering the following:
- Provider participation in the Affordable Connectivity Program or other household subsidies
 - Expected cost to an Eligible Subscriber after subsidies
 - Technical performance of the plan (e.g., Internet speed)




Description of an example low-cost plan

- **Cost:** ≤\$30 incl. taxes and fees (≤\$75 for tribal land residents)
- **Subsidies:** Can apply Affordable Connectivity Benefit subsidies
- **Speed:** ≥100 Mbps for downloads and ≥20 Mbps for uploads
- **Latency:** ≤100 ms
- **Extra fees:** No data caps or surcharges
- **Upgrades:** Can later upgrade to new low-cost offerings at no cost



Eligible Entities must conduct local coordination activities as part of plan development and implementation






Geographic coverage

Coordination must include Tribal, rural, suburban, and urban areas

Each political subdivision and Tribe 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 diverse group of stakeholders

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


Example stakeholders include state agencies, community anchor institutions, 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.



9

There are many ways stakeholders may get involved in the programs




Illustrative, non-exhaustive



Telecom provider

- Apply to be a BEAD subgrantee or apply directly for Middle Mile
- *Note: Telecom providers may include government owned entities*



Community anchor institution

- Benefit from BEAD funding for faster Internet
- Apply for Digital Equity competitive grant
- Advocate for community interests across programs



Community orgs

- Serve as a thought partner as states design their outreach strategies
- Advocate for community interests across programs



Tribal government

- Coordinate, consult, and partner with states during BEAD planning
- Apply for a Middle Mile, Tribal Broadband, or Digital Equity capacity and competitive grants



Local government

- Collaborate with state to develop Digital Equity plan and during BEAD planning
- Apply for a Middle Mile or Digital Equity capacity and competitive grants





Individual

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



10

Digital Equity Act created three programs to promote digital equity and inclusion

Funding pool
\$2.75B

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.

PROGRAMS HIGHLIGHTS

The Digital Equity Act created three programs:

<p>State Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$60M formula funding program to develop digital equity plans 	<p>State Capacity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$1.44B formula funding program to implement plans & promote digital inclusion 	<p>Competitive</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$1.25B to implement digital equity and inclusion activities
--	---	--

Example eligible uses of funds include:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing digital equity plans; states must develop a plan to be eligible for state capacity grants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making awards to other entities to help make digital equity plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving accessibility and inclusivity of public resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementing digital equity plans and related activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing digital literacy and digital skills education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitating the adoption of high-speed Internet

ESTIMATED TIMELINE



Timeline approximate unless exact date specified

The timeline shows the following key events:

- 2022:** NOFO 5/13 (Notice of Funding Opportunity)
- 2022:** Planning app (Application period)
- 2022:** Due 7/12 (Deadline for planning applications)
- 2022:** Due 12/1 (Deadline for state capacity applications)
- 2023:** 1-year state planning (Duration of planning phase)
- 2023:** 11/30 (Deadline for state capacity applications)
- 2024:** State cap. app (State capacity application period)
- 2024:** Competitive Program launches within 1 month of first Capacity awards
- 2025:** 5-year state capacity implementation (Duration of state capacity program)
- 2025:** Comp. app (Competitive application period)
- 2025:** 4-year competitive im (Duration of competitive program)
- 2026+:** Internet for All (Long-term goal)

11

The Digital Equity Act focuses on addressing the needs of "covered populations" as defined by the statute





Covered Populations

Identity groups and communities disproportionately impacted by digital inequity

- Low-income households
- Aging populations
- Incarcerated individuals
- Veterans

- People with disabilities
- People with language barriers
- Racial and ethnic minorities
- Rural inhabitants



12



The BEAD + DE Programs together helps deliver high-speed Internet 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, high-speed Internet 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, and 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



13

13




In Illinois, planning for BEAD and DE will be led by the Illinois Office of Broadband and the Illinois Broadband Lab






OFFICE OF BROADBAND (IOB)

- Housed within the Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity (IL DCEO)
- Created to administer broadband grants and related programming in Illinois
- Supports programs, including Connect Illinois Broadband Grant Program, Broadband Regional Engagement for Adoption & Digital Equity (READY), Illinois Connected Communities, and Accelerate



