



Office of Broadband Development | BEAD Office Hours + Updates

June 17, 2025

- Provide **updates on what OBD knows so far** and the impacts of the federal changes on the BEAD program in Minnesota
- Share ways to continue to stay **engaged**
- At the end to **listen to feedback** and **collect questions**

What we know so far

- New application process for BEAD subgrantee selection with the new federal changes
- Federal changes per [6/6/25, NTIA factsheet](#):
 - Technology neutral approach
 - Removal of labor/employee requirements
 - Elimination of climate change requirements
 - End of net neutrality requirements
 - Removal of DEI-driven coordination requirements
 - Removal of non-traditional providers
 - End rate regulation
 - Required use of the Environmental Screening and Permitting Tracking Tool (ESAPTT)

NTIA Required, BEAD Restructuring Round

- All states must conduct at least one additional SGS round for every BEAD-eligible BSL
 - During this round, all applicants – regardless of technology type or prior participation in the program – must be allowed to apply and compete under the same terms
- Applicants that applied in previous rounds have two options for participating in this round(s):
 - Do Nothing: These applications will be rescored using the new rubric and may be awarded
 - Submit a New Application that removes costs associated with regulatory burdens, removes excessively high-cost locations, etc.

NTIA Required, BEAD Restructuring Round Continued

- All States must rescind all preliminary and provisional awards, and notify applicants that another round of applications will be considered for each BSL before final awards are made
 - If applicable, States must reopen their prequalification process
 - States can choose to include prequalification submissions as a part of the application process
 - Existing pre-qualified applicants do not need to resubmit their documentation
 - Applicants who previously failed to prequalify may resubmit and try again
- States must remove non-statutory burdens from the application and scoring processes
- States must allow applicants to remove excessively high-cost locations from project areas
 - The State must solicit bids from other potential applicants to serve these areas; OR
 - An applicant may propose a multi-provider solution to serve these areas

Expected Timeline

Tentative workplan to complete subgrantee selection and submit Final Proposal by September 4th																		
Activity		Month	Jun				Jul				Aug					Sept		
			9	16	23	30	6	7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25	1		
		Weeks																
Update eligible locations and PAUs	Update eligible locations to reflect latest FCC fabric, defaults, and ECs	xxxxxxx	xxxxxx	XX														
	Conduct challenge process for ULFW	xxxxxx	XX		XXXXXX													
	Revise CAI list to align with statutory definition																	
	Update PAUs & public facing map																	
Design subgrantee selection and prepare for launch	Make programmatic design changes(e.g., scoring rubric, PAUs)																	
	Identify and request waivers																	
	Draft & submit proposal correction																	
	Update Call for Application, Application Questions, and Application Guidance																	
	Publish Call for Application addendum			X														
	Update and test application portal																	
Accept and evaluate grant applications	Reopen pre-qualification					XX												
	Collect subgrantee applications																	
	Review and score applications																	
	Deconflict applications and make preliminary selections																	
	Run round to cover remaining locations or negotiate directly with applicants																	
	Prepare Final Proposal/Post																	
	Public Comment Period (14 days) post by 8/21/2025																	
Engage Stakeholders	Keep applicants informed (e.g., website updates, email communications)			XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX		XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX						
	Conduct applicant webinars			X	X	X		X										09/04: Final Proposal Due

How to stay engaged

- Stay up to date by signing up for our **biweekly email updates** at:
mn.gov/deed/programs-services/broadband/contact/
- Check the OBE BEAD webpage for updates and office hours/webinars:
mn.gov/deed/programs-services/broadband/bead/
- Email deed.broadband@state.mn.us or call 651-259-7610 with questions and concerns as they come up

Feedback + Questions