

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin



Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Grant Program Letter of Intent

Letter of Intent Instructions

5-BD-2025

**Deadline
October 1, 2024
1:30 P.M. CT**

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BEAD Letter of Intent Overview

The federal Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program ([Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Program | BroadbandUSA \(doc.gov\)](#)) will provide funding to eligible entities in the State of Wisconsin to expand high-speed internet access by funding planning, infrastructure deployment and adoption programs, to be administered by the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC or Commission).

BEAD Grant program will provide grant funding to eligible applicants. The Program's principal focus is to award funding for deployment of broadband infrastructure to provide access to all unserved locations (those without any broadband service at all or with broadband service offering speeds below 25 megabits per second (Mbps) downstream/3 Mbps upstream) and underserved locations (those without broadband service offering speeds of 100 Mbps downstream/20 Mbps upstream) in Wisconsin.

Eligible applicants include public and private entities that meet the BEAD eligibility requirements set forth in the BEAD Program, authorized by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021, Division F, Title I, Section 60102, Public Law 117-58, 135 Stat. 429 (November 15, 2021) (Infrastructure Act or Act) also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. BEAD is administered by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), U.S. Department of Commerce, ALN 11.035.

As approved by NTIA, the Commission will require eligible applicants to submit a Letter of Intent (LOI) to participate in the BEAD Grant program ([PSC Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Grant \(wi.gov\)](#)).

This BEAD LOI is for entities wishing to compete for funding to deploy reliable, qualifying broadband technology. A second LOI may be available for certain approved alternative technologies at a later time. A detailed description of LOI requirements and questions can be found in this document.

The LOI is the first phase for interested entities in the BEAD subgrantee selection process. The LOI will allow the Commission to evaluate an applicant's technical, financial, operation and managerial capacity and will inform the Commission about the capability of prospective participants to comply with BEAD program requirements and meet necessary standards, including subgrantee qualifications (see [Notice of Funding Opportunity Section IV.D](#)). Prospective subgrantees must meet the federal and state standards and qualifications to be eligible to apply for funding.

The LOI must be completed at the entity level (applicant). The LOI will be used to determine which entities are qualified and eligible to compete for BEAD subgrants. The project specific application(s) for entities deemed eligible through LOI will be submitted through a subsequent process.

The Commission reserves the right to request more information from prospective applicants as necessary to ensure all participants have the capacity to participate in the program and meet all BEAD program requirements and goals. Further, the Commission reserves the right to request updated or additional information at any time, including after the subgrantee selection process, to re-assess the qualifications of subgrantees to execute the specific awards they have received.

Procuring and Contracting Agency

This request for LOIs is issued by the Commission, which is the sole point of contact for the State of Wisconsin during the selection process. The person responsible for managing the BEAD LOI process is Jennifer Smith, Broadband Compliance and Implementation Manager, Wisconsin Broadband Office (WBO).

The eligible applicants resulting from this LOI process and subsequent BEAD grant rounds will be administered by the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin. The grant administrator is Alyssa Kenney, Bureau Director, Bureau of Broadband, Digital, and Telecommunications Access.

Definitions and Acronyms

The following definitions are used throughout this document and the online LOI.

Agency or Commission means the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin.

Applicant means an entity or organization submitting an LOI in response to this request for BEAD LOIs.

Broadband Service The term “broadband” or “broadband service” has the meaning given the term “broadband internet access service” in Section 8.1(b) of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation, meaning it is a mass-market retail service by wire or radio that provides the capability to transmit data to and receive data from all or substantially all internet endpoints, including any capabilities that are incidental to and enable the operation of the communications service, but excluding dial-up internet access service. This term also encompasses any service that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) finds to be providing a functional equivalent of the service described in the previous sentence or that is used to evade the protections set forth in this part.

Enforceable Funding Commitment means a state or federally provided grant, loan, or loan guarantee for the commitment of deploying qualifying broadband service (speeds at or greater than 100 megabits per second (Mbps) download and 20 Mbps upload and latency less than 100 milliseconds) to a location or set of locations.¹

Grantee or Recipient means an entity that has entered into a Grant Agreement with the Commission.

Location: Broadband-Serviceable Location (BSL) means a business or residential location in the United States at which fixed broadband Internet access service is, or can be, installed. BSLs are represented in the [National Broadband Map](#).

Qualifying Broadband means Reliable Broadband Service with (i) a speed of not less than 100 Mbps for downloads; and (ii) a speed of not less than 20 Mbps for uploads; and (iii) latency less than or equal to 100 milliseconds; “qualifying broadband” to a CAI is Reliable Broadband Service with (i) a speed of not less than 1 Gbps for downloads and uploads alike and (ii) latency less than or equal to

¹ See BEAD NOFO footnote 52, pages 36-37.

100 milliseconds.²

State means the State of Wisconsin and includes the Public Service Commission.

Underserved Location means a broadband-serviceable location that is (a) not an unserved location, and (b) that the Broadband DATA Maps show as lacking access to Reliable Broadband Service offered with—(i) a speed of not less than 100 Mbps for downloads; and (ii) a speed of not less than 20 Mbps for uploads; and (iii) latency less than or equal to 100 milliseconds. And is on the Wisconsin’s final list of underserved locations as approved by NTIA.

Unserved Location means a broadband-serviceable location that the Broadband DATA Maps show as (a) having no access to broadband service, or (b) lacking access to Reliable Broadband Service offered with—(i) a speed of not less than 25 Mbps for downloads; and (ii) a speed of not less than 3 Mbps for uploads; and (iii) latency less than or equal to 100 milliseconds. And is on the Wisconsin’s final list of underserved locations as approved by NTIA.

Communications Regarding the LOI

The official means by which the Commission will provide information related to the BEAD LOI is in docket 5-BD-2025. Interested parties must proactively subscribe to the docket on the Commission's [ERF](#) system to ensure they receive timely information related to the process.

