Presidential Select Committee on Broadband

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Presidential Select Committee on Broadband

Broadband Agenda

i.   Call to Order
ii.   Opening Remarks
iii. Sponsor Recognition and Remarks
iv. Meeting Overview
v.   Consent Agenda
vi. State Broadband Grants Update
vii. Guest Speaker: Carlos Nathan, NTIA
viii. Other Business
ix. Adjournment

Policy Documents

OR

Visit
FACpolicy.com

!REMINDER!

Only members of the committee can make motions and vote on action items. However, during the discussion & debate of each action item, attendees may comment or debate during that time.

ROLL CALL

2022 LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

Voting Paddles

Consent Agenda

A. ADOPT

i. BROADBAND-PP-01: State Digital Equity Grants

ii. BROADBAND-PP-02: Statutory Revisions to the Broadband Opportunity Program

State Broadband Grants Update

- **Broadband Opportunity Program: $400 million**

    - Office of Broadband released grant rules/application
    - Local coordination requirement included in final rule
    - Held two technical assistance webinars on grant rules
    - Grant Portal became active on November 2nd
    - Application period extension until December 9th

State Broadband Grants Update

- **Capital Projects Fund: $366 million**
  - Primary objective to expand last mile access in rural communities
  - Priority will be given to networks owned, operated, or affiliated with local governments, non-profit organizations, and co-operatives
  - Prioritize fiber projects to deliver 100/20 Mbps, scalable to 100 Mbps symmetrical service
  - Projects **must** show partnerships between the local governments and ISPs
  - LTPTs play a critical role in identifying community needs for broadband expansion projects

State Broadband Grants Update

- **Capital Projects Fund: $366 million**

  - **Broadband Infrastructure Projects (70%): $247,761,206**
    - The Office will obligate/award all project funds before December 31, 2024, and ensure all projects are completed by Dec. 31, 2026.

  - **Digital Connectivity Technology Projects (5%): $13,040,063**
    - funds to eligible entities to make devices and equipment necessary to access the broadband Internet available to households who lack such devices and equipment.

  - **Multi-Purpose Community Facility Projects (25%): $86,933,757**
    - funds to eligible communities to construct or improve Multi-Purpose Community Facilities (MPCF) for the construction of or improvements to buildings designed to jointly and directly enable work, education, and health monitoring, located in eligible communities with an identified critical need for the project.

Carlos Nathan
Federal Program Officer, NTIA

INTERNET FOR ALL

FUNDED BY THE BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW

ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE'S NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION

NOVEMBER 2022

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is a once-in-a-generation investment in infrastructure and competitiveness

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

- $1.2T bill passed by Congress and signed into law by President Biden on November 15, 2021

- Largest ever investments in high-speed Internet, rail and transit, clean energy, and water

- Allocated funding to over 350 distinct programs across more than a dozen federal departments and agencies

This historic legislation will:

Deliver clean water to all families and eliminate the nation's lead service lines

Ensure every American has access to affordable, reliable, high-speed Internet

Repair and rebuild roads and bridges

Improve transportation options and reduce greenhouse emissions

Upgrade our nation's airports and ports to strengthen our supply chains

Make the largest investment in passenger rail since Amtrak's creation

Build a national network of electric vehicle chargers

Upgrade power infrastructure to deliver clean, reliable energy

Make infrastructure resilient against the impacts of climate change, cyber-attacks, and extreme weather events

Deliver the largest investment in tackling legacy pollution in US history

Please see Build.gov for more details on the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law invests ~$65B to ensure everyone in America has access to high-speed Internet

Goal is to build infrastructure that provides reliable high-speed Internet **access** to all Americans **for today and tomorrow…**

…with a focus on making high-speed Internet **affordable** and **reliable** so **everyone** can participate in the economy...

… and providing the resources needed to **equitably** expand the adoption and use of the Internet so **everyone** can experience the benefits.

