

# nrtc **FUNDING ALERT!**

Professional assistance for today's unprecedented funding opportunities



**Funding Amount: \$75 million**

## Program Details

**Program Name:** Broadband Pole Replacement Program

**Administrator:** Texas Broadband Development Office (BDO)

**Authorizing Legislation:** House Bill 1505 from the 87<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session

## Funding Details

**Award:**

- Minimum: \$200,000
- Maximum: \$5,000,000
- Limited to the lesser of 50% of replacement cost or \$5,000 per pole

**Match Requirement:** No

## Key Dates

**August 9, 2024** – Deadline to submit questions to BDO (2:00 pm CT)

**September 3, 2024** – Application Window Opens

**September 10** – **Application Window Closes**

**November 1, 2024** – Anticipated issuance of notice of awards

## Eligible Applicants

- Pole owners or ISPs who have paid or incurred costs of removing an existing pole in an eligible area to accommodate an Eligible Broadband Facility

## Eligible Areas

- Poles must be located in an unserved area
- Applications are limited to poles located in a single county

## Eligible Projects

- Only poles applicants can demonstrate have been replaced to accommodate an Eligible Broadband Facility

## Eligible Costs

- Costs paid or incurred between Aug 31, 2021 and July 29, 2024 for the following:
  - Removal and disposal of existing pole
  - Purchase and installation of a replacement pole
  - Transfer of any existing facilities to the new pole

## Selection Criteria

### Scoring (maximum of 150 points):

- Rurality (based on county population) – **up to 100 points**
  - <50,000: 100 pts
  - 50,001 – 100,000: 98 pts
  - 100,001 – 150,000: 96 pts
  - 150,001 – 200,000: 94 pts
  - 200,001 – 250,000: 92 pts
  - 250,001 – 300,000: 90 pts
  - 300,001+: 0 pts
- Minimal Per Pole Outlay – **up to 50 points**
  - Calculated as discount (below maximum possible per pole) X 100
  - Example: if \$5,000 per pole is available, but applicant only requests \$2,500 (50% discount), applicant will receive the maximum 50 points

## Application Process

- Application materials should be provided via the grant portal when it opens Sep 3<sup>rd</sup>

## Links & Contacts

- [Pole Replacement Program Page](#)
- [Pole Replacement Notice of Funding Availability](#)
- [Texas Broadband Development Office Home Page](#)
- For questions, contact Jesse Troublefield at [bdo.polesnofa@cpa.texas.gov](mailto:bdo.polesnofa@cpa.texas.gov)

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