In addition to the docket the Commission has a [BEAD Grant](#) webpage that will be used to post information about the letter of intent process, sub-granting and share information with stakeholders and interested parties.

The Commission reserves the right to revise these instructions as appropriate to effectuate the goals of the BEAD program, to meet compliance and reporting requirements, and to ensure only credibly qualified applicants participate in the program. The Commission reserves the right to request more information from prospective applicants as necessary to ensure all participants have the capacity to participate in the program and meet all BEAD program requirements and goals. Further, the Commission reserves the right to request updated or additional information at any time, including after the subgrantee selection process, to re-assess the qualifications of subgrantees to execute the specific awards they have received.

Any contact with state employees concerning this BEAD LOI is prohibited, except as authorized by the BEAD administrator (Alyssa Kenney), from date of release of the LOI until the date on which the LOI determination is made.

Reasonable accommodations

The Commission will provide reasonable accommodations, including the provision of informational material in an alternative format, for qualified individuals with disabilities upon request. If you need accommodations, contact Alyssa Kenney at (608) 267-9138 or Alyssa.Kenney@wisconsin.gov.

² See BEAD NOFO page 37.

Clarification and/or revisions to the specifications and requirements for BEAD LOI

Any questions concerning this LOI must be submitted in writing via email on or before September 30, 1:30 p.m. CT, to:

Email address: PSCBeadGrants@wisconsin.gov

Subject line: BEAD LOI question

If an applicant discovers any significant ambiguity, error, conflict, discrepancy, omission, or other deficiency in this LOI, the applicant should notify the Commission immediately by emailing PSCBeadGrants@wisconsin.gov. The applicant should describe the error and request modification or clarification of the BEAD LOI.

If it becomes necessary to provide additional clarifying data or information or to revise any part of these LOI instructions, revisions, amendments, and/or supplements will be posted in docket 5-BD-2025 and the webpage. Interested parties must subscribe to the docket to receive notifications.

Schedule of Events

The BEAD LOI opens August 1, 2024, and is **due October 1, 2024, at 1:30 pm C.T. (time based on the Commission's servers)**. Applicants are strongly encouraged to complete and submit the LOI early. Following the submission of a BEAD LOI Commission staff may require additional information or clarifications to the information submitted, also known as curing. Curing includes working with WBO staff to resolve any deficiencies in the LOI as necessary or applicable. Curing activities will begin upon the submission of the BEAD LOI and may extend for up to 30 days after the LOI deadline. Applicants that submit early will have a longer timeframe to submit cures.

The last day for assistance uploading a BEAD LOI to the PSC Grants System will be September 30, 2024.

Below are the dates and times of actions related to this LOI. If the Commission finds it necessary to change any of the dates and times in the schedule of events listed below, it will do so by issuing a supplement to these instructions in docket 5-BD-2025.

LOIs and any LOI cures must be submitted using the PSC Grants System. Documents posted to ERF separately from the prescribed LOI process will not be accepted. The PSC Grants System will automatically close the LOI submission process promptly on the day and time the LOIs are due (time based on the Commission's servers). The PSC Grants System will not accept late-filed LOIs. The best course is to start well before the deadline and allow sufficient time to address the administrative and programmatic requirements related to submitting a BEAD LOI.

DATE	EVENT
August 1, 2024	Date BEAD LOI opens
September 30, 2024	Last Day to Request Assistance with the PSC Grants System
October 1, 2024, 1:30 PM CT	BEAD Letter of Intent due date and time

Preparing and Submitting a BEAD LOI

The instructions for completing an LOI are in two parts. Both parts are available on the PSC BEAD Broadband Infrastructure Grant webpage: [PSC Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Grant \(wi.gov\)](#)

1. [PSC Grants System User’s Guide for Grant Applicants and Recipients](#). The User’s Guide provides step-by-step instructions to create a system account, navigate the online BEAD LOI, validate the LOI, and submit the complete LOI. If awarded, reimbursement requests and reporting is also submitted and managed via the PSC Grants System. The User’s Guide is the primary resource an applicant should consult to enter and use the online grant system.
2. **Public Records & Confidentiality**. Once an application is submitted, the grant application and all document uploads become searchable public documents on ERF. To upload a public document, click ‘Upload Public Document’. Enter a description, click the ‘Select Files’ button to select the .pdf or .xlsx file you want to upload, and then click the ‘Upload’ button. You can upload confidential attachments, provided that the record satisfies one or more of the criteria provided in Wis. Stat. § 19.36(5) or another provision of the Wisconsin Public Records Law, Wis. Stat. § 19.31 to 19.39 related to confidentiality. You may not file an entire document confidentially. A confidential filing requires you to file both the original document and a redacted version that is made available to the public on ERF. Only PSC staff can view the original document. No one else—not even the applicant—can view the original confidential document once it is submitted to the grant system or ERF. Filing confidential documents requires the presence of a Notary Public with the upload or a notarized attachment. To upload a confidential document, click ‘Upload Confidential Document’ and follow the instructions on the screen.
3. [BEAD LOI Instructions](#). The second part of the instructions is this document. An applicant should use these instructions to understand the information that is requested for each page and each question in the BEAD LOI.

Submitting Information and Withdrawing

The evaluation of a BEAD LOI and approval of an applicant to submit a subsequent BEAD funding request will be based on the information submitted in the LOI and any subsequent cure(s). Failure to respond to each of the requirements in the LOI will adversely affect the evaluation of the LOI. Applicants should not use hyperlinks in their answers or upload attachments in excess of the requested and optional documents into the PSC Grants System. Hyperlinks to additional information are not evaluated, nor are they considered to be part of the LOI.

Applicants may withdraw an LOI at any time by submitting a signed letter from an authorized

representative of the applicant organization in the docket 5-BD-2025.

