

# nrtc **FUNDING ALERT!**

Professional assistance for today's unprecedented funding opportunities



**Funding Amount: \$1.2 billion**

## **APPLICATION**

### **Program Details**

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

**Administrator:** Broadband Expansion and Accessibility of Mississippi (BEAM)

**Match Requirement:** 25% Match required

### **Key Dates**

- **July 2, 2025** – Benefit of the Bargain cycle opens
- **July 16, 2025** - Deadline – Benefit of the Bargain cycle closes
- **August 2025** – Selection of provisional subawards
- **September 4, 2025** – Final Proposal due to NTIA

### **Eligible Applicants**

- Approved Letter of Intent participants

### **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**

- Eligible areas were determined by the Mississippi Challenge Process. BEAM will update eligible locations [at this page](#)

## 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 Project vs Non-Priority Broadband Project

- **Primary Scoring** - Minimal BEAD Program Outlay. The Eligible Entity must select the combination of project proposals with the lowest overall cost to the Program
- **Secondary Scoring:** Applicants within 15% of the lowest grant request for the same application area, the following scoring will be applied

**Speed to Deployment** - The prospective subgrantee's binding commitment to provision service by a date certain that is earlier than four years after the date on which the subgrantee will receive the subgrant from the Eligible Entity subject to contractual penalties to the Eligible Entity. Greater consideration can be awarded to prospective subgrantees promising an earlier service provision date.

**Speed of Network and Other Technical Capabilities** - Eligible Entities may weigh the speed, latency, and other technical capabilities of the technologies proposed by prospective subgrantees.

## Application Process

- All applicants must have been approved during the Letter of Intent phase

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

## Links & Contacts

- [Broadband Expansion and Accessibility of Mississippi BEAD Homepage](#)
- [BEAD Application Guide](#)
- Questions: [BEAM Contact Form](#)

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