



EMPLOYMENT AND  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

# Office of Broadband Development

## Weekly BEAD Office Hours



January 28, 2025

# Updates

- The **Pre-Qualification** portal opened yesterday, **January 27** and will close **February 27**. Registration information and guides on using the portal are available on: [mn.gov/deed/programs-services/broadband/bead/](https://mn.gov/deed/programs-services/broadband/bead/).

If you have any technical questions on the portal, please email [mnhelpdesk@ready.net](mailto:mnhelpdesk@ready.net)

- Resources continue to be added to this webpage, including:
  - The list of [BEAD eligible locations](#) were approved by NTIA on January 17, 2025 and were posted last week
  - BEAD applicant resources were added, including a [Pre-Qualification Guidance](#), [BEAD Draft Contract Agreement](#), and a [BEAD Grantor Portal User Guide](#)
  - **New** [BEAD Frequently Asked Questions](#) were added January 23, on the BEAD Subgrantee selection process, Pre-Qualification process, and an updated FAQ is available on general BEAD questions. FAQs will be updated regularly throughout Pre-Qualification and Subgrantee selection. If you have a question about the BEAD program in Minnesota, please email those to [deed.broadband@state.mn.us](mailto:deed.broadband@state.mn.us).

# BEAD Timeline in Minnesota

**May 29, 2024:**  
BEAD Volume 1  
Approved

**July—November  
2024:** BEAD  
Challenge Process

**October 3, 2024:**  
BEAD Volume 2  
Approved

**December 2024:**  
Final List of BEAD  
Eligible locations  
submitted to  
NTIA

**January—February 2025:**  
**January 17:** NTIA approved  
final list of BEAD locations  
**Jan. 27—February 27:**  
Pre-Qualification process  
for BEAD in Minnesota

**\*March 10—April 7:**  
**Subgrantee selection  
subround 11a:** Fiber  
projects only and  
applicant proposes  
project area

**\*April 23—May 21:**  
OBD defined project  
areas posted.  
**Subgrantee  
selection subround  
11b:** Applications  
accepted for all  
technologies by  
OBD project area

**\*June 19-July 10:**  
Remaining OBD  
defined project  
areas posted.  
**Subgrantee  
selection  
subround 11c**

**\*July 10-Sept. 3:**  
OBD finalizes list of  
selected  
subgrantees,  
commissioner  
approval, public  
comment period

