

# STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

# **Compliance and Monitoring Plan**

Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program

August 2025

**DRAFT** 

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## 1 PLAN BACKGROUND & OBJECTIVES

The Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program, administered by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), is set to distribute \$42.45 billion to advance high-speed internet access through infrastructure deployment across all 50 states and U.S. territories. North Carolina's allocation for this program is \$1.53 billion which will be put toward bridging the digital divide, enhancing economic growth and improving access to essential services.

Details of the BEAD program are outlined in the <u>NTIA's Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)</u> and further refined in the <u>BEAD Restructuring Policy Notice</u> published on June 6, 2025. This notice modified or replaced certain requirements initially presented in the original BEAD NOFO.

The Broadband Infrastructure Office (the office), an office in the Division of Broadband and Digital Opportunity (the division) within the N.C. Department of Information Technology (NCDIT) has designed this Monitoring Plan to establish comprehensive oversight and accountability measures in administering BEAD program funds across North Carolina. The plan prioritizes Subgrantee accountability, compliance with statutory and regulatory mandates, and the achievement of federal and state infrastructure goals. It mandates rigorous project management, ensures financial transparency, and combats waste, fraud, and abuse throughout the performance period.

Reflecting on national best practices, lessons learned, and stakeholder insights, this plan serves as a strategic framework to guide successful broadband deployment. It will be updated as needed to integrate future NTIA guidance.

This plan is structured to meet statutory, regulatory, and program requirements, including:

- 47 U.S.C. § 1702 (Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act BEAD enabling statute)
- Applicable 2 C.F.R. Part 200 (Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards)
- The BEAD Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)
- The BEAD Program Restructuring Policy Notice
- BEAD Policy and Waiver Notices
- The General Terms and Conditions for the BEAD Program
- The Department of Commerce Standard Terms and Conditions
- North Carolina Administrative Code 09 NCAC .03M Uniform Administration of State Awards of Grants
- North Carolina's BEAD Subgrantee Agreements and Specific Award Conditions applicable to each individual award

More information on these requirements can be found in Section 7 of this plan.

#### 2 MONITORING SCOPE & APPROACH

In line with 2 CFR 200 and BEAD program directives, this Monitoring Plan employs a comprehensive risk-based approach to assess and ensure compliance across all BEAD-funded projects in North Carolina. The monitoring framework is structured into four key areas:

**Risk Assessments:** Utilizing standardized questionnaires approved by the division to categorize projects as high, medium, or low risk, based on both qualitative and quantitative metrics. This assessment informs the level and focus of our monitoring efforts.

**Monthly Status Reports:** Subgrantees are required to submit detailed monthly reports capturing project status, ongoing timelines, and key performance indicators. These reports offer frequent insights and complement more extensive reviews and site visits.

**Desktop Reviews:** Conducted virtually to verify that project documentation aligns with BEAD guidance and grant agreements. This includes reviewing financial reports, policies, and procedures through dedicated compliance worksheets to ensure all terms are met.

**Site Visits:** Scheduled in-person checks at project locations to confirm physical progress against reported metrics and compliance with regulatory standards. At least one site visit will be conducted during the project's lifecycle, with additional visits based on risk assessments.

Monitoring activities are enabled by advanced tracking tools and digital platforms ensuring timely reporting and documentation submission. Roles and responsibilities are clearly defined to maintain accountability throughout the monitoring process. Feedback collected through these activities supports continuous improvement, with corrective actions tracked and implemented promptly. This adaptive approach ensures responsiveness to evolving project needs and stakeholder expectations, fostering a successful path towards statewide broadband deployment.

# 2.1 Financial Management and Procurement

Subgrantees are required to maintain financial systems and adhere to procurement standards to ensure transparent and responsible use of BEAD program funds. These financial management practices must comply with federal regulations, specifically 2 C.F.R. Part 200, and applicable state laws. Proper oversight mechanisms, such as internal controls and regular audits, are essential to prevent waste, fraud, and abuse.

Procurement processes should uphold competition and cost-efficiency, utilizing competitive bidding or negotiation to secure fair pricing and quality service delivery. For fixed amount subawards, certain cost principles and procurement requirements may be relaxed, offering greater flexibility while maintaining accountability.