Bipartisan Infrastructure Act invests roughly $65B into high-speed Internet efforts through 7 federal programs:

Administered by NTIA
- Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program ($42.45B)
- Digital Equity Planning, Capacity and Competitive Grants ($2.75B)
- Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program ($2.00B)
- Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure Program ($1.0B)

Administered by other federal agencies
- Affordable Connectivity Program ($14.2B)
- Rural Broadband Programs at the Department of Agriculture ($2.0B)
- Private Activity Bonds ($0.6B)

High-speed Internet helps individuals and our country

Maximizing savings for education
The Internet is not a luxury, it's a necessity. Students are asked to utilize Internet to complete homework assignments, do research, apply to college or trade schools. Students who don't have access in their home are left out and left behind.

Stimulating growth in the economy
By connecting the workplace, we can better connect businesses to consumers. And new markets can increase sales and create jobs. High-speed Internet helps American businesses compete for talent and business in the global marketplace.

Lowering costs for health
Telehealth reduces hospital visits and cuts down hospital stay time. Hospitals with high-speed Internet save money because they have lower administration costs. And by offering telehealth, they save money while improving patient health.
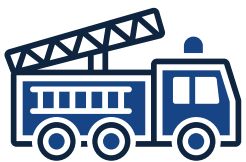
Strengthening ties in our community
High-speed Internet connects us to services we need. It helps first responders save lives. It lets us connect with our elected officials. And it strengthens our ties to our neighbors. One in four Americans get online alerts about local issues. And one in five use digital tools to stay in touch with their community.

Affordable, reliable, high-speed Internet has remained elusive for too long

The "digital divide" refers to the gap between those who have access to high-speed Internet and those who have limited or no access, driven by three key barriers

| Access	Affordability	Adoption and Digital Literacy
Many Americans live in areas that are not covered by high-speed Internet service providers or where service is not reliable	Many American households cannot afford to pay for the costs of devices or monthly service	Many Americans are not aware of available service offers or lack the digital skills to participate online

This gap is particularly acute for communities of color, Tribal nations, lower-income areas, and both urban and rural communities

Americans require a range of Internet tools and services to maximize the benefits of high-speed Internet access
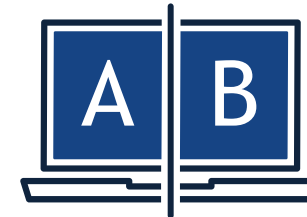
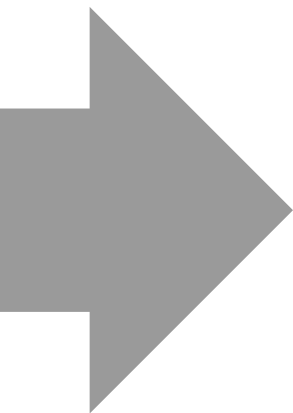| Access to affordable, robust high-speed Internet service	Internet-enabled devices that meet user needs	Applications and online content	Access to digital literacy training	Quality technical support	Measures to ensure online privacy & cybersecurity

NTIA will administer ~$48B through four programs that drive high-speed Internet access, affordability, and adoption

NTIA will administer ~$48B of funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

BEAD	DIGITAL EQUITY	TRIBAL	MIDDLE MILE
$42.45B	**$2.75B**	**$2.00B**	**$1.00B**
Broadband Equity, Access & Deployment Program	**Digital Equity Act**	**Tribal Connectivity Technical Amendments**	**Enabling Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure**
A program to get all Americans online by funding partnerships between states or territories, communities, and stakeholders to build infrastructure where we need it to and increase adoption of high-speed Internet.	Three programs that provide funding to promote digital inclusion and advance equity for all. They aim to ensure that all communities can access and use affordable, reliable high-speed Internet to meet their needs and improve their lives.	A program to help tribal communities expand high-speed Internet access and adoption on tribal lands.	A program to expand middle mile infrastructure, to reduce the cost of connecting unserved and underserved areas.

