

Professional assistance for today's unprecedented funding opportunities

Funding Amount: **\$729.9 million**

Program Details

Program Name: Bringing Online Opportunities to Texas II (BOOT R2) **Administrator:** Texas Broadband Development Ofice (BDO) **Authorizing Legislation:** ARPA Capital Projects Fund (CPF)

Funding Details

Award: Min \$1,000,000 – Max \$125,000,000 Match Requirement: No match required

Key Dates

July 19, 2024 – Deadline to submit questions regarding NOFA/Application (2:00 pm CT) July 26, 2024 – Estimated publication of clarifying responses August 26, 2024 – Application window closes

August 30, 2024 – Application challenge period begins
September 30, 2024 – Application challenge period ends
November 15, 2024 – Anticipated issuance of notice of awards

Eligible Applicants

- Political subdivisions of the State
- Commercial broadband service providers
- Non-commercial broadband service providers

Eligible Areas

BDO designated 24 counties (2 from each of TX's 12 economic development regions) as eligible for funding. For the full list, refer to the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)

Eligible Projects

Projects that deploy qualifying broadband service (1 Gbps symmetrical) to <u>all</u> unserved and underserved broadband serviceable locations within an eligible county

Selection Criteria

Scoring (maximum of 100 points):

- Minimal BOOT Program Outlay up to 35 points
 - Cost effectiveness
 - Cost per pass
 - Served locations (must be less than 20% of total project locations)
- Project Budget and Sustainability up to 25 points
 - Reasonableness of budget
 - Sustainability of the project
 - Voluntary cost match (must be at least 10% of eligible costs to be considered)
- Applicant Qualifications up to 20 points
 - Organizational Capacity
 - Managerial Capacity
 - Financial Capacity
 - Technical Capacity
- Affordability up to 10 points
 - Evidence proposed pricing strategy is competitive and affordable
 - Low-cost option
 - Voluntary open access (willingness to offer other providers wholesale access to proposed middle-mile infrastructure)
- Community Impact up to 10 points
 - Digital Opportunity
 - Local Workforce Development
 - Evidence of Community Support

Application Process

Must be submitted via email with delivery receipt requested, in accordance with the following:

- Email to bdo.nofa@cpa.texas.gov
- Subject line: Applicant's name, the NOFA number, and the name of the eligible county for which the application is being submitted in the following format: {Applicant Name} RFA No. BDO-NOFA-002 {County Name}
- All attachments to the email must be in an accessible format (specific acceptable formats include Word, Excel, and pdf) and packed into one zip file
- All required forms must be signed, either with digital signatures or manually with scanned signatures



Contact us for funding assistance. NRTC's Funding Practice offers key benefits including:

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

Telecom Companies: Contact Chick Kennedy at (352) 552-1317 or <u>ckennedy@nrtc.coop</u>

Electric Cooperatives: Contact Matt Timmons at (703) 464-5339 or <u>mtimmons@nrtc.coop</u>

Links & Contacts

- TX BDO Grant Homepage
- Grant Application Guide
- <u>State Broadband Map</u>
- For questions, email <u>bdo.nofa@cpa.texas.gov</u>

funding@nrtc.coop

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