

nrtc **FUNDING ALERT!**

Professional assistance for today's unprecedented funding opportunities



Funding Amount: **\$229 Million**

APPLICATION

Program Details

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

Administrator: Vermont Department of Public Service

Match Requirement: 25% Match required

Key Dates

- **July 15, 2025** – Benefit of the Bargain Round Application cycle opens
- **July 25, 2025** – Benefit of the Bargain Round Application cycle closes
- **August 2025** – Staff review period, negotiations, and public comment period
- **September 4, 2025** – Final proposal due to NTIA

Eligible Applicants

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

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

- Final project areas have been defined by VT and can be found here: [BEAD | Explore VCBB](#)

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 Projects vs Non-Priority Broadband Projects

- **Primary Scoring:** For project areas with multiple applications, the application with the lowest grant amount requested will be selected
- **Secondary Scoring:** Project areas receiving multiple applications within 15% of the lowest grant request will receive the following secondary scoring based on some combination of:
 - **Speed to Deployment**
 - **Speed of Network and Other Technical Capabilities**
 - **Previously Selected for a Preliminary Award**

Application Process

- Prior Letter of Intent Submission is required
- Applicants will submit all final applications via VT's application portal

Links & Contacts

- [VT BEAD Landing Page](#)
- [Broadband Map](#)
- [Broadband Grant Portal Guide](#)
- Questions? Contact vcbb.info@vermont.gov

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