FCC to administer $14.2B
For Affordable Connectivity Program, which replaced the EBB program

USDA to administer $2.0B
Via the Rural Utilities Service

Private Activity Bonds $0.6B
Authorizes State and local governments to use private activity bonds for rural broadband

Funding pool
$42.45B

A program to get all Americans online by funding partnerships between states or territories, communities, and stakeholders to build infrastructure where we need it to and increase adoption of high-speed Internet.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Entities eligible to apply for this program include:
- All 50 States
- The District of Columbia and Puerto Rico
- Other Territories: U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Example eligible uses of funds include:

- ☆ Planning for deployment of Internet
- ☆ Deploying or upgrading Internet
- ☆ Installing Internet in multi-tenant buildings
- ☆ Implementing adoption and digital equity programs
- ☆ Workforce and job training

ESTIMATED TIMELINE

Timeline approximate unless exact date specified

Due 270 days after planning funds received

Due 180 days after new DATA maps and notice of fundings amounts issued

Due 365 days after initial proposal approval

2022

NOFO live 5/13

Due 7/18

2023

2024

2025

2026+

LOI

5-year plan

Initial proposal

Final proposal

4-year implementation
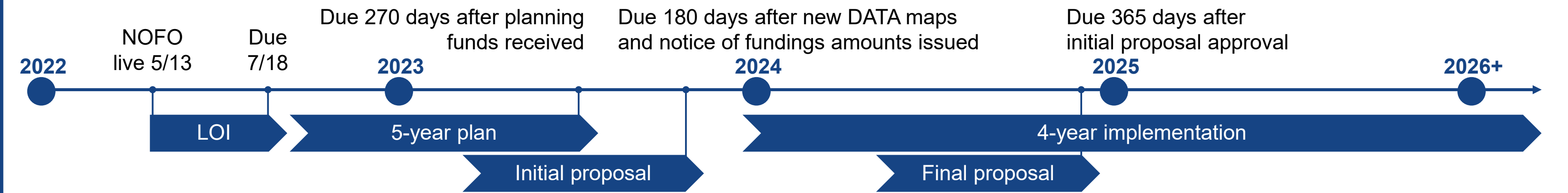
Eligible Entities have the option to submit a Five-Year Action Plan and receive Initial Planning Funds

$5M funding available

Eligible Entities that agree to submit an optional Five-Year Action Plan may receive up to $5M of Initial Planning Funds

NOTE: American Samoa, CNMI, Guam, and USVI can receive up to $1.25M each.

Example uses for Initial Planning Funds for planning and pre-deployment activities

- Ensure there is in-office capacity that is adequate to run the program

- Research and data collection

- Development of a preliminary budget for pre-planning activities

- Publications, outreach & communication support

- Providing technical assistance to potential subgrantees

- Training for employees (e.g., eligible entity, stakeholders, etc.)

- Conducting surveys of unserved, underserved, and underrepresented communities

- Local coordination, including capacity building

Digital Equity Act created three programs to promote digital equity and inclusion

Funding pool
$2.75B

Three programs that provide funding to promote digital inclusion and advance equity for all. They aim to ensure that all communities can access and use affordable, reliable high-speed Internet to meet their needs and improve their lives.

PROGRAMS HIGHLIGHTS

The Digital Equity Act created three programs:

State Planning
- $60M formula funding program to develop digital equity plans

State Capacity
- $1.44B formula funding program to implement plans & promote digital inclusion
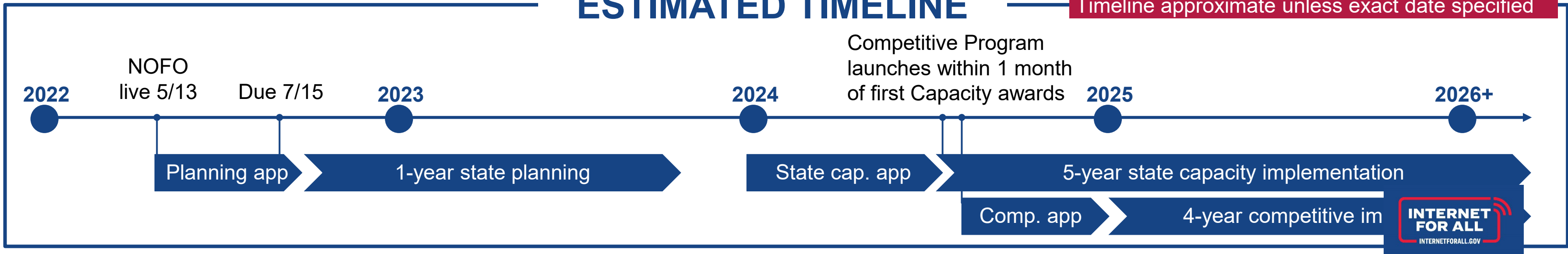
Competitive
- $1.25B to implement digital equity and inclusion activities

