

nrtc **FUNDING ALERT!**

Professional assistance for today's unprecedented funding opportunities



Funding Amount: \$1.7 billion

APPLICATION

Program Details

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

Administrator: Missouri Office of Broadband

Authorizing Legislation: Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)

Funding Details

Award: \$1.7 billion

Match Requirement: 25% Match required

Key Dates

December 5, 2024 – Application portal opens, applicants must complete prequalification submission before submitting BEAD application

February 5, 2025 – Prequalification submission window closes

February 20, 2025 – **Application window closes**

February 21, 2025 – 15-day Best and Final Offer rolling window opens

February 21, 2025 – Sub-round for no-application areas opens

March 22, 2025 – Sub-round for no-application areas closes

April 22, 2025 – Preliminary Award announcements

Eligible Applicants

- Nonprofit organizations
- Local governments
- Rural Electric Cooperatives
- Telephone Cooperatives
- Public-private partnerships, with private or nonprofit partners registered in MO
- Private Companies
- Public Utility District
- Public or Private Utilities

Eligible Projects

- **Priority Broadband Projects are:** Applications that propose to construct end-to-end fiber-optic facilities to all unserved and underserved BSLs in a Project Funding Area

Eligible Areas

- Broadband office defined application areas are posted at ded.mo.gov/office-broadband-development/mapping under the "Application Areas" heading

Eligible Costs

- Construction, improvement, and/or acquisition of facilities and telecommunications equipment, including infrastructure for backhaul, middle and last-mile networks, and MDUs
- Long-term leases of facilities to provide qualifying broadband service, including IRUs
- Deployment of internet and Wi-Fi within an eligible MDU 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

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

Selection Criteria

Scoring (maximum of 320 points):

Primary criteria

- **Minimal BEAD Outlay (up to 100 points):**
Score = $100 - [\text{percent of outlay requested}^2 / 100]$
- **Affordability (up to 100 points):**
 - **Competitive Areas:** Score = Urban Rate Survey 2023 Benchmark for 1 Gbps/1 Gbps – [monthly price of Applicant's 1 Gbps/1 Gbps plan]
 - **NonCompetitive Areas:** applicants that commit to charge less than the 2023 Urban Rate Survey Benchmark price for 1 Gbps/1 Gbps service will receive 50 points and if ISP charges no more for equivalent service in non-BEAD areas will receive an additional 50 points for a possible total of 100 points
Applicants that decline to make either commitments receive 0 points
- **Fair Labor Practices (up to 40 points):**
 - **For subgrantees with three years experience**
 - 10 points - Disclosure of violations
 - 10 points - Disclosure of safety records
 - 10 points - Workforce plan
 - 10 points - Workplace safety
 - **For subgrantees without three years experience**
 - 20 points – Workforce plan
 - 20 points - Workplace safety

Secondary criteria

- **Speed Deployment (up to 18 points): the highest points** awarded to projects serving every location within 18 months. For example:
 - 18 points given for completing the build within 18 months
 - 0 points given for completing the build within 45 months
- **Local Coordination (up to 20 points):**
 - 20 points – local financial support shown
 - up to 16 points – non financial levels of support shown
- **Training Commitments (up to 10 points)**
- **Hiring Commitments (up to 10 points)**
- **Employment Commitments (up to 10 points)**
- **Missouri Economic Development (up to 12 points)**

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

Selection Criteria (cont'd)

****Non-Priority Broadband Projects Only****

- **Minimal BEAD Outlay (up to 100 points):**
Score = $100 - [\text{percent of outlay requested}^2 / 100]$
- **Affordability (up to 100 points):**
 - Score = (Urban Rate Survey 2023 Benchmark for 1 Gbps/1 Gbps – monthly price of 1 Gbps/1Gbps plan for locations served by fiber) x percentage of locations served by fiber + (Urban Rate Survey 2023 Benchmark for 100/20 Mbps – monthly price of 100/20 Mbps for locations served by a non-fiber technology) x percentage of locations served by a non-fiber technology
- **Fair Labor Practices (up to 40 points):**
 - **For subgrantees with three years experience**
 - 10 points - Disclosure of violations
 - 10 points - Disclosure of safety records
 - 10 points - Workforce plan
 - 10 points - Workplace safety
 - **For subgrantees without three years experience**
 - 20 points – Workforce plan
 - 20 points - Workplace safety

Secondary criteria

- **Speed Deployment (up to 13.5 points): the highest points** awarded to projects serving every location within 18 months. For example:
 - 13.5 points given for completing the build within 18 months
 - 0 points given for completing the build within 45 months
- **Speed of Network and Other Technical Capabilities (up to 20 points):**
 - Up to 8 points – Speed
 - Up to 4 points – Latency
 - Up to 4 points - Useful Life
 - Up to 4 points – Scalability
- **Local Coordination (up to 15 points):**
 - 15 points – local financial support shown
 - up to 12 points – non financial levels of support shown
- **Training Commitments (up to 7.5 points)**
- **Hiring Commitments (up to 7.5 points)**
- **Employment Commitments (up to 7.5 points)**
- **Missouri Economic Development (up to 9 points)**

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

Application Process

- Applicants must have been approved during the Prequalification Phase. Prequalification applications must be submitted no later than February 5th.

Links & Contacts

- [MO BEAD application guide](#)
- [MO Grant Portal](#)
- [MO Broadband map](#)
- [MO BEAD program](#)
- [MO approved IPVII](#)
- Questions: <https://ded.mo.gov/office-broadband-development/contact-form>

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