FUNDING UPDATES

Federal, State, Local Government Funds
MEDIUM

MODERATOR

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Telecommunications Programs

1. ReConnect Program
2. Community Connect Grant Program
3. Distance Learning & Telemedicine Grant Program
4. Telecommunications Infrastructure Loan Program
5. Rural Broadband Program

*Special Authority: Substantially Underserved Trust Areas (SUTA)
ReConnect Program
ReConnect Program

Provides loans, grants, and loan-grant combinations to extend high-speed broadband service to rural areas lacking sufficient access

Established as a pilot program in 2018
Codified in 7 CFR 1740 in 2021
Announced by Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) in the Federal Register
# ReConnect Program

## Available Funding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FY2020</th>
<th>FY2021</th>
<th>FY2022</th>
<th>FY2023</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• $655.0 million appropriated in FY2020 (includes CARES funding)</td>
<td>• $635.0 million appropriated in FY2021</td>
<td>• $700.0 million appropriated in FY2022</td>
<td>• $363 million appropriated in FY2023 which includes $15.5 million in congressionally directed spending awards.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• $1.9 billion included in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Program Updates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FY2022 – “Round Three”</th>
<th>FY2022-2023 – “Round Four”</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• FOA released on October 25, 2021.</td>
<td>• FOA released on August 4, 2022.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Application window closed on March 9, 2022.</td>
<td>• Application window closed on November 2, 2022.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• 305 applications submitted: $4.81 billion requested</td>
<td>• 258 Applications submitted: $4.4 billion requested</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• 101 projects funded totaling $1.61 billion</td>
<td>• 31 States/Territories impacted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[https://www.usda.gov/reconnect](https://www.usda.gov/reconnect)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Investment Amount</th>
<th>Investments Made</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$3,168,813,972</td>
<td>282</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>100% Loan Amount</th>
<th>100% Grant Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$259,100,301</td>
<td>$1,470,430,351</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>100% Grant for Tribal Governments and Socially Vulnerable Communities</th>
<th>50% Loan - 50% Grant Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$575,737,958</td>
<td>$863,545,362</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Investment Amount by State/Territory

- **AK**: $293,890,633
- **OK**: $261,905,143
- **MO**: $242,635,726
- **NM**: $210,833,745
- **IL**: $108,045,108
- **AL**: $78,289,040
- **MI**: $151,382,503
- **TX**: $122,609,496
- **VA**: $104,449,528
- **NC**: $90,468,800
- **OR**: $84,874,583
- **GA**: $84,298,632
- **NY**: $74,469,887
- **CA**: $65,815,566
- **CO**: $50,584,100
- **MD**: $48,694,699
- **OH**: $48,627,079
- **AZ**: $43,998,324
- **SC**: $33,253,540
- **NV**: $32,131,057
- **DE**: $31,984,152
- **CT**: $30,609,344
- **NC**: $30,657,281
- **TN**: $30,267,332
- **NJ**: $29,686,598
- **WY**: $24,644,131
- **CA**: $22,483,184
- **MA**: $18,108,229
- **KS**: $13,078,394
- **NE**: $10,420,194
- **TN**: $8,783,620
- **NH**: $8,095,922
- **WY**: $5,088,662
- **VT**: $5,727,976
- **PA**: $5,250,000
ReConnect Program Progress

**Program Highlights**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Number of Active Awards</td>
<td>282</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Amount Obligated</td>
<td>$3,168,813,972</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Projected Households (HHs) Served</td>
<td>399,737</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Year-5 Projected Subscribers</strong></td>
<td><strong>199,703</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-- Residential</td>
<td>187,198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-- Business</td>
<td>12,505</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Buildout Highlights**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Funds Advanced</td>
<td>$256,294,383</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Projects In Progress</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Projects Completed</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiber Miles Under Contract</td>
<td>21,529.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total HHs Passed</td>
<td>12,404</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Subscribers</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,207</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-- Residential</td>
<td>3,062</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-- Business</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-- Farm</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-- Anchor Institution</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ReConnect Round 4 Updates

## Round 4: By Category

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Amounts</th>
<th>100% Loan</th>
<th>50% Loan/50% Grant</th>
<th>100% Grant</th>
<th>100% Grant-90%</th>
<th>100% Grant for Special Considerations</th>
<th>All Categories</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Applications</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>258</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Amount Requested</td>
<td>$443,185,850</td>
<td>$955,240,361</td>
<td>$677,745,172</td>
<td>$939,497,358</td>
<td>$1,373,749,766</td>
<td>$4,389,418,507</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Success Story
DoveTel Communications
Community Connect Grant Program
Community Connect Grant Program

- **Purpose:** Construction and expansion of broadband service in rural communities with a population of 20,000 people or less, where broadband service does not currently exist.
  - Must focus on a single community.
  - Must have a community center.
  - Can cover the cost of providing broadband service free of charge for 2 years.
  - Less than 10% of the grant amount may be used for the towards a community center that provides online access to the public.