# 2.2 Compliance and Communication

Effective compliance and communication are vital components of the successful management and implementation of BEAD-funded projects. Subgrantees are required to adhere to all statutory and regulatory requirements set forth in the BEAD NOFO and program guidelines. Clear communication channels are established to facilitate transparency and accountability, ensuring all stakeholders are consistently informed about project progress and compliance status.

The division will provide guidance and support to Subgrantees regarding required communications. Regular updates, reports, and feedback opportunities will be employed to maintain ongoing dialogue, addressing any challenges and support successful project outcomes.

#### 2.3 Environmental and National Historic Preservation

Subgrantees under the BEAD program must adhere to environmental and historical preservation requirements as mandated by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. § 4321 et seq.) and the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) (54 U.S.C. § 300101 et seq.).

The division will monitor compliance with these requirements throughout the project lifecycle, including any impact on subgrantees' ability to complete their projects. Subgrantees are expected to cooperate with the division and NTIA in identifying and implementing feasible measures to mitigate any identified environmental impacts observed during project execution.

Subgrantees must ensure that all environmental documentation is properly maintained and available for review. If further information is required after an award has been accepted, NTIA may enforce specific award conditions requiring additional environmental compliance data to be submitted.

As part of the reporting process, Subgrantees must support the division's use of NTIA's Environmental Screening and Permitting Tracking Tool. This tool assists in streamlining NEPA approvals by organizing necessary documentation and facilitating categorical exclusion determinations and other compliance reviews.

# 2.4 Corrective Actions, Remedies, and Non-Compliance

NCDIT is committed to ensuring that BEAD-funded projects adhere to all programmatic requirements through vigilant oversight and corrective actions when necessary. In instances of non-compliance or project underperformance, NCDIT will develop corrective plans and ensure that Subgrantees implement such corrective action plans to address identified deficiencies. These plans will include specific steps, timelines, and responsibilities to restore compliance and project alignment.

Should non-compliance persist despite corrective efforts, the NCDIT may impose remedies such as adjustments to funding conditions, withholding payments, or additional oversight measures. In severe cases, non-compliance may result in termination of agreements or financial recovery actions to mitigate any misuse of BEAD funds. By maintaining clear processes for addressing compliance issues, NCDIT ensures the responsible and effective advancement of broadband projects, safeguarding program integrity and public resources.

#### 3 RISK ASSESSMENTS

The division will deploy a comprehensive risk assessment framework to systematically evaluate Subgrantees and their projects under the BEAD program, ensuring effective, risk-based oversight throughout the project's lifecycle. This framework includes several key elements:

#### 3.1 Initial Risk Assessment

The initial risk assessment process will integrate data obtained from the pre-qualification stage and project evaluation phase. These foundational insights will help to inform and enhance our understanding of potential risk factors, enabling a more refined assessment approach. Additionally, the division will distribute tailored questionnaires to Subgrantees to supplement this information. Each questionnaire response will be evaluated and assigned a weight based on perceived risk, contributing to a comprehensive risk profile.

Subgrantees will be assessed according to the following criteria:

- **Project Size and Complexity**: Evaluate project size and complexity, including geographic location, award amount, and any required approvals needed for the project to proceed.
- **Subgrantee's Experience:** Review prior experience with broadband programs and operating and maintaining broadband networks based on awarded technology.
- **Prior History of Compliance:** Review prior experience and compliance with similar grant programs.
- Capacity and Resources: Evaluate current capacity and resources for administering programs, including subcontractors and subcontractor oversight.
- Compliance with Applicable Federal and State Laws: Review past adherence to State and Federal laws.
- Additional Information: The division may provide additional insights based on its experience with the Subgrantee to inform monitoring priorities.

Each response to the risk assessment questionnaire will be evaluated and assigned a weight according to the perceived risk it presents. The cumulative weight of all responses will provide the final questionnaire risk score.

Following the assessment, projects are categorized by risk level—low, medium, or high—using a defined scoring key:

- Low Risk: Projects identified as low risk tend to be less complex, with minimal or no compliance issues related to BEAD regulations.
- **Medium Risk:** Projects classified as medium risk exhibit moderate complexity and a reasonable level of compliance concerns.
- High Risk: Projects deemed high risk are typically more complex, presenting significant compliance challenges.

