### Federal Broadband Funding Opportunities

**Program Name** | **Agency** | **Type** | **Amount** | **Recipients** | **Timeline** | **Uses** | **Resources**
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Broadband Accessibility, Access, and Deployment Program (BEAD) | NTIA | Formula allocation | $42,450,000,000 | Status (or governor or their designee), tribes, and territories. Funds may be competitively subgranted, and may not exclude public entities. | 7/18/22 - Letter of Intent | Access | NTIA NOFO Overview

Grants primarily for infrastructure. 3 tiers of eligible uses. Tier 1: deploy in “unserved” areas where 80% of residents lack 25/3 or rely on satellite/licensed wireless service. Tier 2: deploy in “underserved” areas where 80% of residents lack 10/2. Tier 3: deploy gigabit service to anchor institutions and/or fund non-deployment projects (e.g., devices, adoption, cybersecurity). Recipients must have a plan to complete each tier before progressing to the next. Projects must prioritize fiber; minimal BEAD outlays; service affordability; and fair labor practices. Networks must offer 100/20 speeds to everyone in served area; a low-cost service option; and the ACP/other subsidies. Subgrants require a 25% match, but in-kind or CARES/ARPAs accepted.

State Digital Equity Planning and Capacity Grant Program | NTIA | Formula grant | $1,500,000,000 | Status (or governor or their designee), tribes, and territories. Both planning and capacity funds may be subgranted. | 7/12/22 - Planning Application Sept 22 - receive Planning Funds (PF) April 30 - Final Proposal (FP) FP approved - 80% of funds | Access | NTIA NOFO Overview

Grants to create and then implement digital equity programs. First, recipients receive funds (i.e. Planning Grants) to create Digital Equity Plans. After Plans approved by NTIA, recipients receive funds (i.e. Capacity Grants) to implement those Plans. Plans must include: the recipient’s vision for digital equity; a strategy for coordinating with stakeholders; an identification of barriers to connectivity in the state; measurable goals for internet adoption in covered (i.e. vulnerable) populations; and estimates of social and economic impacts.

Digital Equity Competitive Grant Program | NTIA | Competitive grant | $1,250,000,000 | Public entities, private companies, nonprofits, and cooperatives. State entities that receive State Digital Equity Capacity grants are ineligible. | Mid-2024 - Applications begin 2025 - Awards $250M available per year. Awardees must submit annual evaluation reports. Grants must be spent within four years of receipt | Access | Benton Analysis

Grants for digital inclusion activities. Eligible uses include: digital navigators; workforce training programs; low-cost devices; and deployment of public broadband. NTIA will prioritize projects: expand access and adoption among vulnerable populations; represent geographically diverse regions; do not duplicate other programs. Awardees must submit regular program evaluations to NTIA.

Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure Grant Program (MMBG) | NTIA | Competitive grant | $1,000,000,000 | Status: state/local governments, tribes, private companies, public utilities, public nonprofits, cooperatives, consortia. | 9/30/22 - Applications due 3/1/23 - Earliest date of award Funds available until Sep. 30, 2026 | Access | NTIA NOFO Overview

Grants to deploy middle mile infrastructure. Infrastructure must: promote affordable internet access; reduce the cost of connecting underserved and disregarded areas; and improve network resiliency. Priority is given to projects that: adopt fiscally sustainable strategies; offer non-discriminatory interconnection to last-mile providers; collaborate with partners that will provide financially sustainable last-mile service; utilize other forms of support (e.g. waived permitting fees); and benefit national security and the DoD. Requires 30% match, but in-kind contributions accepted.

Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) | FCC | Consumer subsidy | $14,200,000,000 | Consumers and participating ISPs. Devices must be purchased through ISPs (note: some ISPs do not offer devices). | ACP last until funds exhausted. Transitions from EBB to ACP on Dec 31, 2021. | Access | GetInternet.gov

A consumer benefit to make internet service and devices more affordable to low-income households. Discounts internet service by $30 ($75/mo on tribal lands) and eligible devices by $10 (one time). Households use the NTIA’s ACP to the federal enrollment process and providing their enrollment number to their ISP (if their ISP participates in the ACP). The ISP then applies the ACP discount to the household’s bill and submits a reimbursement request to the FCC. Participating ISPs must: promote the benefit; allow the benefit to be applied to any service offering; and notify subscribers of program changes. The ACP is an extension and modification of Emergency Broadband Benefit (EBB) program.

