

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: Washinton State Broadband Office (WSBO)

Match Requirement: 25% Match required

Key Dates

- **July 2, 2025** – Benefit of the Bargain Application Cycle Opens
- **July 23, 2025** – Benefit of the Bargain Application cycles closes
- **July 24, 2025** - August 14, 2025 – Application Review
- **January 2026** - Awards made after NTIA approval

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

- Projects must serve areas identified and approved through the BEAD process. Commerce posted BEAD construction project area maps that detail unserved and underserved locations across the state eligible for BEAD funding.

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, additional selection criteria will be applied according to speed and latency requirements of the statute and NOFO

Application Process

- Apply through the [WSBO BEAD Grant Portal](#)

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

Links & Contacts

- [WA BEAD Home Page](#)
- [Benefit of the Bargain Application Materials](#)
- [Project Area Maps](#)
- Send application questions to: crystal.schoelkopf@commerce.wa.gov
- ZoomGrants Tech Support Desk: Questions@ZoomGrants.com or (866) 323-5404 ext. 2

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