

# Funding Amount: \$1.3 billion

### **APPLICATION**

## **Program Details**

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

**Administrator:** Georgia Technology Authority (GTA)

Match Requirement: 25% Match required

### **Key Dates**

- December 2, 2024 January 15, 2025 Round One Application window (45 days)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2025 Final Recommendations, Preliminary Awards announced and submitted to NTIA for approval

### **Eligible Applicants**

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

### **Eligible Projects**

Applications to construct fiber-optic facilities to all unserved and underserved BSL's

### **Eligible Areas**

• Broadband Office Defined Project Areas - County Grant

#### **Eligible Costs**

- Construction, improvement, and/or acquisition of facilities and telecommunications equipment required to provide qualifying broadband service, including infrastructure for backhaul, middle-mile and last-mile networks, and multi-tenant buildings
- Long-term leases of facilities required to provide qualifying broadband service, including indefeasible right-of-use (IRU) agreements
- Internet and Wi-Fi infrastructure within an eligible multi-family residential building
- Engineering design, permitting, and work related to environmental, historical, and cultural reviews
- Personnel costs, including salaries and fringe benefits for staff and consultants providing services directly connected to the implementation of the BEAD Program
- Network software upgrades, including, but not limited to, cybersecurity solutions
- Training for cybersecurity professionals who will be working on BEAD-funded networks
- Workforce development, including Registered Apprenticeships and pre-apprenticeships, and community college and/or vocational training for broadband-related occupations to support deployment, maintenance, and upgrades

#### **Selection Criteria**

Scoring (maximum of 100 points): Primary criteria for Priority Broadband Projects

- Minimal BEAD Outlay (up to 50 points)
- Affordability (up to 15 points)
- Compliance with Federal Fair Labor Laws (up to 10 points)

#### Secondary criteria

- Speed Deployment (up to 5 points)
- Community/local government support (up to 9 points)
- Community Anchor institutions (up to 3 points)
- Universality of applications (up to 8 points)



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 Todd Ishee at 256-520-7965 or <a href="mailto:tishee@nrtc.coop">tishee@nrtc.coop</a>

**Electric Cooperatives:** Contact Rodney Pugh at 703-464-5235 or <a href="mailto:rpugh@nrtc.coop">rpugh@nrtc.coop</a>

### **Selection Criteria (cont'd)**

- \*\*Scoring Criteria for CAI only project areas\*\*
  - Minimal BEAD Outlay (up to 50 points)
  - Affordability (up to 15 points)
  - Compliance with Federal Fair Labor Laws (up to 10 points)
  - Speed to Deployment (up to 8 points)
  - Community/local government support (up to 9 points)
  - Community Anchor institutions (up to 8 points)

#### **Application Process**

To apply, applicants must register here: <u>BEAD Application Portal</u>

#### **Links & Contacts**

- Georgia BEAD Application portal
- Georgia BEAD Notice of Funding Opportunity
- Georgia BEAD Application Questions
- Georgia BEAD Application Templates
- BEAD Technical Assistance Manual
- Georgia BEAD Map
- Cybersecurity and Supply Chain Risk Management Checklist
- BEAD Frequently Asked Questions
- BEAD Kickoff Webinar Slides
- BEAD kickoff Webinar Recording
- For more information: broadband@gta.ga.gov



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