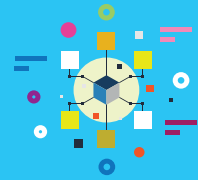# BROADBAND = OPPORTUNITY

THE IDEA

Every North Carolinian should be able to access affordable high-speed internet anywhere, anytime.

WHAT IS BROADBAND?

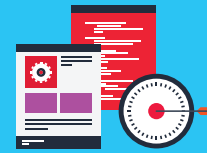Broadband is the amount of data that can be sent through a connection to access high-speed internet.

The more bandwidth, the more information a user can send or receive at any given time.

The FCC considers a speed threshold of 25 Mbps (download): 3Mbps (upload) to be considered high-speed internet service.

THE PLAYBOOK

The Broadband Playbook is an online, interactive resource to empower communities to take the lead in planning for better broadband.

FIRST TECH

The First Responders Emerging Technologies, or FirstTech, team collaborates directly with subject matter experts in fields such as networking, hardware, software, applications and operating systems to identify challenges and risks that new technologies might pose to first responder systems, such as cybersecurity issues, connectivity needs and interoperability within existing systems and emerging systems.

GREAT GRANT

The Growing Rural Economies with Access to Technology (GREAT) Program funds the terrestrial deployment of broadband within unserved areas of economically distressed counties. The grants help bring high-speed internet to thousands of North Carolinians, businesses and farms in the most rural and remote areas of the state.

NC BROADBAND SURVEY

Improving information about where internet coverage gaps exist is a key part of the state's strategy to improve internet access. We created the NC Broadband Survey, available at ncbroadband.gov/survey, to gather more detailed data and better identify the unserved and underserved areas in the state.

Data gathered will help ensure those areas qualify for state and federal funding programs and it allows the state and local communities to develop strategic plans to improve connectivity.

DIGITAL INCLUSION

BIO believes all North Carolinians should have access to the technologies, digital skills, and opportunities necessary to thrive in today's society.

To increase digital equity throughout the state, BIO leads the state's digital inclusion efforts and initiatives, supports community digital inclusion organizations and efforts, and develops programs, policies and tools.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The technical assistance team provides on-the-ground broadband expertise to counties and communities across the state.

The team helps communities locate unserved and underserved businesses and residents, identify assets relevant to broadband deployment, build partnerships with broadband service providers, and spot opportunities to leverage resources, reduce barriers, and make the business case for broadband.

The Broadband Infrastructure Office understands that affordable broadband enhances a community's viability and livability by creating income opportunities, facilitating greater civic and cultural participation, expanding educational opportunities, and providing access to healthcare providers and other essential services.

The office provides policy guidance and technical assistance for local and state leaders looking to enhance high-speed internet connectivity and use in their communities. The office combines decades of telecommunications policy and engineering experience to develop informed, data-driven policies and strategies to expand broadband access and adoption across the state.

Roy Cooper
Governor

Jim Weaver
Secretary and State Chief Information Officer

Jeffery Sural
Broadband Infrastructure Office Director

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ncbroadband.gov

NCDIT
NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF
INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY

Broadband Infrastructure Office

BENEFITS

People stay in touch with friends and family more.

Entrepreneurs and small and home-based business owners are economically competitive.

Patients in remote areas connect to healthcare services.

Students participate in online learning and distance education.

Businesses increase productivity and efficiency by utilizing the internet.

Organizations save money because employees telework.

Citizens access government services.

DID YOU KNOW?

There are households and businessess throughout every county in North Carolina that have no access to broadband, or are underserved, meaning they have low transmission speeds.