Supplemental Information and Cures

Commission staff will work with the Applicant to supplement or cure the LOI. Commission staff may request that an Applicant submit supplemental or clarifying information consistent with the BEAD LOI requirements, also known as “curing” the LOI. If received and accepted, supplemental information will be incorporated into the LOI and evaluated. In the interest of maximizing participation to ensure the best possible result, Commission staff will strive to work with prospective participants to cure and resolve deficiencies in received LOIs. However, depending on time available and Commission staff resources, submission of an incomplete LOI may result in the disqualification of the Applicant entity.

Evaluation of LOIs

Commission staff will review the qualifications and information provided as part of the LOI process. Following a review of LOI material, which may include at least one or more possible rounds of curing, the Commission will notify submitters of whether they are invited to apply for BEAD funding and any conditions required for their participation in the program. Applicants not approved to move forward will receive a disqualification notice. All BEAD LOI determinations will be posted to the docket 5-BD-2025.

Single Entity, Partnerships, Consortiums

Prospective Applicant entities may elect to participate in the BEAD program as a single entity, in partnership, or as a consortium of entities. An entity may only participate in the program one way and may not participate as a single entity and in a group of entities or consortium. To be eligible for BEAD, the consortium as a whole must demonstrate it has the financial, managerial, technical, and operational capabilities to construct and operate the proposed broadband network. If an entity is planning to participate in BEAD as a consortium, then the LOI should be submitted as a consortium. A consortium may allow a comprising entity to capture additional capacity or expertise in areas where it falls short of BEAD requirements. Conversely, an individual entity may find that its capacity and expertise may benefit a consortium but be spread too thin to be considered sufficiently qualified as the larger entity. In any instance of a consortium forming to apply on behalf of multiple entities that might have participated individually, the BEAD requirements still apply to each entity in the consortium.

Eligibility

To be eligible to participate in the BEAD sub granting process, LOI applicants must minimally (1) agree to propose projects that will provide at least 100/20 Mbps service reliable, qualifying broadband service to all locations within the required timeline; (2) demonstrate the technical, financial, operational and managerial capacity to deploy eligible broadband projects and participate in the BEAD program; (3) agree to meet the mandated financial and programmatic requirements; (4) agree to meet the mandated ownership and organizational requirements; and (5) certify ability to comply with all applicable requirements mandated by NTIA, the Commission and 2 CFR 200 Uniform Guidance.

The eligibility criteria listed below are required for each LOI entity (applicant). Applicants will demonstrate compliance with each of these criteria as part of their responses in the LOI.

Eligibility Criteria

A. Demonstration of ownership

Criteria: Documentation establishing ownership information of the prospective grantee consistent with [47 CFR 1.2112\(a\)\(1\)-\(7\)](#)

B. Managerial Capacity

Criteria: Documentation demonstrating the managerial capacity of the Applicant, including resumes for key management personnel, organizational charts, a description of its experience in implementing a broadband grant(s), Universal Service Fund support and other deployment activities, and a description of the experience and qualifications of the entity for undertaking BEAD projects. This will include information demonstrating the ability and capacity of appropriately credentialed engineers or other licensed staff or contractors that will be involved in the deployment of the network for the project(s).

C. Low-Cost Service Options

Criteria: Commitment to implement a low-cost broadband service option consistent with BEAD requirements and Wisconsin's Initial Proposal Volume 2 ([see Requirement 16 of BEAD Volume 2](#)). This includes an attestation of understanding of the minimum low-cost broadband plan requirements.

D. Fair Labor Practice and High Skilled Workforce

Criteria: Documentation to meet best practices and requirements for Fair Labor Standards and Practices ([see Requirement 11 BEAD Volume 2](#)). Documentation will include, but is not limited to, demonstration of compliance with existing laws and requirements and the history of the applicant in implementing such practices.

E. Financial capacity and capability

Criteria: Documentation demonstrating the financial capability of the Applicant to participate in the BEAD program consistent with the size and scope of their anticipated applications. Such documentation may include, but is not limited to, audited financial statements, business plans, progress toward a letter of credit or equivalent and other financial documentation.

F. Technical and Operational Capacity

Criteria: Demonstration of operational capacity, including a demonstrated history of operating a broadband network(s) for two years or more, certification of submission of applicable Form 477 and Broadband Data Collection information to the FCC, and explanation of any unresolved compliance action with the FCC or PSC. Entities without a history of operating a broadband network(s) for two years or longer will be required to submit additional documentation to ensure operational capability. An attestation and narrative explanation of how the proposed technologies will deploy, meet the speed, performance, and operational requirements of the BEAD program. For applicants applying for less than 5000 locations and that have successfully completed five projects totaling \$1 million in public funding this review will be expedited.

G. Compliance with All Federal, State and Local Laws

Criteria: Information regarding compliance with state laws (including [Chapter 182](#) of the Wisconsin Statutes) related to the Diggers Hotline and timely locating any utility facilities prior to construction or planned excavation. This will include information about the provider's practices for ensuring compliance and timely response to such locate requests and their past performance with timely locates and compliance. Attestation of compliance with applicable federal, state and local laws and applicable

program requirements and a narrative explanation of its past experience complying with such requirements, and documentation of any policies, procedures, processes, systems, or internal controls that currently exist to ensure compliance with BEAD program requirements.

H. Additional Required BEAD attestations and certifications.

Criteria: An attestation that the applicant will meet the reporting requirements for participation in the program, including those related to speed and performance, financial documentation, reimbursement, monitoring and compliance work, and any other information required by the Commission or NTIA. A certification that the prospective subgrantee has the requisite qualifications commensurate to their respective project, and the applicant is able to comply with all BEAD requirements. An attestation of understanding and intent to comply with Build America, Buy America requirements and Environmental and Historic Preservation requirements. Information regarding an applicant's cybersecurity risk management plan and supply chain risk management plan or its plans to operationalize such a plan in the event of receipt of funding.