- **Funding Type:** Grants with 15% Matching Fund Requirement.

- **Eligible entities:** Federally recognized Tribes, nonprofits, businesses, coops, etc.
Broadband Technical Assistance Program
Broadband Technical Assistance Program

• **Broadband Technical Assistance (BTA) Program**
  o Funding Opportunity Announcement issued April 19, 2023
  o BTA provides financial assistance through cooperative agreements to eligible entities to receive or deliver broadband technical assistance and training and supports the development and expansion of broadband cooperatives.

• **What is an eligible area?**
  • For a project to be eligible to receive federal funds from the BTA program, it must promote broadband expansion into a rural community.
Broadband Technical Assistance Program

• **Eligible applicants include:**
  • Federally-recognized Tribes and Tribal entities
  • State or local governments, including agencies and subdivisions, among others
  • Territories or possessions of the United States
  • Institutions of higher education (including 1862 Land-Grant Institutions, 1890 Land-Grant Institutions, 1994 Land-Grant Institutions, Hispanic-Serving Institutions, and Historically Black Colleges and Universities)
  • Nonprofit organizations with 501(c)(3) IRS status
  • Cooperatives or mutual organizations
  • Corporations
  • Limited Liability Companies or Limited Liability Partnerships
• **BTA Funding Categories:**

  • Technical Assistance Providers: Applicants must propose to deliver broadband technical assistance that will benefit rural communities. Up to $7.5 million is available. The minimum award is $50,000. The maximum is $1 million.

  • Technical Assistance Recipients: Applicants must be the recipients of the broadband technical assistance. Up to $7.5 million is available. The minimum award is $50,000. The maximum is $250,000.

  • Projects Supporting Cooperatives: Applicants must propose projects that support the establishment or growth of broadband cooperatives that will benefit rural communities. Up to $5 million is available. The minimum award is $50,000. The maximum is $1 million.
Resources
Available Resources for Application Help

• Technical Assistance
  o Register for upcoming workshops/webinars [https://www.usda.gov/reconnect/events](https://www.usda.gov/reconnect/events)
  o Subscribe to receive updates about upcoming events on the ReConnect website

• Resources
  o ReConnect website [https://www.usda.gov/reconnect](https://www.usda.gov/reconnect)
  o Application Guide and Frequently Asked Questions

• Contact Us
  o When working inside the application, use the “contact us” button on your screen. Outside of the application system, use [https://www.usda.gov/reconnect/contact-us](https://www.usda.gov/reconnect/contact-us)
  o Contact your General Field Representative (GFR): [https://www.rd.usda.gov/contact-us/telecom-gfr/all](https://www.rd.usda.gov/contact-us/telecom-gfr/all)
Questions and Answers
Capital Projects Fund Update

April 2023
The Capital Projects Fund authorizes funding for projects that meet the following criteria:

1. Invest in capital assets designed to directly enable work, education, and health monitoring.
2. Be designed to address a critical need that resulted from or was made apparent or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency.
3. Be designed to address a critical need of the community to be served by it.

A key priority of the program is investments in broadband infrastructure and digital connectivity, but recipients have flexibility in selecting how they would like to deploy Capital Projects Fund grant funding to address critical needs identified within their communities.
Broadband Infrastructure Projects