Affordable Connectivity Program Outreach Grants (ACP) | FCC | Competitive grant | $100,000,000** | Currently undefined. Proposed rules envision a multi-year program with annual grant cycles. | Currently undefined. Proposed rules envision a multi-year program with annual grant cycles. | Access | FCC R&OE/FRPM

Planned grant program for ACP awareness and enrollment activities. The program will likely: have annual grant cycles; fund a variety of localized awareness and enrollment activities; prioritize grants that reach geographically and demographically diverse populations; and require recipients to track and submit performance metrics. **IUA allows the FCC to spend up to $100M on this program, but the amount has not been finalized.

Private Activity Bonds (PAB) | RS | Tax exempt bond | $335,000,000* | State and local governments issue bonds. Eligible bond recipients may vary by state but may include private, public, nonprofit, and private entities | Timelines vary by state and locality. Bonds are subject to state-specific annual budgeting limits. | Access | Benton Analysis

State and local government private activity bonds may now be used to fund broadband deployment projects. Projects must target areas where 50% of residents lack access to fixed, terrestrial 25/3. Bond issuer must notify and solicit information from ISPs that serve the target area. Completed projects must offer 100/20. *The limit for each state is the greater of (i) $110 multiplied by the state’s population or (ii) $325,000,000. Publicly-owned projects do not count against the limit; privately-owned projects do (but only 25% of their projects' costs).

Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund | Treasury | Formula allocation | $10,000,000,000 | Grants to states (or administering agency selected by governor), territories, and tribes. Funds may be subgranted. | 12/27/21 - Submit funding request 6/1/22 for Tribes 6/6/22 - Awards begin 9/24/22 - Submit grant plan and all program plans 12/31/21 - Funds expended | Access | Treasury Overview

Flexible grants for connectivity-related projects. Eligible uses include: deploying in areas that lack reliable wireless speeds of 100/10; deploying in areas where service is unaffordable for a majority of residents; fostering adoption with low/no-cost devices, free Wi-Fi, digital literacy training, and tech support; and building or improving community anchor institutions to enable public internet access. Deployment projects must: accept ACP/Lifeline; deliver 100/100 where possible; prioritize last-mile connections; and they are encouraged to offer a low-cost option. Treasury encourages use of public, nonprofit, and cooperative networks. No matching requirements. 5% allocation may be used for planning.

Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) | Treasury | Formula allocation | $350,000,000,000 | Grants to states, territories, tribes, metropolitan cities, and counties. Funds may be subgranted. | Treasury is accepting requests 12/31/21 - Funds incurred 12/31/21 - Funds expended | Access | Treasury Overview

Block grants to state/locality/city governments for general COVID-19 relief, but recipients may use funds on broadband infrastructure, digital literacy training, and other projects that promote access to the internet. Projects should: prioritize areas with an identified need for additional broadband infrastructure investment (note: there is no specific speed requirement); prioritize last mile connections; deliver speeds of 100/100 and use fiber technology wherever feasible; offer low-cost service options; and encourage public, nonprofit, and cooperative service providers. RDOF and other grant areas are eligible for funding.

Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) | FCC | Competitive grant | $7,170,000,000 | Schools, libraries, consortia that qualify for E-Rate and/or the Libraries Services and Technology Act. | The third and final application window closed on May 13, 2022. The FCC is evaluating applications and prioritized awards based on applicant’s E-Rate discount rate. | Access | FCC Oversight

Intended to support remote education. Eligible schools and libraries apply to be reimbursed for costs associated with providing devices, hotspots, and internet technology (including service to student homes) between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2023. Spending on infrastructure is allowed only where infrastructure is otherwise unavailable.

Community Project Funding Process (CPFP) (i.e. “Earmarks”) | Congress | Budget earmark | Project specific | Congressionally designated local governments, public entities, or nonprofit. Ban on for-profit recipients. | Each member will have their own process and timeline for selecting projects. Members must submit projects to be included in Congressional appropriations bills, which typically occur in the Spring. | Access | House Process

Funding in the Congressional budget for specific projects (bypassing a competitive grant process), including broadband and connectivity projects. Each Member of Congress is responsible for identifying his or her own projects requests. Each member will submit their request to the Appropriations Committees for review and inclusion in the budget process.

Lifeline | FCC | Consumer subsidy | N/A | Consumers and participating ISPs. | Eligible consumers may apply by contacting their ISP. | Access | FCC Oversight

Monthly subsidy to help low-income consumers afford telephone and broadband bills. Provides $25/mo for telephone or $95/mo for broadband (and up to $34.25 for those living on Tribal lands). Only one benefit allowed per household. Program funded by the USF.