



Commission Awards Broadband Grants for 24 projects

On May 18, 2023 the Commission awarded funding from the state's Broadband Expansion Grant Program. The Commission awarded \$16,601,085 for 24 projects that will expand broadband internet to 6,042 residential and 276 business locations that are underserved. The projects receiving awards will impact 19 counties. The grant awards will leverage \$25,360,858 of matching funds from recipients.



In December 2022, Governor Evers and PSC Chairperson Valcq announced the opening of the new grant round with the remaining state funds available for broadband expansion from the 2021-23 biennial budget period. In February 2023, the PSC received 74 applications requesting a total of \$73.7 million.

"This investment is a positive step forward toward connecting all in our state, but our work is not done," said PSC Chairperson Rebecca Cameron Valcq. "As we work to plan for and implement federal funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, state funding—like these grants—is a critical and needed component to make sure all can access and use broadband."

A list of the 2023 grant recipients can be found [here](#).

A map of 2023 grant recipients can be found [here](#).

Internet for All Wisconsin Listening Tour: Last 2 Sessions



After talking with over 200 people about Internet in Wisconsin the [Internet for All Wisconsin Listening Tour](#) has its final stop this Thursday, 6/1 in Wisconsin Rapids and the final virtual meeting next Tuesday 6/6. Community leaders and all interested members of the public are encouraged to attend. These events are free and open to the public. Registration is requested but not required. Walk-ins are welcome. For

reasonable accommodations, please [email](#) or call (608) 261-8525.

The [Internet for All Wisconsin Listening Tour](#) is hosted by the PSC's Wisconsin Broadband Office, in partnership with Wisconsin's regional economic development organizations. If someone is unable to attend an in-person or virtual meeting, they may still complete a survey and submit public comment [here](#). An event flyer is available [here](#).

Thursday, June 1 | 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Mid-State Technical College – Wisconsin Rapids Campus (502 32nd St N, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494) In rooms L133/L134

In partnership with Centergy

[Register](#)

Tuesday, June 6, 8:30 AM – 10:00 AM

Virtual meeting on zoom

[Register](#)

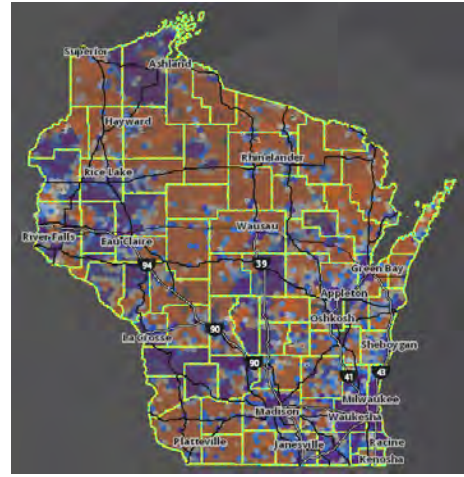
Listening Tour

Wisconsin Broadband Planning Map - Beta Launch

Wisconsin Broadband Planning Map - Beta Version

A **beta** version of the [Wisconsin Broadband Planning Map](#) is now available. The map provides detailed views of broadband data in interactive online format, including:

- Broadband coverage data from the National Broadband Map summarized by municipalities, census blocks, and other more detailed geographies.
- Wisconsin Broadband Grant award data, including project area, grant round, and recipient.
- Federal broadband grants award areas, including Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF), and prior programs.
- Wisconsin Internet Self Report (WISER) survey responses, including data about speeds, adequacy, and barriers to access.
- Coverage data searchable by internet service provider.



While the map is still in beta version, WBO welcomes [feedback](#) and insight from partners who find problems or opportunities for improvement. Future updates will refine the interface, improve documentation, and add additional data (such as OptiMap speed test data and point-level availability data).

Further guidance materials and a webinar on how to use the planning tool are forthcoming.

FCC Releases National Broadband Map Version 2

On Tuesday, May 30, 2023 FCC Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel [announced](#) the release of the updated [National Broadband Map](#). The updated map reflects the new version of the fabric and includes many of the results from the broadband service availability challenge process, called 'Badger the FCC' in Wisconsin. The updated map reflects a net increase of 1 million broadband serviceable locations and 330,000 unserved locations across the country. The updated map will be used in part to determine each state's BEAD funding allocation. Allocations will be announced by NTIA by the end of June. The WBO would like to thank all the local governments, organizations and Wisconsin residents that participated in 'Badger the FCC' and helped to make the National Broadband Map more accurate and ensure that Wisconsin receives our fair share of federal BEAD funding.

For more information read the 3 part series on:

How the FCC National Broadband Map Impacts the BEAD program

Part 1 of 3: [Allocation of Funds](#)

Part 2 of 3: [The Role of States in Selecting Locations Eligible for BEAD Funding](#)

Part 3 of 3: [Meeting the Urgent Need](#)

Bonus Read: [Three Takeaways from Version 2 of the FCC's National Broadband Map](#)

BEAD Local Planning Grant Program - Office Hours

[BEAD Local Planning Grant Program](#) awardees (counties, Tribes and Regional Economic Development Organizations listed in the [award letter](#)) are invited to join Wisconsin Broadband Office staff during office hours on **Wednesday, June 7 from 1 - 2 pm**. Grant recipients are welcome to ask questions, get feedback, and seek additional assistance as they prepare to submit initial deliverables, sign grant agreements, and more. The office hours will take place virtually on Zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85038151605>

Dial in
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
Meeting ID: 850 3815 1605

Governor's Task Force on Broadband Next Meeting

The June meeting of the Governor's Task Force on Broadband Access is scheduled for Wednesday, June 21, 2023 from 1:00 - 3:00 pm. The Task Force will continue work on preparing their annual report on Broadband Access to the Governor and Legislature which is due by June 30th.

The meeting will be posted on the [PSC calendar](#) and the agenda will include information for the public to listen.

Grant Recipient Corner

FY2023 State Grant Recipients

The Commission Order awarding the State Broadband Expansion Grants will become effective the day it's posted to [ERF](#), the Commission's electronic records filing system. Grant agreements will be issued after the order is finalized. Recipients may start work and purchasing related to their project on or after the order date, but bear risk related to those costs until a final grant agreement is executed.



A webinar and materials relative to administering your grants will follow. If there have been any changes to your primary contact since your application was submitted, please contact us with the new grant manager's information at PSCBroadbandGrantReimbursement@Wisconsin.gov. We look forward to working with grantees over the duration of these projects, and in the meantime, do not hesitate to contact us with any questions.

WBO Newsletter



The Wisconsin Broadband Office will send out regular communication to internet service providers, grant applicants and broadband stakeholders. We aim to be relevant and share timely information from our office.

Please reach out if anyone from the Wisconsin Broadband Office can be of assistance. [Email Us](#)

[Join Our Mailing List](#)

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