- Commit to meet or exceed **Treasury’s 100/100 Mbps symmetrical speed requirement.**
  - If the proposed program does not meet the 100/100 Mbps symmetrical standard the **recipient must provide an acceptable detailed rationale explaining the impracticability.**
- **Impracticability:** geography?, topography?, excessive cost?
- The recipient expresses a preference for **fiber** and last-mile projects.
- Explicitly state that subrecipients are required to participate in **ACP** (previously EBB).
- Determining **critical need:** list all relevant federal and state data used throughout the planning process.
- Describe initial and **ongoing** (i.e., post deployment) community engagement efforts.
39 states have been approved to invest over $5.9 billion of CPF funding in affordable, reliable high-speed internet estimated to reach approximately 1,756,000 locations.
# CPF Awards – Broadband Infrastructure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Louisiana</th>
<th>New Hampshire</th>
<th>Virginia</th>
<th>West Virginia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Award Amount</td>
<td>$167.9M</td>
<td>$122M</td>
<td>$208.8M</td>
<td>$130.2M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Locations to Be Served</td>
<td>88,500 (estimated)</td>
<td>24,000 (estimated)</td>
<td>76,873 (estimated)</td>
<td>20,000 (estimated)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of Funds</td>
<td>LA will use 100% of CPF allocation for a competitive grant program to fund broadband infrastructure investments for locations without access to 25/3 Mbps</td>
<td>NH will use 100% of CPF allocation to fund two broadband programs designed to reach areas of the state currently lacking adequate internet service</td>
<td>VA will use 100% of CPF allocation to fund seven projects already selected from VA’s established competitive grant program focused on serving locations without access to 25/3 Mbps</td>
<td>WV will use 100% of CPF allocation for three competitive grant programs that will focus on funding last mile connections for locations without access to 25/3 Mbps</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Funding Impact | • CPF-funded GUMBO is one piece of a five-year plan that leverages other federal broadband funding to achieve statewide universal access  
• CPF will serve ~30% of locations still lacking internet access in LA | • Program criteria encourages the maximum number of locations to be served at the lowest cost, and prioritizes affiliation with local governments, non-profits, and co-ops  
• CPF will serve ~80% of locations still lacking internet access in NH | • Once-in-a-generation ARPA funds will keep VA on track to achieve universal broadband access by 2024  
• CPF will serve ~28% of locations still lacking internet access in VA | • Funding designed to reach areas hardest to serve due to low population density, rurality  
• CPF will serve ~10% of locations still lacking internet access in WV |

- Funding Impact:
  - **Louisiana**: CPF-funded GUMBO is one piece of a five-year plan that leverages other federal broadband funding to achieve statewide universal access. CPF will serve ~30% of locations still lacking internet access.
  - **New Hampshire**: Program criteria encourages the maximum number of locations to be served at the lowest cost, and prioritizes affiliation with local governments, non-profits, and co-ops. CPF will serve ~80% of locations still lacking internet access.
  - **Virginia**: Once-in-a-generation ARPA funds will keep VA on track to achieve universal broadband access by 2024. CPF will serve ~28% of locations still lacking internet access.
  - **West Virginia**: Funding designed to reach areas hardest to serve due to low population density, rurality. CPF will serve ~10% of locations still lacking internet access.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Georgia</th>
<th>Iowa</th>
<th>Minnesota</th>
<th>Vermont</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Award Amount</strong></td>
<td>$250M</td>
<td>$152M</td>
<td>$44M</td>
<td>$90M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Locations to Be Served</strong></td>
<td>70,000 (estimated)</td>
<td>18,972 (estimated)</td>
<td>4,811 (estimated)</td>
<td>13,818 (estimated)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Use of Funds</strong></td>
<td>GA will use 96% of CPF allocation to fund a competitive grant program to build high-speed internet service in areas that lack access to high-quality internet</td>
<td>IA will use 100% of CPF allocation to fund a competitive grant program to build high-speed internet service in areas that lack access to high-quality internet</td>
<td>MN will use 24% of CPF allocation to fund competitive grant programs to build high-speed internet service in areas that lack access to high-quality internet</td>
<td>VT will use 80% of CPF allocation to fund a formula grant program to build high-speed internet service in areas that lack access to high-quality internet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Funding Impact</strong></td>
<td>• GA’s program is designed to fund projects that would not be feasible without assistance from CPF funds • CPF will serve 15% of locations still lacking internet access in GA</td>
<td>• IA’s Empower Rural Broadband Program is designed address inequities in access using data, community input, and an application process • CPF will serve 16% of locations still lacking internet access in IA</td>
<td>• One of MN’s programs is designed to address last-mile barriers to existing broadband infrastructure; the other focuses on providing financial resources to invest in broadband infrastructure in low-density areas • CPF will serve ~2.3% of locations still lacking internet access in MN</td>
<td>• VT’s program provides funding to communities based on the percentage of road segments without existing access to high-speed wireline facilities • CPF will serve 22% of locations still lacking internet access in VT</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## CPF Awards – Broadband Infrastructure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Award Amount</th>
<th>Locations to Be Served</th>
<th>Use of Funds</th>
<th>Funding Impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Massachusetts | $145M       | 16,000 (estimated)    | MA will use 83% of CPF allocation to fund a competitive grant program to build high-speed internet service in areas across the Commonwealth where reliable broadband service is unavailable  | • CPF-funded projects will fund infrastructure to provide affordable, reliable high-speed internet service  
• CPF will serve ~27% of locations still lacking internet access in MA                                                                                                                                 |
| Michigan    | $250.6M      | 67,857 (estimated)    | MI will use 100% of CPF allocation to fund a competitive grant program investing in line extensions to provide high-speed internet to communities that currently lack access to speeds of 100/20 Mbps | • MI’s program addresses affordability not only by requiring subrecipients to participate in the Affordable Connectivity Program, but also by scoring subrecipient applicants based on the proposed cost of service  
• CPF will serve ~23% of locations still lacking internet access in MI                                                                                                                                 |
| Nevada      | $55.2M       | 40,187 (estimated)    | Nevada’s Low-Income Multi-Dwelling Units (MDU) Broadband Program is a competitive grant program designed to fund broadband infrastructure to and within low-income housing. CPF funds will be used to upgrade internet access in MDUs | • NV’s program targets residents living in low-income multi-dwelling units and provides affordable, reliable internet service at speeds of 100/100 Mbps  
• CPF will serve ~16% of locations still lacking internet access in NV                                                                                                                                 |
Trent Harkrader serves as Chief of the Wireline Competition Bureau, which works to ensure that all Americans have access to robust, affordable broadband and voice services, through universal service programs, a competition policy framework that protects consumers and fosters competition, and policymaking informed by comprehensive data about communications services, including broadband. Prior to this position, Trent advised then-Acting Chairwoman on implementation of the recent Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, including its initiatives on broadband adoption and telehealth, while also continuing to serve as Deputy Bureau Chief in the Wireline Competition Bureau.
FUNDING UPDATES

