

nrtc **FUNDING ALERT!**

Professional assistance for today's unprecedented funding opportunities



Funding Amount: **\$551.5M**

APPLICATION

Program Details

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

Administrator: South Carolina Broadband Office (SBBO)

Match Requirement: 25% Match required

Key Dates

- **July 7, 2025** – Benefit of the Bargain Round Application cycle opens
- **July 8, 2025** – BEAD Informational Webinar at 10 am EST
- **July 24, 2025** – Benefit of the Bargain Round Application cycle closes
- **August 2025** – Selection of provisional subawards
- **September 4, 2025** – Final proposal due to NTIA

Eligible Projects

- Qualifying last-mile broadband infrastructure to unserved 25/3 Mbps or less and underserved between 25/3 Mbps and 100/20 Mbps locations

Eligible Applicants

- Cooperatives
- Nonprofit Organizations
- Public-Private Partnerships
- Private Companies
- Public or Private Utilities
- Public Utility Districts
- Local Governments

Eligible Areas

- The SCBBO is changing the project area definition from Zip Code Tabulation Area (ZTCA) to a single BEAD-eligible BSL for the Benefit of the Bargain application Round. Each BSL will be evaluated individually. ISP's can apply for as many BSL's as they desire in a single application.

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:** Applications within the same project area, the application with the lowest grant request will be selected
- **Secondary Scoring:** Applicants within 15% of the lowest grant request for the same application area, the following scoring will be applied
 - **60 points** – Maximum Download speed
 - **15 points** – Maximum Upload speed
 - **15 points** – Minimum Latency speed
 - **10 points** – Speed to Deployment

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

Application Process

- Applicants must have been approved during the Prequalification Phase. All data and documentation is required to be submitted by ISPs through [Citrix Sharefile](#)

Links & Contacts

- [SCBBO Initial Proposal Modification Letter](#)
- [SC BEAD Benefit of the Bargain Application Guidelines](#)
- [SC BEAD Benefit of the Bargain Application Template](#)
- [SCBBO BEAD Citrix Platform](#)
- [SC BEAD program webpage](#)
- [SC BEAD FAQ's](#)
- [Question submission form](#)

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