

# nrtc **FUNDING ALERT!**

Professional assistance for today's unprecedented funding opportunities



Funding Amount: **\$1.7 billion**

## APPLICATION

### Program Details

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

**Administrator:** Missouri Office of Broadband

**Authorizing Legislation:** Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)

### Funding Details

**Award:** \$1.7 billion

**Match Requirement:** 25% Match required

### Key Dates

**December 5, 2024** – Application portal opens, applicants must complete prequalification submission before submitting BEAD application

**February 5, 2025** – Prequalification submission window closes

**February 20, 2025** – **Application window closes**

**February 21, 2025** – 15-day Best and Final Offer window opens

**February 21, 2025** – Sub-round for no-application areas opens

**March 23, 2025** – Sub-round for no-application areas closes

**April 22, 2025** – Preliminary Award announcements

## Eligible Applicants

- Nonprofit organizations
- Local governments
- Rural Electric Cooperatives
- Telephone Cooperatives
- Public-private partnerships, with private or nonprofit partners registered in MO
- Private Companies
- Public Utility District
- Public or Private Utilities

## Eligible Projects

- **Priority Broadband Projects are:** Applications that propose to construct end-to-end fiber-optic facilities to all unserved and underserved BSLs in a Project Funding Area

## Eligible Areas

- Broadband office defined application areas are posted at [ded.mo.gov/office-broadband-development/mapping](https://ded.mo.gov/office-broadband-development/mapping) under the "Application Areas" heading

## Eligible Costs

- Construction, improvement, and/or acquisition of facilities and telecommunications equipment, including infrastructure for backhaul, middle and last-mile networks, and MDUs
- Long-term leases of facilities to provide qualifying broadband service, including IRUs
- Deployment of internet and Wi-Fi within an eligible MDU 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

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

# Selection Criteria

## Scoring (maximum of 320 points):

### Primary criteria

- **Minimal BEAD Outlay (up to 100 points):**  
Score =  $100 - [\text{percent of outlay requested}^2 / 100]$
- **Affordability (up to 100 points):**
  - **Competitive Areas:** Score = Urban Rate Survey 2023 Benchmark for 1 Gbps/1 Gbps – [monthly price of Applicant's 1 Gbps/1 Gbps plan]
  - **NonCompetitive Areas:** applicants that commit to charge less than the 2023 Urban Rate Survey Benchmark price for 1 Gbps/1 Gbps service will receive 50 points and if ISP charges no more for equivalent service in non-BEAD areas will receive an additional 50 points for a possible total of 100 points  
Applicants that decline to make either commitments receive 0 points
- **Fair Labor Practices (up to 40 points):**
  - **For subgrantees with three years experience**
    - 10 points - Disclosure of violations
    - 10 points - Disclosure of safety records
    - 10 points - Workforce plan
    - 10 points - Workplace safety
  - **For subgrantees without three years experience**
    - 20 points – Workforce plan
    - 20 points - Workplace safety

### Secondary criteria

- **Speed Deployment (up to 18 points): the highest points** awarded to projects serving every location within 18 months. For example:
  - 18 points given for completing the build within 18 months
  - 0 points given for completing the build within 45 months
- **Local Coordination (up to 20 points):**
  - 20 points – local financial support shown
  - up to 16 points – non financial levels of support shown
- **Training Commitments (up to 10 points)**
- **Hiring Commitments (up to 10 points)**
- **Employment Commitments (up to 10 points)**
- **Missouri Economic Development (up to 12 points)**

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

## Selection Criteria (cont'd)

### **\*\*Non-Priority Broadband Projects Only\*\***

- **Minimal BEAD Outlay (up to 100 points):**  
Score =  $100 - [\text{percent of outlay requested}^2 / 100]$
- **Affordability (up to 100 points):**
  - Score = (Urban Rate Survey 2023 Benchmark for 1 Gbps/1 Gbps – monthly price of 1 Gbps/1Gbps plan for locations served by fiber) x percentage of locations served by fiber + (Urban Rate Survey 2023 Benchmark for 100/20 Mbps – monthly price of 100/20 Mbps for locations served by a non-fiber technology) x percentage of locations served by a non-fiber technology
- **Fair Labor Practices (up to 40 points):**
  - **For subgrantees with three years experience**
    - 10 points - Disclosure of violations
    - 10 points - Disclosure of safety records
    - 10 points - Workforce plan
    - 10 points - Workplace safety
  - **For subgrantees without three years experience**
    - 20 points – Workforce plan
    - 20 points - Workplace safety

### **Secondary criteria**

- **Speed Deployment (up to 13.5 points): the highest points** awarded to projects serving every location within 18 months. For example:
  - 13.5 points given for completing the build within 18 months
  - 0 points given for completing the build within 45 months
- **Speed of Network and Other Technical Capabilities (up to 20 points):**
  - Up to 8 points – Speed
  - Up to 4 points – Latency
  - Up to 4 points - Useful Life
  - Up to 4 points – Scalability
- **Local Coordination (up to 15 points):**
  - 15 points – local financial support shown
  - up to 12 points – non financial levels of support shown
- **Training Commitments (up to 7.5 points)**
- **Hiring Commitments (up to 7.5 points)**
- **Employment Commitments (up to 7.5 points)**
- **Missouri Economic Development (up to 9 points)**

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

## Application Process

- Applicants must have been approved during the Prequalification Phase. Prequalification applications must be submitted no later than February 5<sup>th</sup>.

## Links & Contacts

- [MO BEAD application guide](#)
- [MO Grant Portal](#)
- [MO Broadband map](#)
- [MO BEAD program](#)
- [MO approved IPVII](#)
- Questions: <https://ded.mo.gov/office-broadband-development/contact-form>

- Opportunity Evaluation
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- A Track Record of Success