

nrtc **FUNDING ALERT!**

Professional assistance for today's unprecedented funding opportunities



Funding Amount: \$1.06 billion

APPLICATION

Program Details

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

Administrator: Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC)

Match Requirement: Minimum 25% of the total project cost

Key Dates

- **January 8 – 10, 2025** – Optional mock Rd 1 (for practice)
- **January 13, 2025** – BEAD Grant Rd 1 Opens
- **February 25, 2025 – BEAD Grant Rd 1 Closes @ 4:59 pm CT**

Eligible Applicants

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

Eligible Areas

- See list of final approved project units:
<https://apps.psc.wi.gov/pages/viewdoc.htm?docid=528815>

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 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

Scoring (maximum of 100 points):

Primary criteria

- **Minimal BEAD Outlay (up to 40 points):** Based on BEAD match threshold, cost model, and network quality.
- **Priority Affordability (up to 18 points):** Based on total non-promo cost of 1 GB / 1 GB.
- **Fair Labor Practices (up to 17 points):**
 - Based on prior compliance record for entities in operation

Secondary criteria

- **Speed to Deployment (up to 1 point):** Awarded for enforceable deployments faster than 36 months
- **Local and Tribal Engagement (up to 5 points):** Points for demonstrated community support and local/tribal coordination
- **Government and Tribal Endorsements (up to 7 points):** Awarded for formal endorsements from County and/or Tribal government
- **Affordability Middle Class and Low-Cost Plan (up to 10 points):** Based on cost of service to the customer and reach of req'd low-cost plan
- **Community Anchor Institutions (up to 2 points):** Based on inclusion of CAIs without a symmetrical gig of service

Application Process

- Applicants must have been approved during the Prequalification Phase

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

Links & Contacts

- [WI PSC BEAD Homepage](#)
- [WI PSC BEAD Docket](#)
- [WI BEAD Application Guidance](#)
- [WI BEAD Application FAQ](#)
- [WI BEAD IPV 1](#)
- [WI BEAD IPV 2](#)

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