I. Other Funding

Criteria: Documentation of any other public (federal, state, local, or otherwise) funding the applicant has received, applied for, or intends to apply for, for the deployment of broadband networks. Such explanation will include the location and characteristics of such networks, the source of funds, and the anticipated deployment timeline(s). This documentation will include information about the applicant's intent to participate in the BEAD program in other states and territories, including the number of locations funded, project cost and match, and any other characteristics as necessary.

LOI Approval and Conditions

Commission Staff will determine in writing which BEAD LOI applicants will be invited to apply for BEAD broadband grant projects.

The purpose of the LOI is to establish which entities may apply for BEAD funding to deploy qualifying broadband to eligible locations. The individual qualifications of applicant entities may vary significantly based on their history, financial means, capacity, technical expertise, operational and management experience. Thus, the final determination of an entity's qualification to participate must be made in the context of their proposed scope of construction and their documented financial, managerial, operations and technical capacity. To maximize participation while also effectuating the BEAD program goal of efficient, accountable allocation of public funding, the Commission thus reserves the right to impose any condition, limitation, remedy, or prohibition on an entity as a condition of approval for that entity's letter of intent and subsequent participation in the BEAD program.

Right to Deny the LOI

The Commission may reject any LOI as filed. If LOI curing cannot be concluded successfully within the time allowed, as determined solely by the Commission, the Commission may deny the LOI, and the Applicant will not be eligible to apply for BEAD broadband funding in the initial rounds.

No Appeal Process

The applicant may have general administrative remedies under other provisions of [Wisconsin Statute Chapters 196](#) and [227](#) that it may use if the applicant believes it is aggrieved by any final determination. This provision is for information purposes only and does not constitute legal advice and is not a determination by the Commission that the applicant has any right to protest or appeal with respect to the Commission's decision in this grant cycle.

COMPLETING THE BEAD LOI in the PSC Grants System

Step-by-Step Instructions for Completing the Online BEAD LOI Form

Step 1:

From the [BEAD Grant webpage](#), select 'PSC Grants System Login' or visit this link: <https://psc.wi.gov/Pages/GrantsSystem.aspx>. This will open the login page of the PSC Grants System. For new applicants (those who have not logged into ERF), an applicant will first need to create an ERF system account and can do so from the Grant System login page. (See User's Guide Create Account.) Remember your username and password for future access to the system.

Step 2:

Upon completing the login, the homepage for the PSC Grants System will display the page titled Available Grants. Find the line for the BEAD Letter of Intent and click on 'Apply.' (See User's Guide page 4.)

The LOI is arranged in a series of tabs along the top of the form. Each tab must be completed. Users must **save each page before moving to a new page (save icon located at the bottom of each page)**. Unsaved entries will be lost upon leaving the page.

User note: Hover over the tooltip icon and use the hyperlinks for more information about each question.

Step 3: Details

Select the Details tab and fill in the required information. For the project name enter the applicant name BEAD LOI. For the project description please re-enter the project name. For the Grant Amount Requested enter \$1.00. For Recipient & Partner Contributions enter \$1.00. Please note that this page has a validation step. You cannot save your entries or move to the next page until you enter the required information and correct any arithmetic errors in your entries.

Step 4: Contacts

Applicants enter at least one Primary Contact and may use the Add New Contact feature to add additional contacts. Users must also fill in the Authorized Representative, the person who will sign the grant agreement. (See User's Guide page 6.) These contacts can be edited by the user as needed.

Step 5: Budget

In the other budget item line for grant funded enter \$1.00 and contribution funded enter \$1.00. This should match the numbers in the details field on the prior tab. **Please note no money will be awarded through the Letter of Intent process the \$1.00 entries are just required validation steps in the PSC grants system.**

BEAD LOI SECTIONS AND QUESTIONS

Section 1. Ownership

1. Name of Applicant (entity that will submit applications or bids for BEAD and be responsible/liable for the terms in the grant agreement) (short narrative 300 characters).
2. Type of entity of Applicant (short narrative 300 characters)
 - *Private company*
 - *Public-Private partnership*
 - *Public or private utility*
 - *Cooperative*
 - *Nonprofit organization*
 - *For-profit organization*
 - *Local government*
 - *Tribal Government*
 - *Tribal Organization*
 - *Institution of higher learning*
 - *Consortium*
 - *Other eligibly entity*
3. Name of parent entity, consortium, holding company, or N/A (short narrative 300 characters).
4. If applicable, type of entity of the parent entity, consortium, or holding company or N/A (short narrative 300 characters).
5. Name(s) of Affiliates / Subsidiaries that will own or operate any of the infrastructure built or improved with BEAD funding (short narrative 300 characters).
6. Any Doing Business As (DBA) Names (short narrative 300 characters).
7. Organization (Applicant) Universal Entity Identifier (SAM.gov).
8. Organization (Applicant) FEIN.
9. **UPLOAD 1:** Confirm agreement to upload documentation establishing ownership information and any affiliated or consortium relationships consistent with the requirements in [47 CFR 1.2112\(a\)\(1\)-\(7\)](#) and listed below. (Y/N)
 - *(1) List the real party or parties in interest in the applicant or application, including a complete disclosure of the identity and relationship of those persons or entities directly or indirectly owning or controlling (or both) the applicant;*
 - *(2) List the name, address, and citizenship of any party holding 10 percent or more of stock in the applicant, whether voting or nonvoting, common or preferred, including the specific amount of the interest or percentage held;*

- (3) List, in the case of a limited partnership, the name, address and citizenship of each limited partner whose interest in the applicant is 10 percent or greater (as calculated according to the percentage of equity paid in or the percentage of distribution of profits and losses);
- (4) List, in the case of a general partnership, the name, address and citizenship of each partner, and the share or interest participation in the partnership;
- (5) List, in the case of a limited liability company, the name, address, and citizenship of each of its members whose interest in the applicant is 10 percent or greater;
- (6) List all parties holding indirect ownership interests in the applicant as determined by successive multiplication of the ownership percentages for each link in the vertical ownership chain, that equals 10 percent or more of the applicant, except that if the ownership percentage for an interest in any link in the chain exceeds 50 percent or represents actual control, it shall be treated and reported as if it were a 100 percent interest; and
- (7) List any FCC-regulated entity or applicant for an FCC license, in which the applicant or any of the parties identified in [paragraphs \(a\)\(1\)](#) through [\(a\)\(5\)](#) of this section, owns 10 percent or more of stock, whether voting or nonvoting, common or preferred. This list must include a description of each such entity's principal business and a description of each such entity's relationship to the applicant (e.g., Company A owns 10 percent of Company B (the applicant) and 10 percent of Company C, then Companies A and C must be listed on Company B's application, where C is an FCC licensee and/or license applicant).