01 ACP
Affordable Connectivity Program

02 MAPPING
Broadband Data Collection and National Broadband Map

03 ECF & E-RATE
Emergency Connectivity Fund and USF E-Rate Program

04 HIGH-COST
High-Cost Initiatives

BROADBAND COMMUNITIES SUMMIT 2023
Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)

Helping Low-Income Households Pay for Broadband Service and Connected Devices
AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM (ACP)

- Over 17.5 million households nationwide that receive discounted internet service through the Affordable Connectivity Program.

- We are amplifying the good that ACP can do:
  - Affordable Connectivity Outreach Grant Program will award over $73 million to eligible governmental and non-governmental entities
  - Your Home, Your Internet Pilot Program

- ACP application enhancements

- Long-term planning: ensuring ACP continues to be available to eligible households and the lasting impact of this program can be carried forward beyond the pandemic
Broadband Mapping

Broadband Data Collection and National Broadband Map
The Broadband Data Collection is the FCC’s biannual collection of nationwide broadband availability data.

Once collected, that data is then depicted on an evolving National Broadband Map and will reflect changes in the real world over time.

What’s the big deal? More granular data, iterative, plus it includes the ability to challenge.

We released the first version of the Map last November and now we’re part of a cross-government effort to expeditiously resolve challenges to improve the Map.

The Map will feed into NTIA’s BEAD Program allocations.
Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) & E-Rate

Funding Connected Devices and Broadband Services Needed by Schools and Libraries for Remote and In-Person Learning
EMERGENCY CONNECTIVITY FUND & E-RATE

● Closing the homework gap through the Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) and the E-Rate Program.

● ECF has committed over $6.6 billion to schools and libraries across the country to support off-campus learning.
  ○ Funding for Wi-Fi hotspots, modems, routers, and connected devices for students, school staff, or library patrons.

● Looking to build on the successes of ECF into the E-Rate Program, so that students and library patrons can continue to benefit from this investment.

● On a mission to make it easier for Tribal libraries to participate in the E-Rate program and expand access to some of the most unserved communities.
High-Cost Initiatives

Expanding networks in underserved areas so that all people in the U.S. have access to affordable voice and broadband service
HIGH-COST INITIATIVES

- **Bringing Puerto Rico Together Fund and Connect USVI Fund**
  - In April, the Commission extended support to providers to preserve USF investment in these networks, while continuing to strengthen and harden against future storms.

- **Enhanced A-CAM Program**
  - FCC recently proposed an Enhanced A-CAM program that would offer additional support to rural carriers in exchange for increased broadband deployment obligations to additional locations and higher speeds.

- **Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF)**
  - FCC has provided $6 billion to rural providers for broadband deployment in some of the hardest to reach areas.
RESOURCES

• AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM
  • ACP Resources and Application: https://www.affordableconnectivity.gov/
  • ACP Data: https://www.usac.org/about/affordable-connectivity-program/acp-enrollment-and-claims-tracker/

• BROADBAND DATA COLLECTION
  • BDC Homepage: https://www.fcc.gov/BroadbandData
  • National Broadband Map: https://broadbandmap.fcc.gov/home
  • BDC Help Center: https://help.bdc.fcc.gov/hc/en-us
Thanks!