

nrtc **FUNDING ALERT!**

Professional assistance for today's unprecedented funding opportunities



Funding Amount: \$993.1 million

Round 2 APPLICATION

Program Details

Program Name: Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program (BEAD)

Administrator: Arizona Commerce Authority (ACA)

Match Requirement: 25% Match required

Key Dates

- **June 3 – July 18 at 3:59 pm MST** – Round 2 Application Window
- July 21 – September 17 – Project Application Review and Negotiation

Eligible Applicants

- Cooperatives
- Nonprofit Organizations
- Public-Private Partnerships
- Private Companies
- Public or Private Utilities
- Public Utility Districts
- Local Governments

Eligible Projects

- Projects deploying qualifying last-mile broadband infrastructure to unserved (25/3 Mbps or less) and underserved (between 25/3 and 100/20 Mbps) locations

Eligible Areas

- Eligible areas will be determined by the ACA

Eligible Costs

- Construction, improvement, and/or acquisition of facilities and telecommunications equipment, including infrastructure for backhaul, middle and last-mile networks, and multi-tenant buildings
- Long-term leases of facilities to provide qualifying broadband service, including IRUs
- Deployment of internet and Wi-Fi within an eligible multi-family residential building
- Network software upgrades
- Engineering design, permitting, and work related to environmental, historical, and cultural reviews
- Personnel costs, including salaries and fringe benefits for staff and consultants
- Training for cybersecurity professionals working on BEAD-funded networks
- Workforce development including Registered Apprenticeships and pre-apprenticeships, and community college and/or vocational training for broadband-related occupations

Selection Criteria

Scoring (maximum of 500 points):

Primary criteria

- **Minimal BEAD Outlay (up to 375 points):** How much funding (exclusive of mandatory 25% minimum match) is requested

Grant to project Cost

150 points for $\leq 45\%$ of Total Project Cost

120 points for $> 45\%$ to $\leq 55\%$ of Total Project Cost

80 points for $> 55\%$ to $\leq 65\%$ of Total Project Cost

40 points for $> 65\%$ to $\leq 75\%$ of Total Project Cost

0 points for $> 75\%$ of Total Project Cost

- Opportunity Evaluation
- Effective Grant Writing
- A Track Record of Success

Selection Criteria (cont'd)

Cost Reasonableness

50 points for $\leq 10\%$ of Reference Benchmark Cost Estimate

35 points for $> -10\%$ to $\leq 0\%$ of Reference Benchmark Cost Estimate

25 points for $> 0\%$ to $\leq 5\%$ of Reference Benchmark Cost Estimate

15 points for $> 5\%$ to $\leq 15\%$ of Reference Benchmark Cost Estimate

5 points for $> 15\%$ to $\leq 25\%$ of Reference Benchmark Cost Estimate

0 points for $> 25\%$ of Reference Benchmark Cost Estimate

Resiliency

10 points for network or power source redundancies for minimum of 50% of locations within the project areas

10 points for scalability in the network design

10 points for retrofitting and/or hardening its existing broadband infrastructure assets

10 points for burying at least 75% of fiber cables within the project area

10 points for other network resiliency measures

- **Affordability (up to 75 points):** for offering most affordable price for symmetrical 1 Gbps service

75 points for $< \$85.55$

65 points for $\$99.80 - \85.55

50 points for $\$114.07 - \99.81

0 points for $< \$85.55$

- **Fair Labor Practices (up to 50 points):** for record of and plans to be in compliance with Federal labor and employment laws

Secondary Criteria (up to 125 points)

- **Speed to Deployment (up to 10 points):** for providing services not later than four years after the date on which the subgrantee receives the executed subgrant agreement.

10 points for < 24 months

8 points for $24 - 36$ months

6 points for $36 - 42$ months

4 points for $42 - 47$ months

0 points for 48 months

- **Technological Requirements (up to 45 points):**

35 points for Up to 10 Gbps download and 10 Gbps upload or greater

25 points for Up to 10 Gbps download and 2.5 Gbps upload

20 points for Up to 2.5 Gbps download and 1 Gbps upload

5 points for Up to 1 Gbps symmetrical

- Opportunity Evaluation
- Effective Grant Writing
- A Track Record of Success

Selection Criteria (cont'd)

Open Access for Priority Projects

10 points for Open Access Policy

- **Local and Tribal Coordination (up to 25 points):**

15 points for Local and/or Tribal Coordination – Letter of Support

10 points for Local and/or Tribal Coordination Engagement Plan

Community Anchor Institutions (up to 20 points): for serving CAIs in the proposed Project Area

- **Workforce Development (up to 25 points):** for advancing equitable workforce development and job quality objectives

****Non-Priority Broadband Projects Only****

- **Minimal BEAD Outlay (up to 375 points):**

Grant to project Cost

150 points for ≤ 45% of Total Project Cost

120 points for > 45% to ≤ 55% of Total Project Cost

80 points for > 55% to ≤ 65% of Total Project Cost

40 points for > 65% to ≤ 75% of Total Project Cost

0 points for > 75% of Total Project Cost

Cost Reasonableness

50 points for ≤ 10% of Reference Benchmark Cost Estimate

35 points for > -10% to ≤ 0% of Reference Benchmark Cost Estimate

25 points for > 0% to ≤ 5% of Reference Benchmark Cost Estimate

15 points for > 5% to ≤ 15% of Reference Benchmark Cost Estimate

5 points for > 15% to ≤ 25% of Reference Benchmark Cost Estimate

0 points for > 25% of Reference Benchmark Cost Estimate

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Application Process

- Applicants must have been approved during the Pre-registration Phase

- Opportunity Evaluation
- Effective Grant Writing
- A Track Record of Success

Links & Contacts

- [BEAD Application](#)
- [BEAD Application Guide](#)
- [AZ BEAD Map](#)
- [BEAD IPV I](#)
- [BEAD IPV II](#)
- Send Application questions to: broadband@azcommerce.com
- Send Technical Support questions to: <ready.net>

- Opportunity Evaluation
- Effective Grant Writing
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