ILLINOIS BROADBAND LAB (IBL)

- Housed within the Office of the Vice President for Economic Development and Innovation (OVPEDI)'s Illinois Innovation Network (IIN)¹
- Represents collaborative effort between IOB, the University of Illinois System, the Illinois Office of Innovation and Technology, and the University of Illinois Extension
- Advances shared interests in broadband data, research, and programming


14

1. OVPEDI is a part of the University of Illinois System (U of I System).

14

IBL has kicked off statewide local coordination to hear from a range of broadband stakeholders



Government entities



Service providers



Other private companies



Non-profits and community organizations



Residents and organizations that serve them

Given historical barriers faced by underrepresented communities in participating in federal programs, the BEAD NOFO specifies that Eligible Entities **must identify these communities and determine specific outreach and engagement strategies tailored to their needs**

Source: BEAD NOFO


15

15


IBL plans to reach Illinoisians through a variety of channels, with a concentration of activities over the next 4 months

■ In-person programming

PRELIMINARY

Activity	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Program milestones		▲ Launch						▲ Aug 4 5YAP plan deadline				▲ Dec 1 DE plan deadline
Government stakeholder engagement		Briefings and small group listening sessions for state and local gov't										
Resident and non-profit engagement		Statewide tour with the 10 broadband READY orgs, 1 – 2 days of in-person events in each region										
Virtual events		Info sessions for all and listening sessions for residents, non-profits & private companies, and service providers										
Online survey												
Phone survey												
Publications (newsletter & website)												

Note: Current plan as of 02/28/23. Timeline and plan are subject to change.


16

16



Over the next 4 weeks, IBL is focused on outreach to state agencies and local government leaders



State Government Agencies

- Goals**
- Understand how broadband supports various agency missions
 - Understand assets that can be leveraged to accelerate build out and digital equity



Local Government Agencies

- Understand local broadband needs and goals
- Share initiatives happening in local areas
- Co-host a resident listening session

Note: current plan as of 02/28/23. Timeline and plan are subject to change.



17

17

Feb – June: IBL plans to visit all 10 Broadband READY regions for listening sessions

Preliminary & Subject to Change

Region	Visit Week
1 Southern	Week of February 27 th
2 Southwest	Week of February 27 th
3 West Central	Week of March 20 th
4 Central	Week of May 29 th
5 East Central	Week of April 17 th
6 Northern Stateline	Week of May 1 st
7 Northwest	Week of May 15 th
8 Northeast	Week of April 17 th
9 North Central	Week of June 12 th
10 Southeast	Week of June 26 th

Objectives for IBL

- 1) Understanding the experiences and perspectives of Illinoisans
- 2) Communicating the fact base on the opportunity ahead (in BEAD & DEA)
- 3) Enabling existing partners, and growing new partnerships
- 4) Building long-term capacity for all impacted communities and key stakeholders

Note: Current plan as of 02/28/23. Timeline and plan are subject to change.

18

18

IBL is planning listening sessions in partnership with local broadband and digital equity organizations

Partner organizations are trusted members of the local communities

- County and city digital equity teams
- Broadband Regional Engagement for Adoption + Digital Equity (READY)
- Academic institutions and community organizations

Note: current plan as of 02/28/23. Timeline and plan are subject to change.

19

19

Where IBL can use support

- 1 Visit IBL's Website**
Updated weekly to publicize BEAD & DE info and upcoming events
- 2 Sign up for the Newsletter**
Published bi-weekly to share progress and celebrate success
- 3 Attend an Information Session**
Hosted virtually to provide information and share progress
- 4 Attend a Listening Session**
Hosted in-persons across 10 regions
- 5 Take part in the Survey**
Will be published on the website to understand needs and barriers
- 6 Send IBL an email**
Direct any inquiries to broadband@Illinois.gov

IBL hopes to rely on continued support and counsel on the local coordination effort

20

20

Greg Claus
NTIA Federal Program Officer - Illinois
gclaus@ntia.gov (202) 834-0139

Dr. Adrienne Pickett
Illinois Broadband Lab
broadband@illinois.gov



Illinois
Department of Commerce
& Economic Opportunity
OFFICE OF BROADBAND
JB Pritzker, Governor