Utilizing data and responses from pre-qualification, project evaluation, and supplementary questionnaires, will support the division to strategically allocate monitoring resources, focusing attention where the risk of issues is greatest, thereby supporting the successful deployment of broadband infrastructure across North Carolina.

#### 3.2 Use of Risk Assessment Results

The initial risk score assigned to each project based on the assessment serves as a key tool to determine the appropriate level of monitoring. Regardless of risk level, desktop-based monitoring and a site visit will be conducted at least once for all BEAD projects. Desktop-based monitoring involves comprehensive documentation reviews informed by progress reports and additional documentation requests submitted by Subgrantees. Site visits involve visiting the project location and assessing physical completion, including performing speed tests, among other tests and observations. Detailed methodologies for both desktop reviews and site visits will be elaborated in subsequent sections of this monitoring plan.

Projects identified with higher risk scores are prioritized for more intensive oversight, including additional desktop reviews and site visits. The risk levels of Subgrantees and projects will be periodically reevaluated over the period of performance based on project performance and progress. If required, project risk scores may be upgraded or downgraded, and monitoring activities will be adjusted accordingly to ensure effective oversight and resource allocation.

# 3.3 Additional Risk-Based Criteria for Monitoring

To supplement the risk assessment, additional considerations will be taken into account when prioritizing projects for additional desktop review, site visits, and level of monitored conducted. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Observations made from the BEAD payment disbursement review processes and reporting: The NCDIT reviews Subgrantee payment disbursement requests and supporting documentation to evidence milestone completion, along with periodic reports at minimum submitted quarterly but may require monthly status reports if corrective actions are implemented due to non-compliance with the terms and conditions of the agreement. By assessing how milestone completion and the related expenditures are documented through payment disbursement requests, along with the timeliness and accuracy of reporting metrics, information can be obtained to gauge the level of risk associated with each Subgrantee and project, identifying any discrepancies or areas of concern that merit closer review. In addition to assessing these, levels of risk can also be assessed through untimely submissions and incomplete or missing documentation, including when there are potential recurring instances of the same errors being made.
- Interactions with Subgrantees: Through regular communication (virtual meetings, email, phone, and on-site visits) with Subgrantees, such as through the collection of regular status reports, annual and semiannual reports, and closeout reports, the NCDIT may ascertain Subgrantees' commitments to the project's scope, timeline, and quality standards, which may increase or decrease the perceived risk of a BEAD Subgrantee to appropriately manage its BEAD award(s).

As previously discussed, high risk Subgrantees will be prioritized for, and subject to, more frequent and in-depth monitoring procedures compared to moderate and low risk awardees. During the testing and monitoring process, if circumstances arise or changes occur that may

impact a Subgrantee's risk profile, the risk assessment will be updated, as needed, and additional monitoring steps may be completed.

# 3.4 Cybersecurity and Supply Chain Risk Management

As part of the comprehensive risk assessment framework, Subgrantees are required to develop and implement robust cybersecurity and supply chain risk management plans. These plans must comply with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) guidelines, ensuring the integrity, confidentiality, and availability of critical infrastructure and information systems. Subgrantees are expected to address potential vulnerabilities, including threats to network security and supply chain disruptions, and incorporate mitigation strategies to ensure resilience and compliance. The division will evaluate these plans to ensure that Subgrantees are equipped to manage risks effectively and safeguard broadband infrastructure projects against cyber threats and supply chain challenges.



## **4 STATUS REPORTS**

Subgrantee status reports are integral to the effective monitoring and evaluation of BEAD projects, ensuring both short-term progress tracking and long-term directional oversight. Three types of reports are required: quarterly reporting, semiannual reporting, and annual reporting. Quarterly reporting focuses on immediate project updates and risk identification to facilitate prompt action, while semiannual and annual reporting provides comprehensive assessments of project progress and will support reporting obligations to NTIA.

# 4.1 Quarterly Status Reporting

In addition to the monitoring procedures described herein, Subgrantees will submit quarterly status reports which serve to provide regular updates to the division regarding physical progress of the project, along with the proactive identification and communication of potential risks so that they can be remediated. Subgrantees may have to submit monthly status reports upon discretion of the office based on level of risk or non-compliance with the grant agreement.

