

## Call for Letters of Interest and Bids for Direct Negotiation for BSLs that did not receive a bid in the Minnesota Restructured BEAD Round

On August 4, 2025, the Minnesota Office of Broadband Development (OBD) published the locations that did not receive any bid in the Restructured BEAD grant round and is accepting Letters of Interest (LOI) during a 4-day application window **closing Friday, August 8 at 11:59 PM CST**.

Interested applicants must complete two forms: (1) Letter of Interest to Negotiate Form (pdf) and (2) Location Bid Form (csv) and submit both by email to the OBD ([deed.broadband@state.mn.us](mailto:deed.broadband@state.mn.us)) so they are received no later than 11:59 PM CST on Friday, August 8, 2025.

(1) **[Letters of Interest Form for Direct Negotiation BEAD](#)** : Form must be completed in its entirety.

(2) **[Available BSLs – Location Bid Form](#)** : The information below is required to be submitted in the .csv format Excel Form. Each location must be submitted in a separate row. All preliminary eligible locations are pre-populated in the form for ease in review the locations. Applicant may remove locations they do not wish to bid on.

- **Location ID Number** (*Fabric ID*)
- **Location Classification** (*0 for unserved, 1 for underserved*)
- **Requested Funds** (*Currency to two decimals*)
- **25% Match** (*Yes/No*)
- **Technology Code** (*10 – Copper/DSL, 40 – Coaxial Cable/DOCSISxWi, 50 – Optical Carrier: Fixed wireline service using end-to-end fiber optic cable to the premise (FTTP), 60 – Geostationary Satellite, 61 – Non-geostationary Satellite/Low Earth Orbit, 71 – Terrestrial Fixed Wireless: licensed spectrum only (non-FTTP), 72 – Fixed Wireless: hybrid licensed/unlicensed spectrum (non-FTTP)*)
- **Download Speed Anticipated** (*Mbps*)
- **Upload Speed Anticipated** (*Mbps*)
- **Low Latency of less than or equal to 100ms** (*Yes/No*)
- **Deployment Time** (*Months*)

Based on the Minnesota's approved BEAD Initial Proposal and approved Application Correction Letter as outlined under NTIA's June 6th Policy Notice, the Office of Broadband has established prioritization criteria for reviewing applications. These prioritization criteria will be primarily based on requested funds per location. Secondary criteria include speed

of network and other technical capabilities (90%) and preliminary BEAD awardee in a prior round (10%).

Other Guidance Provisions:

- **If an applicant is submitting to Minnesota's BEAD application process for the first time** in submitting an LOI for Direct Negotiation of the application process, the applicant must complete the [pre-qualification component](#) of the application immediately. **Please call 651-259-7442 for next steps.** Failure to submit timely information will result in an incomplete application and funding cannot be granted.
- By submitting a letter of interest with less than 25% match, the Office of Broadband will interpret this as a waiver request to the 25% required match threshold. If selected to move forward with the application, the applicant must submit documentation formally requesting this waiver.
- The Office of Broadband will require preliminarily identified sub awardees from the Direct Negotiation Round to submit additional information to satisfy the requirements of the [BEAD Final Application](#) and other federal reporting requirements immediately upon notification of preliminary sub-awardee status.
- Applicants will be considered as a Priority or Non-Priority Broadband Project based on the statements made in applicants' Letters of Intent form and final application submission.
- OBD may reject treatment of an application as a Priority Broadband Project if the project could not meet the statutory definition for a specific project area as determined by OBD
- OBD reserves the right to decline an applicant on the basis of financial and managerial capacity, technical and operational capability, and other requirements in 47 U.S.C. § 1702(g)(2)(A).