

# nrtc **FUNDING ALERT!**

Professional assistance for today's unprecedented funding opportunities



## Funding Amount: \$268 Million

### APPLICATION

#### Program Details

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

**Administrator:** Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development

**Match Requirement:** 25% Match required

#### Key Dates

- **July 10, 2025** – Benefit of the Bargain Round Application cycle opens
- **July 24, 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 Maryland and can be downloaded at the links below

## 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:
  - **25 Points** – Download Speed
  - **24 Points** – Upload Speed
  - **20 Points** – Latency
  - **31 Points** - Resiliency

## Application Process

- Applicants must submit a separate application form for each county in which they are proposing to build infrastructure
- The application portal can be accessed here: <https://edas.info/N34191>

## Links & Contacts

- [MD BEAD Landing Page](#)
- [Broadband Map](#)
- [Broadband Grant Portal](#)
- Questions? Contact [osb.bead@maryland.gov](mailto:osb.bead@maryland.gov)

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