Example eligible uses of funds include:

- ☆ Developing digital equity plans; states must develop a plan to be eligible for state capacity grants

- ☆ Making awards to other entities to help make digital equity plans

- ☆ Improving accessibility and inclusivity of public resources

- ☆ Implementing digital equity plans and related activities

- ☆ Providing digital literacy and digital skills education

- ☆ Facilitating the adoption of high-speed Internet

ESTIMATED TIMELINE

Timeline approximate unless exact date specified

Competitive Program launches within 1 month of first Capacity awards

| 2022 | NOFO live 5/13 | Due 7/15 | 2023 | | 2024 | | 2025 | 2026+ |

Planning app → 1-year state planning

State cap. app → 5-year state capacity implementation

Comp. app → 4-year competitive im

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Planning funds will be used to develop State Digital Equity Plans, which must contain several components

Vision
- Stated **vision** for digital equity

Objectives
- **Measurable objectives**
- Assessment of how those objectives will **impact the State's plans and outcomes**

Barriers to Digital Equity
- **Identify barriers** to digital equity
- Include a **digital needs assessment**

Outreach and Engagement
- **Description of plan to collaborate** with key stakeholders to achieve its digital equity goals
- **List of organizations** that collaborated on and contributed to digital equity plans
- Coordination and outreach **strategy**

Integration
- **Asset inventory** of current strategies
- Description of **incorporation of local plans**
- Description of **coordination of use of capacity grant funds with BEAD funds**
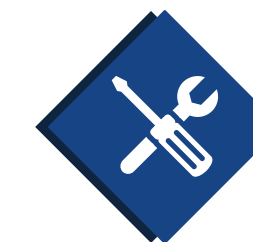
Implementation
- Implementation **strategy**
- **Timeline**

There are many ways stakeholders may get involved in the programs

Illustrative, non-exhaustive

Telecom provider
- Apply to be a BEAD subgrantee or apply directly for Middle Mile
- *Note: Telecom providers may include government owned entities*

Community anchor institution
- Benefit from BEAD funding for faster Internet
- Apply for Digital Equity competitive grant
- Advocate for community interests across programs

Community orgs
- Serve as a thought partner as states design their outreach strategies
- Advocate for community interests across programs

Tribal government
- Coordinate, consult, and partner with states during BEAD planning
- Apply for a Middle Mile, Tribal Broadband, or Digital Equity capacity and competitive grants

Local government
- Collaborate with state to develop Digital Equity plan and during BEAD planning
- Apply for a Middle Mile or Digital Equity capacity and competitive grants

Individual
- Participate in digital skill and literacy courses funded by programs
- Contact local reps for more information

Additional resources about the programs

1 Visit the InternetForAll.gov for additional information on federal funding programs

2 Engage with your State or territory regarding their plans to improve high-speed Internet access

3 Submit questions to InternetForAll@ntia.gov

4 Attend future NTIA webinars, including program-specific application guidance webinars for applicants

Carlos Nathan, Federal Program Officer:

cnathan@ntia.gov

For more information, please visit our websites or contact us at:

InternetForAll.gov for additional information on federal funding programs (InternetForAll@ntia.gov)

BroadbandUSA.ntia.doc.gov for technical assistance and grant program information (BroadbandUSA@ntia.doc.gov)

DEO Legislative Budget Request

- **BEAD Programmatic Funding**
  - **Prosperity Through a Connected Florida**
    - **Request: $100 million**
      1. Conduct Research and Data Collection
      2. Provide Technical Assistance
      3. Increase Operating Capacity of the Office of Broadband
      4. Perform Asset Mapping
      5. Assist with Local Coordination and Contracted Support

- **State Digital Equity Plan**
  - **Florida Digital Adoption and Use Capacity Building**
    - **Request: $12,960,000**
      1. Digital Equity Planning Grants to create the Florida Digital Adoption and Use Plan
      2. Digital Equity Capacity Grants
      3. Digital Equity Competitive Grant Program

Other Business

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Closing Breakfast

Friday, December 2
8:30 - 10:00 AM

Featuring Rita Reynolds