



# Funding Amount: **\$826.5 million**

# APPLICATION

#### **Program Details**

Program Name: Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program (BEAD)Administrator: Colorado Broadband Office (CBO)Match Requirement: 25% Match required

### Key Dates

- July 7, 2025 Benefit of the Bargain application cycle opens
- July, 21 2025 Benefit of the Bargain application cycle closes at 11:59 p.m. MT
- September 4, 2025 Final Proposal due to NTIA

### **Eligible Applicants**

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

# **Eligible Projects**

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

# **Eligible Areas**

- Applicants select project areas from the Project Area Map
- Project area do not need to be contiguous

#### **Eligible Costs**

- Construction, improvement, and/or acquisition of facilities and telecom 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
- Network software upgrades
- Engineering design, permitting, 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, pre-apprenticeships, community college and/or vocational training for broadband-related occupations

#### **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

#### **Application Process**

• Apply and manage grant application in the Advance Colorado Grant Portal

# Links & Contacts

- Advance Colorado BEAD website
- BEAD Grant Program Guidelines
- BEAD Grant FAQs
- BEAD Project Area Map
- Submit questions on BEAD to: <u>Advance\_CBO@state.co.us</u>



Contact us for funding assistance. NRTC's Funding Practice offers key benefits including:

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

**Telecom Companies:** Contact Chick Kennedy at 352-552-1317 or <a href="mailto:ckennedy@nrtc.coop">ckennedy@nrtc.coop</a>

**Electric Cooperatives:** Contact Chris Bradley at 703-787-7170 or <u>cbradley@nrtc.coop</u>