



# FUNDING ALERT!

Professional Assistance for Today's Unprecedented Funding Opportunities

## Program Name

Kansas Capital Projects Fund (CPF) Program

## Funding Amount

- Up to \$83.5 million from the ARPA Capital Projects Fund

## Key Dates

- **July 14** – Opportunity Announced
- **July 21** - Grant Webinar, Guidelines Posted, Intent to Apply

### Phase I

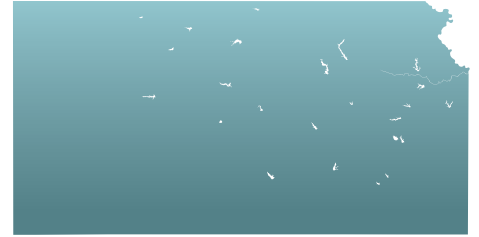
- **July 25** - Application Window Opens
- **August 8 - August 19** - Phase 1 Public Comment Window
- **August 22 - Submission Deadline**
- **August 22 - September 2** - Phase 1 Applicant Response to Public Comment
- **September 19 - October 3** - Phase 1 Applicant Interviews and Final Applicant Deliberations
- **October 10** – Phase 1 Awards Announced based on opening application window of July 25, 2022

### Phase II

- **August 15** - Application Window Opens
- **August 22 - September 2** - Phase 2 Public Comment Window
- **September 12 - Submission Deadline**
- **September 6 - September 16** - Phase 2 Applicant Response to Public Comment
- **October 3 - October 17** - Phase 2 Applicant Interviews and Final Applicant Deliberations
- **October 24** – Phase 2 Awards Announced based on an application window opening date of August 15, 2022

## Eligible Applicants

- Levels or units of government (e.g., municipalities or counties)
- Tribal Governments
- Private entities
- Co-operatives
- Electric Utilities
- Non-profit organizations
- Those authorized to provide broadband services in the proposed service area, an active participant in federal subsidy programs (prior to application submission) and an established service provider that has been operating for a minimum of 3 years (waiver may be available)



**Kansas**

**\$83.5 Million**

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### Eligible Areas

- **Unserved Area** - a designated geographic area without a fixed, terrestrial connection supporting at least 100/20 Mbps
- **Underserved Area** - a designated geographic area without a fixed, terrestrial connection supporting less than 100/100Mbps and greater than 100/20Mbps
- Proposed Funded Service Areas (PFSAs) not required to be contiguous; Non-contiguous areas more than 10 miles apart must explain that economic and community impact is the same across proposed areas

### Eligible Projects

- Applicants are expected to engage community leaders and stakeholders in development of projects that are strategic, scalable, and bridge critical access gaps to support quality of life and economic viability
- Required applicant match: 5% to 87% of total project cost
  - As low as 5% for rural areas, to as high as 87% in areas adjacent to well-served areas involving cost efficient expansion
- Maximum individual award: \$10M
  - Projects over \$10M may be submitted considered as a multi-phased approach with a maximum of \$10M awarded in the first phase. If initial phase is funded, no guarantee future phases are funded
- Partnership projects optimizing public infrastructure through collective investment are encouraged:
  - In KDOT construction corridors or in conjunction with state/local 'Dig Once' efforts
  - Municipal, County, or regional projects that are part of a community's strategic broadband plan
  - Scalable robust co-investment projects
  - Partnership projects involving broadband networks owned, operated by, or affiliated with local governments, non-profits, and co-operatives

### Mapping Issues

#### Public Service Area Map

- Proposed service area including proposed service locations – to be posted publicly
- Should be in .kmz format and zipped
- Will include the following for public comment:
  - Outlined shaded service area of the proposed project area
  - Fiber route(s) and proposed service locations
  - Wireless projects: RF prediction map depicting the location of the transmitter, its footprint, and proposed service locations
  - Legend defining all unique data points on the map

#### Private Service Area Map

- Reflect all details of the public map, plus additional proprietary information needed by KOBBD including:
  - Proposed last mile fiber routes
  - Identification of handholes, Point of Presence (POPs) connectivity or Tie-point(s) to existing network, last mile and middle mile fiber
  - Identification of locations to be enabled

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## Application Contents

- Key Project Data
  - Primary Organizational Contacts
  - Total Project Amount, Grant Funds Requested and Matching Amount
  - City(ies) and County(ies) impacted
  - Anticipated number of premises, households, businesses, and community anchors impacted
  - General Project Information
  - Project Proposal
  - Service Area Maps; Public & Private
  - Community Partners, Roles & Letters of Commitment
  - Justification for Project
  - Adoption, Affordability and Digital Inclusion Efforts
  - E Verify MOU
  - Workforce labor plan
- Technical Project Plan
  - Primary Organizational Contacts
  - Determination of Available Broadband Service
- Financial and Legal
  - Applicant Match and Co-Investment
  - Budget Narrative
  - Project Budget
  - Financial Validation Documentation

## Evaluation Criteria

- Providers with less pressure to generate profits and a commitment to service entire communities will be prioritized
- Application is divided into three areas and will have an approximate overall "weighting" per area as follows:
  - 50% will be based on technical components
  - 35% on project components
  - 15% on financial components
- Projects that address a critical need that resulted from, was made apparent or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency
- Unserved or underserved areas prioritized
- Economically distressed areas prioritized (See "Key Definitions")
- Community need based on the social vulnerability index
- Prioritization of fiber-optic infrastructure
- Scalability beyond 1 gigabit per second
- Speeds delivered and associated latency
- Anticipated Impact (Locations passed)
- Cost reasonableness
- Demographics
- Affordability of Services/Offer Pricing
- Rurality
- Technical viability
- Partnerships

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## **Evaluation Criteria (continued)**

- Dig Once collaboration (through KDOT)
- Municipal and/or County projects, part of a local strategic broadband plan
- Minimum applicant match and associated applicant match value
- Co-investment partnership projects involving local municipalities, community anchors service provider's match

## **Middle Mile**

- Eligible only when necessary for the provision of last-mile services

## **Buildout Requirements**

- 100/100 Mbps (fiber to the premise preferred)

## **Eligible Costs**

- Capital expenses directly related to deployment of a qualified broadband project
- Materials
- Supplies
- Equipment
- Construction of "last-mile" infrastructure
- 5% of pre-project development costs and uses
  - Data gathering
  - Feasibility studies
  - Engineering design
  - Work related to environmental & historical preservation
  - Cultural reviews
  - Permitting
  - All remaining pre-project costs are eligible under matching funds

## **Ineligible Costs**

- Acquisition of spectrum licenses
- Operating expenses
- Short-term operation leases
- Satisfaction of any obligation
- Payment of interest or principal on outstanding debt instruments
- Maintenance expenses
- Infrastructure not directly connected to service provision for an end-user in the proposed area
- Indirect labor costs (fringe/benefits, travel, meals, lodging, paid time off, etc.)
- Long term capital asset purchases/leases (cost allocation for use during the project period to be considered on case-by-case basis)

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## Links & Emails

- [Kansas Capital Project Fund \(CPF\) Program Capital Projects Fund Grant Program Website \(KOBD\)](#)
- [CCPF Program Application Guide \(kansascommerce.gov\)](#)
- [Capital Project Fund: Broadband Infrastructure Program Webinar - YouTube](#)
- [Program FAQs](#)
- Please submit questions to [KDC\\_Broadband@ks.gov](mailto:KDC_Broadband@ks.gov)

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funding@nrtc.coop

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

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

**Electric Cooperatives:** Contact Steve Hanson at 703-464-5307 or [shanson@nrtc.coop](mailto:shanson@nrtc.coop)

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