nrtc FUNDING ALERT!

Professional assistance for today's unprecedented funding opportunities

Funding Amount: **$149 million**

APPLICATION

Program Details

Program Name: Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program (BEAD)
Administrator: University of Hawaii Broadband Office (UHBO)
Match Requirement: 25% Match required

- Eght Request for Proposals (RFP), all RFPs are independent
- Four RFPs are to build/extend infrastructure to **unserved/underserved locations**
- Four RFPs are to build infrastructure to service **Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs)**

Key Dates

- **Nov 25, 2024** – Date of Notice (RFP Issued)
- **Dec 6, 2024** – Closing Date for Receipt of Notice of Intent to Submit a Proposal
- **Dec 27, 2024** - Posting Date of Amendment with final locations (Tentative)
- **Jan 31, 2025** – Application Deadline
- **Feb 1, 2025 - Feb 6, 2025** – Proposal review period
- **Feb 14, 2025** – Issuance of Best & Final Offer (BAFO) Locations
- **April 14, 2025** – Contractor selection & Award (subject to NTIA approval)

Eligible Applicants

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

Eligible Projects

- **Unserved locations:** Locations without wired infrastructure to access the Internet
- **Underserved locations:** Locations with wired Internet infrastructure that do not support the minimum speeds (100/ 20Mbps)
- **CAIs:** Existing community organizations or public spaces that provide access and support services to the public with less than 1Gbps/1Gbps

Eligible Areas

- Elible areas will be determined by the broadband office challenge process

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 365 points):

Primary criteria

- **Minimal BEAD Outlay (up to 150 points):** scored intwo parts, the amount of BEAD funding requested and the the match amount.

    o Part 1: Requested BEAD funding amount: **(up to 100 points):** The applicant requesting the LOWEST amountwill receive maximum score

    o Part 2: Proposed Match amount: **(up to 50 points):** The applicant offering the HIGHEST match will receive the maximum score

    o Points from Part 1 and Part 2 equal total points for Minimal BEAD Program Outlay

- **Affordability (up to 100 points):** The applicant proposing the least expensive 1 Gbps symmetrical, FTTP service will receive full points.

- **Fair & Safe Labor Practices (up to 75 points):**
    o **75 points** for a record of and plans to be in compliance with all of the minimum *and* highly desired requirements
    o **65 points** for proposals that fully demonstrate a record of and plans to be in compliance with all of the minimum requirements only

Minimum requirements:

- Paying prevailing wages and benefits, including compliance with the Federal Davis-Bacon, the State's Wages and Hours of Employees on Public Works, and Service Contract Act requirements, where applicable, and certified payrolls
- Use of an appropriately skilled workforce
- Use of an appropriately credentialed workforce
- Taking steps to prevent the misclassification of workers

Highly desired requirements:

- Using project labor agreements
- Use of local hire provisions
- Commitments to union neutrality
- Use of labor peace agreements

Secondary criteria

- **Speed Deployment (up to 30 points):** Points awarded based on the proposed months to complete the project using thisformula: 48 minus the proposed number of months, divided by 48, multiplied by the maximum number of points
  For example:
  - **15 points** for completing the build within 24 months
  - **11.25 points** for completing the build within 30 months
  - **7.5 points** for completing the build within 36 months

Secondary criteria

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  - **11.25 points** for completing the build within 30 months
  - **7.5 points** for completing the build within 36 months

- **Speed of Network (up to 20 points):**
  - **10 points** for 1000/35 & less than 100ms
  - **8 points** for 300/35 & less than 100ms
  - **6 points** for 250/35 & less than 100ms

- **Longevity (up to 5 points):** Life spans of 15 years or greater receive the maximum number of points, lspans shorter than 15 years receive a prorated amount

- **Cost-effectiveness of Future Scalability (up to 5 points):** Describe the scalability of the installed assets and the cost-effectiveness of future upgrades (such as maximum speed increases)

- **Open Access (up to 10 points):** Open access offerings shall be evaluated on cost, accessibility, interoperability as well as factors that would negatively impact the use of open access offerings.

Application Process

- Completed proposals to be submitted via the SuperQUOTE system (www.commercepoint.com) no later than 5:00 PM (Hawaii Standard Time), January 31, 2025

Links & Contacts

- RFP for Hawaii County
- RFP for Honolulu City & County
- RFP for Kauai County
- RFP for Maui County
- RFP (CAI) for Hawaii County
- RFP (CAI) for Honolulu City & County
- RFP (CAI) for Kauai County
- RFP (CAI) for Maui County
- UHBO BEAD Homepage
- HI Broadband Map
- HI BEAD IPV 1
- HI BEAD IPV 2
- Send application questions to: Chris Zane at czane@hawaii.edu
- Send technical support questions to: Chris Zane at czane@hawaii.edu