Section 2. BEAD Program Intent, Technology and Prior Experience with Broadband Grants

10. Does the Applicant intend to apply for a count of BSLs (locations) that exceeds 5,000? (Y/N)
11. Has the applicant successfully completed and closed at least five Public Service Commission of Wisconsin administered broadband grant projects totaling at least \$1 million in awarded public funds? Answer Yes or No, and if yes, please list the project name, Award ID, grant year awarded, award amount, year the project was complete and ERF number for the final report if available. For details on previously awarded broadband grants, navigate to the “Project Award UID (Unique Identifier) Lookup Table” link on the [Broadband Grants Program webpage](#). (Long narrative 3000 characters).
12. **UPLOAD 2:** Confirm agreement to Upload the completed template confidentially. [BEAD_Location_Estimate.xlsx] which includes the estimated *highest* number of locations that the applicant intends to seek funding for and the counties/Tribal Nations where it may compete for funding. The count of locations and counties/Tribal Nations submitted on this document plus 10 percent overage will serve as a ceiling for bidding unless a waiver is requested and approved. (Y/N)
13. Indicate what technology/ies the Applicant intends to deploy with BEAD funding including the technology code(s) (short narrative 300 characters).

40 - Coaxial Cable

50 - Fiber to the Premises/Optical Carrier

71 - Licensed Terrestrial Fixed Wireless

72 - Licensed-by-Rule Terrestrial Fixed Wireless

14. Provide a narrative on how the proposed technologies will deploy the speed, performance, and operational requirements of the BEAD program (long narrative 3000 characters).

Funded Networks shall deliver Reliable Broadband Service with speeds of not less than 100 Mbps for downloads and 20 Mbps for uploads.

In addition, 95 percent of latency measurements during testing windows must fall at or below 100 milliseconds round-trip time. This approach ensures a connection that supports reasonably foreseeable real-time applications. In the limited circumstance where even a fiber deployment cannot achieve this latency threshold (for example in a remote territory), NTIA may expand the latency threshold for specific Funded Networks at the request of an Eligible Entity.

Funded Network connections to Eligible Community Anchor Institutions shall be capable of delivering service at speeds not less than 1 Gigabit per second for downloads and 1 Gigabit per second for uploads. Eligible Entities shall ensure that such connections can be used to provide business data services.

Each Funded Network's outages should not exceed, on average, 48 hours over any 365-day period except in the case of natural disasters or other force majeure occurrence.

15. Confirm whether the Applicant attests the proposed technologies will deploy the speed, performance, latency and operational requirements of the BEAD program. (Y/N)

Section 3. Managerial Capacity

Documentation demonstrating the managerial capacity of the prospective grantee, which should include resumes for key management personnel, organizational charts, experience implementing broadband grants, Universal Service Fund support and other deployment activities, and description of the experience and qualifications of the entity for undertaking BEAD projects. This will include information demonstrating retention of appropriately credentialed engineers or other licensed staff or contractors that will be involved in the deployment of the network.

16. **UPLOAD 3:** Confirm the Applicant will upload resumes for all key management personnel. (Y/N)

Key personnel include those responsible for managing the Applicant's finances and overseeing any contractors, or sub-contractors (for financial matters and/or general oversight related to the grant).

17. **UPLOAD 4:** Confirm the Applicant will upload an organizational chart detailing all the Applicant's structure, parent companies, subsidiaries, and affiliates as applicable. (Y/N)

18. If relevant, the Applicant must also provide a narrative on upcoming organizational changes including mergers, acquisitions and new affiliates. If not relevant, enter NA. (short narrative 300 characters)

19. In addition to the detail provided in question 11, describe any organizational history implementing broadband grants, Universal Service Fund support and other deployment

activities, and description of the experience, qualifications, and capacity of the entity to successfully undertake and awarded BEAD projects (long narrative 3000 characters).

20. Does the Applicant have an appropriately skilled and credentialed workforce, including appropriately credentialed engineers or other qualified staff or contractors that will be involved in the deployment of the network? (Y/N)

- *Appropriately skilled workforce may be exemplified through Registered Apprenticeships or joint labor-management training programs that serve all workers.*
- *Appropriately credentialed workforce may include maintaining requirements for appropriate and relevant pre-existing occupational training, certification, and licensure.*

21. If the Applicant answered yes to the “appropriately skilled workforce” question please provide an explanation that demonstrated that the entity currently has appropriately credentialed staff or contractors, including any description of training programs, if not relevant enter NA. (long narrative 3000 characters)

22. If the Applicant answered no to the “appropriately skilled workforce” question, they may provide additional explanation that might demonstrate that the entity will have appropriately credentialed staff or contractors, including any description of training programs, by start of the grant performance period. If not relevant enter NA. (long narrative 3000 characters)

Section 4. Low-Cost Service Options

23. The applicant attests they understand and will abide by the low-cost service option broadband plan requirements for BEAD funding. (Y/N)

Wisconsin [BEAD Volume 2 Requirement 16](#) defines low-cost service option as including, but not limited to:

- *The low-cost service offering must be available for all Affordable Connectivity Program eligible households where BEAD funding is used to deploy new broadband or improve existing internet.*
- *Costs \$40 per month or less for the first year (12 months) of service, inclusive of all taxes, fees, and charges if the subscriber does not reside on Tribal Lands, or \$75 per month or less, inclusive of all taxes, fees, and charges if the subscriber resides on Tribal Lands, with no additional non-recurring costs or fees to the consumer. If the ACP is not reauthorized or without funds, the monthly-recurring charge for the low-cost plan for subscribers on Tribal Lands must mirror those of subscribers not on Tribal Lands, at a cost of \$40 per month or less and the low-cost plan on non-Tribal lands remains unchanged. After the first year, the monthly cost may be adjusted once per year up to the Consumer Price Index, as defined by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics upon request and approval from Commission.*
- *Allows the end user to apply the Affordable Connectivity Benefit subsidy or successor program(s) to the service price.*
- *Provides at least a typical download speeds of at least 100 Mbps and typical upload speeds of at least 20 Mbps, or the fastest speeds the infrastructure is capable of if less than 100/20 Mbps.*
- *Provides typical latency measurements of no more than 100 milliseconds; and*

- *Is not subject to data caps, surcharges, or usage-based throttling, and is subject only to the same acceptable use policies to which subscribers to all other broadband internet access service plans offered to home subscribers by the participating subgrantee must adhere;*
- *In the event the provider later offers a low-cost plan with higher speeds downstream and/or upstream, permits eligible subscribers that are subscribed to the low-cost broadband service option to upgrade to the new low-cost offering at no cost.*
- *Is advertised and included in marketing and outreach material distributed to current and potential customers as demonstrated through print and online materials. The low-cost plan must be visible in places (website and forms) where customers subscribe to service.*

Section 5. Fair Labor Practices and Highly Skilled Workforce

24. The Applicant certifies it has been in compliance with federal labor and employment laws on broadband deployment projects for the last three years August 1, 2021 – August 1, 2024. (Y/N/NA)
25. **UPLOAD 5:** Confirm Applicant will upload the following certifications of compliance with federal labor and employment laws on broadband deployment projects completed by the applicant from August 1, 2021 – August 1, 2024. A) Signed certification from an Officer/Director-level employee (or equivalent) of the applicant and associated parties evidencing consistent past compliance with federal labor and employment laws; and B) Written disclosure of any instances in which the applicant or its contractors or subcontractors have been found to have violated laws such as the Occupational Safety and Health Act, the Fair Labor Standards Act, or any other applicable labor and employment laws for the preceding three years August 1, 2022 – August 1, 2024. Or for new entities without an organizational record of labor and employment law compliance may submit evidence of past compliance by senior executive in previous roles at other organizations as evidence. (Y/N/NA)
26. Describe how the Applicant will ensure compliance in labor and employment practices, as well as those of its contractors and subcontractors, including information on applicable wage scales and wage and overtime payment practices for each class of employees expected to be involved directly in the physical construction of the broadband network? (long narrative 3000 characters)
27. Does the Applicant understand and commit to compliance with the BEAD rules to allow workers to create worker-led health and safety committees and will meet with such committees upon reasonable request? (Y/N)
28. Does the Applicant attest to take all necessary affirmative steps to ensure minority businesses, women’s business enterprises, and labor surplus area firms are used when possible. (Y/N)
29. If the Applicant answered no to any questions in the Fair Labor and Highly Skilled Workforce section, it may provide additional explanation or enter N/A. (long narrative 3000 characters).

Section 6. Financial Capacity and Capability.

30. The Applicant certifies it is financially qualified to meet the obligations associated with the BEAD grant program. (Y/N/NA)
31. **UPLOAD 6:** Confirm that the Applicant will upload audited financial statements from the prior fiscal year that were audited by an independent certified public accountant. Or if the applicant has not been audited during the ordinary course of business, in lieu of submitting audited financial statements, it must submit unaudited financial statements from the prior fiscal year and certify that it will provide financial statements from the prior fiscal year that are audited by an independent certified public accountant by December 31, 2024. (Y/N/NA)
32. The Applicant attests to understanding the Letter of Credit (LOC) or equivalent requirement (see [BEAD NOFO pages 72 – 73](#) and [BEAD LOC Waiver](#)) and will be prepared to secure a Letter of Credit equal to at least 10 percent and up to 25 percent of any BEAD subaward or a performance bond equal to at least 10 percent and up to 100 percent of any BEAD subaward. (Y/N)
33. Describe any steps the Applicant has taken to apply for or secure a LOC or a performance bond. If available, provide evidence of intent to provide letter of credit or performance bond, submitted applications or documentation to pursue LOC or bond from at least one bank or credit union. (long narrative 3000 characters)
34. **UPLOAD 7:** Will the Applicant upload additional documents related to evidence of the steps taken to secure a LOC or performance bond? (Y/N/NA)
35. **UPLOAD 8:** Confirm that the Applicant will upload detailed business plans and related analyses that substantiate the sustainability of your participation in the grant program? (Y/N/NA)
- *Beginning on the date Grant Agreement is signed and ending no less than five years after construction completion submit a business plan that shows the sustainability of the Applicant after BEAD construction. This can be provided in the form of pro forma statements or analyses and should include cash flow and balance sheet projections.*
36. If the Applicant answered no or NA to any questions in Financial Capacity and Capability section or if additional details are required or needed related to financial capacity, provide an explanation that might address or satisfy these criteria in another way or enter NA (long narrative 3000 characters).

Section 7. Operational Capacity.

