nrtc FUNDING ALERT!

Professional assistance for today's unprecedented funding opportunities

Funding Amount: **$1.2 Billion**

APPLICATION

Program Details

Program Name: Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program (BEAD)
Administrator: Florida Chamber of Commerce Office of Broadband
Match Requirement: 25% Match required

Key Dates

- **July 14, 2025 —** Benefit of the Bargain Round Application cycle opens
- **August 4, 2025 —** Benefit of the Bargain Round Application cycle closes
- **August 2025 —** Staff review period, negotiations, and public comment period
- **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

- 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

- Project areas are defined by the state of Florida and can be viewed here: FloridaCommerce Office of Broadband BEAD Project Areas | Florida Office of Broadband

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

Determination of Priority Broadband Projects vs Non-Priority Broadband Projects

- **Primary Scoring:** For project areas with multiple applications, the application with the lowest grant amount requested will be selected
- **Secondary Scoring:** Project areas receiving multiple applications within 15% of the lowest grant request will receive the following secondary scoring:
    - **26 Points –** Minimum Guaranteed Speed
    - **26 Points –** Maximum Speed
    - **48 Points –** Speed to Deployment

Application Process

- Pre-registration is required for all applicants
- Applicants can register to access the FL BEAD Grant Portal here: https://floridacommerce.my.site.com/OfficeofBroadband

- [Florida BEAD Deployment Landing Page](#)
- [BEAD Updated Application Guide](#)
- [Broadband Map and Open Data Hub](#)
- [Broadband Portal](#)
- Questions? Contact Broadband@Commerce.fl.gov