

# nrtc **FUNDING ALERT!**

Professional assistance for today's unprecedented funding opportunities



## Funding Amount: **\$1.86 billion**

### Program Details

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

**Administrator:** California Public Utilities Commission

**Match Requirement:** 25% Match required

### Key Dates

- **July 11, 2025** – Prequalification period open
- **July 17, 2025** – Prequalification period closes
- **July 19, 2025** – Benefit of the Bargain Application cycle opens
- **August 2, 2025** – Benefit of the Bargain Application cycle closes

### Eligible Projects

- Qualifying last-mile broadband infrastructure to unserved 25/3 Mbps or less and underserved between 25/3 Mbps and 100/20 Mbps locations

### Eligible Applicants

- Cooperatives
- Nonprofit organizations
- Public-private partnerships
- Private companies
- Public or private utilities
- Public utility districts
- Local governments
- Tribal entities

## Eligible Areas

- Applicants will create a project area by selecting one or more contiguous Project Area Units (PAU's) on the interactive map

## Eligible Costs

- Construction, improvement, and/or acquisition of facilities and telecommunications equipment, including infrastructure for backhaul, middle and last-mile networks, and MDUs
- Long-term leases of facilities to provide qualifying broadband service, including IRUs
- Deployment of internet and Wi-Fi within an eligible MDU 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

## Application Process

- Applicants must have been approved during the Prequalification Phase

## Selection Criteria

### Determination of Priority Broadband Project vs Non-Priority Broadband Project

- **Primary Scoring:** Applications within the same project area, the application with the lowest grant request will be selected
- **Secondary Scoring:** Applicants within 15% of the lowest grant request for the same application area, additional selection criteria will be applied according to speed and latency requirements of the statute and NOFO

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

## Links & Contacts

- [BEAD Subgrantee Selection Resources and templates](#)
- [CA BEAD application portal](#)
- [BEAD events and presentations](#)
- [CA BEAD program](#)
- [BEAD FAQ's](#)
- Questions: [BEAD@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:BEAD@cpuc.ca.gov)

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