37. The Applicant certifies it is technically qualified to complete and operate broadband grant construction and is capable of carrying out funded broadband deployment activities in a competent manner. (Y/N)
38. The Applicant's construction timeline, from the date of Grant Agreement signature to construction completion, can be completed within four years. (Y/N)

39. Provide a narrative explanation of the Applicant's operational capacity including a demonstrated history of operating a broadband network for two years or more. Provide detail on the customer base, service area, technology, and years in operation. For entities without a history of operating a broadband network for at least two years, include a description of the applicant's history and capacity in related activities such as deployment of infrastructure, offering of essential services, or similar operational activities and/or prior broadband experience of key management personnel (long narrative 3000).
40. **UPLOAD 9:** If applicable, confirm the Applicant will upload evidence it has filed the Federal Communication Commission's Form 477 and Broadband DATA Act submissions timely. Evidence should include documentation of timely filed Broadband Data Collection submissions as of June 30, 2023 (Version 3) and December 31, 2024 (Version 4) and any revisions filed with FCC of these filings up to July 1, 2024. This can be verified by uploading email confirmations or screenshotted verifications. (Y/N/NA)
41. Does the Applicant have any unresolved compliance actions with the FCC or letters from the Commission describing actions required to cure awarded grants? (Y/N/NA). If yes, provide a description. (long narrative 3000 characters)
42. Does the Applicant, its contractor(s) and/or subcontractor(s) have a history of timely and accurate compliance with Wisconsin's One Call or Digger's Hotline law [Wis. Stat. 182.0175](#)? If the Applicant, their contractor(s) or subcontractor(s) have had any violations of Wisconsin Statue 182.075 as determined by Digger's Hotline enforcement panel during the prior two years August 1, 2022 – August 1, 2024, please list the violation, the result, and plans to prevent future violations. (long narrative 3000 characters)
43. If awarded a grant, the Applicant certifies it will sign a Grant Agreement within 60 days of receiving such agreement for signature. (Y/N)
44. If the Applicant answered no to any questions in the operational capacity section, additional explanation may be provided here; or NA may be entered. (long narrative 3000 characters)

Section 8. Compliance with All Federal, State and Local Laws.

45. The Applicant attests that its contractor(s) and personnel agree to comply with Wisconsin's one-call requirements (One Call and Digger's Hotline) under Wis. Stat. § 182.0175 in performing the grant project, which includes, but is not limited to, providing advance notice of at least three business days to the one-call system prior to nonemergency excavation. (Y/N)
46. The Applicant attests that its contractor(s) and if applicable, personnel, are authorized or registered to transact business in this state by the Department of Financial Institutions in compliance with Wis. Stat. chs. 178, 179, 180, 181, 183, 185, and any other applicable Wisconsin laws related to the authorization to transact business in Wisconsin. (Y/N/NA)
47. If the Applicant is not currently registered to transact business in Wisconsin by the Department of Financial Institution, it attests it will register to transact business in this state and submit proof of registration prior to applying for BEAD projects. (Y/N/NA)

48. The Applicant, its agents, representatives, contractors and personnel, agree to comply with all safety requirements under Wisconsin law and all applicable Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards. (Y/N)
49. The Applicant attests it has a history of compliance with all federal, state, and local laws for previous broadband projects. (Y/N/NA)
50. Provide a summary of the Applicant's history of and commitment to compliance with all federal, state, and local laws and reporting requirements for previous broadband projects such as those funded by PSC, RDOF, et al. (This may include a narrative explanation of its past experience complying with such requirements, and documentation of any policies, procedures, processes, systems, or internal controls that currently exist to ensure compliance with such requirements.) (long narrative 3000 characters)
51. If additional details are required related to compliance with law, the Applicant may add any explanation that might address or satisfy these criteria in another way or enter NA (long narrative 3000 characters).

Section 9. Additional Required BEAD attestations and certifications.

52. The Applicant certifies it understands and will comply with the [Build America, Buy America](#) requirements. (Y/N)
 - *Optional: upload BABA compliance plan.*
53. The applicant attests it understands [Environmental and Historic Preservation requirements](#) and intends to comply with the Environmental and Historic Preservation requirement. (Y/N)
54. The applicant agrees it intends to comply with all applicable requirements of the BEAD program including the reporting requirements listed in the [BEAD Program Funds Terms and Conditions \(section 43\)](#) and section [VII.E.2 of the BEAD NOFO \(starting on page 90\)](#). (Future reporting requirements for the BEAD Program include those outlined in NOFO Section VII.E. In advance of reporting due dates, the PSC will provide additional instructions, including formatting requirements and other information on how to satisfy the reporting requirements.) (Y/N)
55. The Applicant certifies it intends to account for and satisfy authorities relating to civil rights and nondiscrimination. (Refer to the [NTIA Workforce Planning Guide](#) (table on page 8) and [BEAD NOFO](#) Section IV.C.1.g. (starting on page 60). (Y/N)
56. The Applicant has a cybersecurity risk management plan or a plan to operationalize such a plan in the event of receipt of funding in compliance with the cybersecurity requirements of the [BEAD NOFO](#) (see pages 70-71). (Y/N)
 - *Optional: Upload cybersecurity risk management plan*

Applicant has a cybersecurity risk management plan (the plan) in place that is either: (a) operational, if the prospective subgrantee is providing service prior to the award of the grant; or (b) ready to be operationalized upon providing service, if the prospective subgrantee is not yet providing service prior to the grant award. The plan reflects the latest version of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Framework for Improving Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity (currently Version 1.1) and the standards and controls set forth in Executive Order 14028 and specifies the security and privacy controls being implemented. The plan will be reevaluated and updated on a periodic basis and as events warrant. The plan will be submitted to the Commission prior to the allocation of funds. If the subgrantee makes any substantive changes to the plan, a new version will be submitted to the Eligible Entity within 30 days.