**October 3:**  
Deadline for the  
BEAD Final  
proposal to be  
submitted to  
NTIA for its  
approval

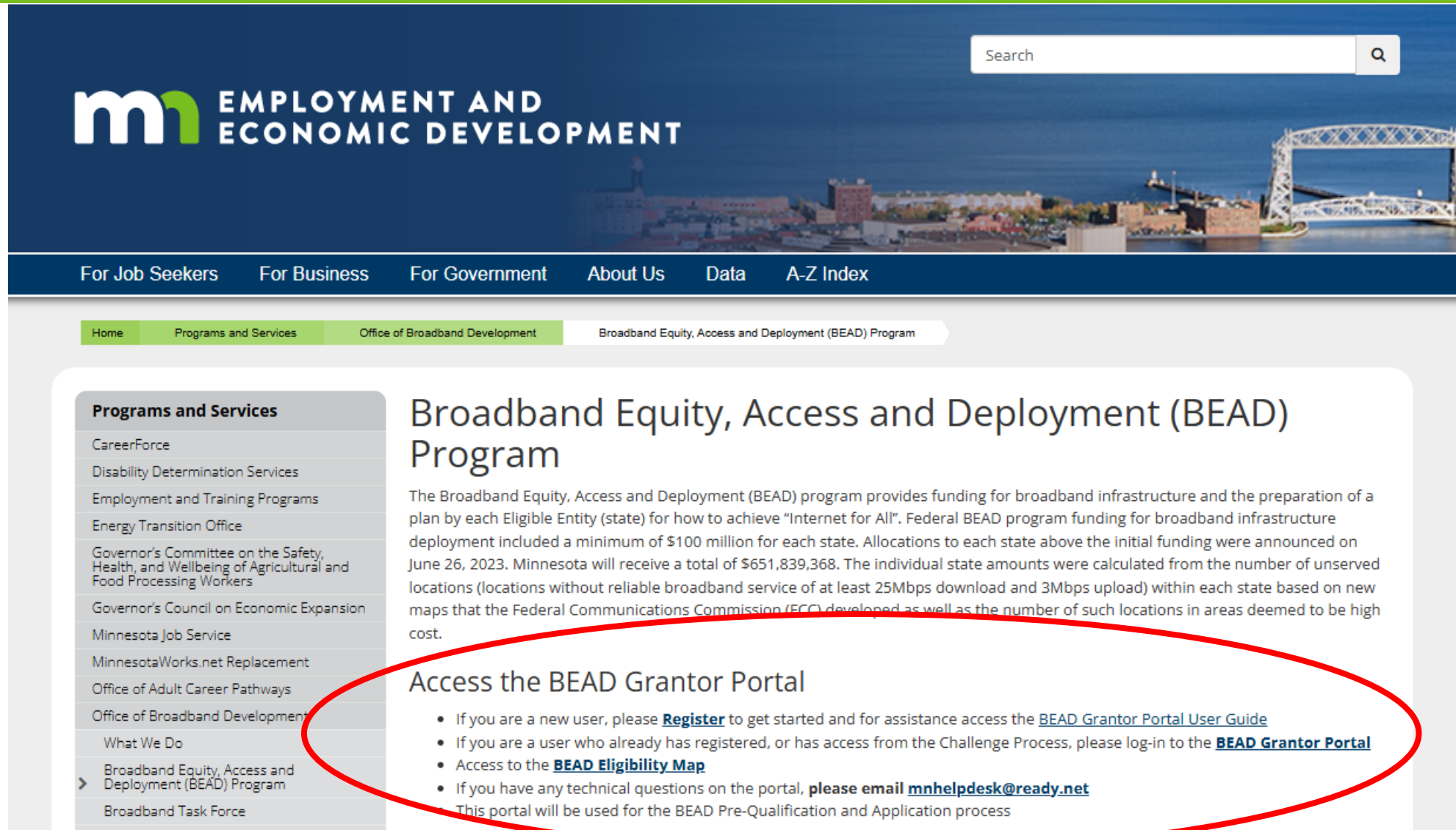
# OBD BEAD Office Hours

OBD weekly office hours on **Tuesdays 11am**, until **April 1, 2025**.

Register through links below, and on the [OBD BEAD webpage](#). Office hours will not be recorded, unless otherwise noted, but materials from each week will be posted online.

- February 4, [register here](#)
- February 11, *Instead of office hours, OBD will be offering in collaboration with the Department of Labor and Industry (DLI) a webinar on the new Safety-qualified Underground Telecommunications Installer Program. [Register here](#) to attend and visit the [DLI webpage](#) to learn more about the program.*
- February 18, [register here](#)
- February 25, [register here](#)
- March 4, [register here](#)
- March 11, [register here](#)
- March 18, [register here](#)
- March 25, [register here](#)
- April 1, [register here](#)

# BEAD Grantor Portal Demonstration



The screenshot shows the Minnesota Employment and Economic Development website. The header features the state logo and a search bar. A navigation bar includes links for Job Seekers, Business, Government, About Us, Data, and an A-Z Index. A breadcrumb trail indicates the current location: Home > Programs and Services > Office of Broadband Development > Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) Program. On the left, a sidebar lists various programs, with the BEAD program highlighted. The main content area is titled 'Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) Program' and contains a detailed description of the program's funding and goals. Below this, a section titled 'Access the BEAD Grantor Portal' provides instructions for new and existing users, including links to a user guide, eligibility map, and contact email. A red oval highlights this section.

**EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Search

For Job Seekers For Business For Government About Us Data A-Z Index

Home Programs and Services Office of Broadband Development Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) Program

**Programs and Services**

- CareerForce
- Disability Determination Services
- Employment and Training Programs
- Energy Transition Office
- Governor's Committee on the Safety, Health, and Wellbeing of Agricultural and Food Processing Workers
- Governor's Council on Economic Expansion
- Minnesota Job Service
- MinnesotaWorks.net Replacement
- Office of Adult Career Pathways
- Office of Broadband Development
- What We Do
- > Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) Program
- Broadband Task Force

## Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) Program

The Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) program provides funding for broadband infrastructure and the preparation of a plan by each Eligible Entity (state) for how to achieve "Internet for All". Federal BEAD program funding for broadband infrastructure deployment included a minimum of \$100 million for each state. Allocations to each state above the initial funding were announced on June 26, 2023. Minnesota will receive a total of \$651,839,368. The individual state amounts were calculated from the number of unserved locations (locations without reliable broadband service of at least 25Mbps download and 3Mbps upload) within each state based on new maps that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) developed as well as the number of such locations in areas deemed to be high cost.

### Access the BEAD Grantor Portal

- If you are a new user, please [Register](#) to get started and for assistance access the [BEAD Grantor Portal User Guide](#)
- If you are a user who already has registered, or has access from the Challenge Process, please log-in to the [BEAD Grantor Portal](#)
- Access to the [BEAD Eligibility Map](#)
- If you have any technical questions on the portal, please email [mnhelpdesk@ready.net](mailto:mnhelpdesk@ready.net)

This portal will be used for the BEAD Pre-Qualification and Application process