

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Lon Roberts, Chairperson Mike Huebsch, Commissioner Rich Zipperer, Commissioner 610 North Whitney Way P.O. Box 7854 Madison, WI 53707-7854

April 12, 2018

From:

Wisconsin State Broadband Office

To:

Persons Interested in the Broadband Expansion Grant Program

Re:

FY 2019 Broadband Expansion Grants

5-BF-2019

The Public Service Commission is pleased to announce that it is now accepting applications for FY 2019 Broadband Expansion Grants. This round will make available approximately \$7.0 million for grant awards. The application instructions and evaluation criteria are unchanged from the instructions and criteria used for the FY 2018 Round 2 grant cycle.

1. Schedule of Events

The schedule of events for this grant application cycle is as follows:

DATE	EVENT
April 12, 2018	Date of Issue of Application Instructions
June 29, 2018	Last Day for Submitting Questions and Requests for Clarification
July 16, 2018	Applications are Due
July 16, 2018 July 17 – August 7, 2018	Applications are Due Public Comment Period

2. Applications must be filed using the PSC Electronic Regulatory Filing (ERF) System. An applicant must be a registered user to access this site, and we encourage applicants to complete their registration well in advance of the application due date. Instructions for registering are available on the ERF system website at: http://apps.psc.wi.gov/vs2015/ERF/documents/Creating%20an%20ERF%20Account.pdf

Applicants that submitted an application in a prior grant cycle do not have to re-register. You should be able to use your user name and password for this grant cycle.

Telephone: (608) 266-5481 Home Page: http://psc.wi.gov Fax: (608) 266-3957

E-mail: pscrecs@wisconsin.gov

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- 3. The Commission will provide a public comment period so that interested persons may review the grant applications that have been submitted and file written comments concerning the relative merits of the applications under review.
 - Public comments must be submitted in writing, either by letter or message. An announcement providing further directions for submitting comments will be sent to all applicants at the commencement of the public comment period.
 - The Commission will only accept <u>public</u> comments. Criticism of applications explicitly or implicitly based upon confidential and other non-public service data will not be given weight in the evaluation process.
 - Any communication with the Program Manager or other member of the Commission staff by letter or e-mail message during the public comment period or during the evaluation period prior to the open meeting decision for the purpose of informing or influencing the Commission decision will be treated as a public comment and posted on ERF.

Questions regarding the grant application process and program administration may be addressed to Dennis Klaila at (608) 267-9780, or at dennis.klaila@wisconsin.gov. Questions and concerns about the content of the application or the meaning of any provision of the application instructions should be addressed to the state broadband office, as provided in the Instructions at sec. 1.5. If the Commission determines that the Instructions are unclear or are in error, the Commission will issue a clarification to the mailing list for this docket and post the clarification on the PSC Broadband Expansion Grant webpage.

Sincerely,

Angie Dickison, Director State Broadband Office

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