57. The Applicant certifies it has a supply chain risk management plan (SCRM) or a plan to operationalize such a plan in compliance with the supply chain risk management requirements of the [BEAD NOFO](#) (see pages 70-71). (Y/N)

- *Optional: upload a SCRM plan.*

The prospective subgrantee has a SCRM plan in place that is either: (a) operational, if the prospective subgrantee is already providing service at the time of the grant; or (b) ready to be operationalized, if the prospective subgrantee is not yet providing service at the time of grant award. The plan is based upon the key practices discussed in the NIST publication NISTIR 8276, Key Practices in Cyber Supply Chain Risk Management: Observations from Industry and related SCRM guidance from NIST, including NIST 800-161, Cybersecurity Supply Chain Risk Management Practices for Systems and Organizations and specifies the supply chain risk management controls being implemented; he plan will be reevaluated and updated on a periodic basis and as events warrant; and the plan will be submitted to the Eligible Entity prior to the allocation of funds. If the subgrantee makes any substantive changes to the plan, a new version will be submitted to the Eligible Entity within 30 days. The Eligible Entity must provide a subgrantee's plan to NTIA upon NTIA's request.

58. Does the Applicant rely on, or depending on receipt of funding will rely on (in whole or in part) network facilities owned or operated by a third party? (Y/N/NA)

59. **UPLOAD 10.** If yes to the question above, confirm that the Applicant will upload an attestation from the third-party network provider with respect to the cybersecurity and supply chain risk management practices. (Y/N/NA)

60. If additional details are required related to additional BEAD attestations and certifications, provide any explanation that might address or satisfy these criteria in another way or enter NA (long narrative 3000 characters).

Section 10. Other Funding

61. Detail the technology including speed, latency, geographic area (by state and county), number of locations committed to serve, amount of public funding committed, applicant matching commitments, and anticipated cost of service to consumer for every enforceable funding commitment the applicant is obligated to serve which are not reported as complete in the FCC Broadband Data Collection Version 4 (December 31, 2023) as published by FCC on July 9,

2024. Include commitments the applicant is subject to in any state or territory of the United States. Do not include planned private investment not affiliated with a publicly funded commitment (long narrative 3000 characters).

○ *Optional: upload a spreadsheet of all enforceable funding commitments per the question.*

62. Please detail the Applicant’s intent to participate in the BEAD program in other states and territories, including the estimated number of locations funded, estimated project cost and match, and any other characteristics as necessary (long narrative 3000 characters).

63. Disclose any changes to the Applicant’s enforceable commitments within Wisconsin from the list published at the beginning of the Wisconsin BEAD challenge (March 26, 2024) ([PSC REF#: 498680](#) note link opens a zip file). This includes any project, portions of projects or awarded support where such funding for broadband expansion or improvement was withdrawn, terminated, defaulted, amended to reduce, or where the project was determined to have failed to perform or underperformed by the funder or public partner. Enter the funding source, the number of locations that were changed or released, the date of the change and any reason or additional explanation for why the applicant did not complete the project as awarded or planned (long narrative 3000).

Section 11: Summary of Uploads

Upload	Question Number	Required to be Submitted Confidentially
UPLOAD 1: Upload documentation establishing ownership information and any affiliated or consortium relationships consistent with the requirements in 47 CFR 1.2112(a)(1)-(7) and listed below.	9	
UPLOAD 2: Upload <i>Confidentially</i> the template [BEAD_Location_Estimate.xlsx] which includes the estimated <i>highest</i> number of locations that the applicant intends to seek funding for and the counties/Tribal Nations where it may compete for funding. The count of locations and counties/Tribal Nations submitted on this document plus 10% overage will serve as a ceiling for bidding unless a waiver is requested and approved. Download the template on the BEAD Grant webpage .	12	Yes
UPLOAD 3: Upload resumes for all key management personnel. <i>Key personnel include those responsible for managing the Grantee’s finances and overseeing any contractors, or sub-contractors (for financial matters and/or general oversight related to the grant).</i>	16	
UPLOAD 4: Upload an organizational chart detailing all the applicant’s structure, parent companies, subsidiaries, and affiliates as applicable.	17	
UPLOAD 5: Upload the following certifications of compliance with federal labor and employment laws on broadband deployment projects completed by the applicant from August 1, 2021 – August 1, 2024. A). Signed certification from an Officer/Director-level employee (or equivalent) of the applicant and associated parties evidencing consistent past compliance with federal labor and employment laws; and B). Written disclosure of any instances in which the	25	

applicant or its contractors or subcontractors have been found to have violated laws such as the Occupational Safety and Health Act, the Fair Labor Standards Act, or any other applicable labor and employment laws for the preceding three years August 1, 2022 – August 1, 2024. Or new entities without an organizational record of labor and employment law compliance may submit evidence of past compliance by senior executive in previous roles at other organizations as evidence.		
UPLOAD 6: Upload audited financial statements from the prior fiscal year that were audited by an independent certified public accountant. Or if the applicant has not been audited during the ordinary course of business, in lieu of submitting audited financial statements, it must submit unaudited financial statements from the prior fiscal year and certify that it will provide financial statements from the prior fiscal year that are audited by an independent certified public accountant by December 31, 2024.	31	
UPLOAD 7: If available, upload additional documents related to evidence of the steps taken to secure a LOC or performance bond.	34	
UPLOAD 8: Upload detailed business plans and related analyses that substantiate the sustainability of your participation in the grant program.	35	
UPLOAD 9 If applicable, upload evidence that you have timely filed the Federal Communication Commission’s Form 477 and Broadband DATA Act submissions. Evidence should include documentation of timely filed Broadband Data Collection submissions as of June 30, 2023 (Version 3) and December 31, 2024 (Version 4) and any revisions filed with FCC of these filings up to July 1, 2024. This can be verified by uploading email confirmations or screenshotted verifications.	40	
UPLOAD 10. If applicable upload an attestation from the third-party network provider with respect to the cybersecurity and supply chain risk management practices.	59	
Additional Optional Uploads		
Build America, Buy America Plan	52	
Cybersecurity Risk Management Plan	56	
Supply Chain Risk Management Plan	57	
Enforceable Funding Commitments	61	