A quarterly status report template will be provided to each Subgrantee. Each quarter, Subgrantees must submit a completed quarterly status report template to by the approved submission process as directed by the office. s. Submissions must reflect the most recent data maintained by the Subgrantee as of the previously completed quarter (e.g., if a quarterly status report is submitted to the division on July 15, 2026, the data reported must be for the time period April 1 – June 30, 2026).

Quarterly status reports offer baseline project information—such as timeframe, project details, and key performance indicators (KPIs), including but not limited to:

- Original and current project price (encompassing grant and match amounts)
- Monthly and cumulative grant amounts invoiced
- Forecasted project completion date and percentage complete
- Physical metrics, such as linear feet of cable laid vs. initial design
- Number of Broadband Serviceable Locations (BSLs) served vs. those identified in the application
- Address-level information of those served to date
- Financial reimbursements and grant match expenditures
- Permits obtained and pending
- Safety events and immediate risks impacting project progress

The division will review monthly submissions to address any discrepancies or emerging risks requiring further discussion or corrective actions.

# 4.2 Semiannual Reporting

Semiannual reports provide an in-depth evaluation of project progress, offering strategic insights critical for comprehensive oversight and NTIA submission. These reports encompass a wide scope, detailing project milestones, financial performance, stakeholder engagement, and adherence to programmatic goals. The specific dates for semiannual report submissions are

outlined in each Subgrantee's grant agreement in accordance with NTIA requirements. These reports must include:

- Detailed descriptions of project expenditures and progress on funded projects.
- Status updates on projects and eligible activities supported by grant funds.
- Geographic and demographic information concerning broadband service availability and use.
- Certifications of compliance with statutory and regulatory mandates.

Subgrantees submit these detailed reports to the division and the division will aggregate the data from all Subgrantees to fulfill the overall reporting obligations to the NTIA, ensuring compliance with program requirements.

# 4.3 Annual Reporting

Annual reports provide a comprehensive year-end evaluation of project performance, capturing both progress achieved and challenges encountered across the full reporting period. These reports serve as a critical tool for long-term oversight, measuring outcomes against programmatic goals and statutory requirements, and ensuring alignment with NTIA expectations. Annual reports encompass a wide scope, including service availability, subscription rates, project expenditures, right-of-way activities, and evidence of service quality. The specific dates for annual report submissions are outlined in each Subgrantee's grant agreement, consistent with NTIA and BEAD program requirements. These reports must include:

- A summary of the items contained in the Subgrant Agreement.
- The number of residential and commercial locations that have access to Qualifying Broadband Service as a result of the Project.
- The percentage of End Users in the project area who have access to Qualifying Broadband Service and the percentage of End Users with access who actually subscribe to the service.
- The average number of subscriptions for residential and commercial Qualifying Broadband Service in the Project area.
- Any right-of-way fees, permit fees, or franchise fees paid to a local government, state government, railroad, private entity, or person in connection with the Project.
- Any delays encountered when obtaining a right-of-way permission.
- Evidence consistent with FCC attestation requirements that the Subgrantee is making available the proposed advertised speed, or a faster speed, as set forth in Exhibit C.
- Unless exempted under 2 C.F.R. § 170.110, executive compensation information in accordance with 2 C.F.R. Part 170 and the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006.

Subgrantees submit these detailed reports to the division and the division will aggregate the data from all Subgrantees to fulfill the overall reporting obligations to the NTIA, ensuring compliance with program requirements.

## 5 DESKTOP REVIEWS

Desktop reviews serve as a fundamental layer of the BEAD program monitoring framework, with each project receiving at least one desktop review during the period of performance, irrespective of its assessed risk level. Compared to monthly reports, desktop reviews involve more thorough compliance checks through the examination and assessment of supporting documentation to ensure that grant agreement requirements are being met.

Desktop reviews are conducted virtually. BEAD Subgrantees will be notified via email once selected for a desktop review, along with a subsequent documentation request list. Subgrantees are responsible for compiling and providing all requested supporting documents by the communicated deadline. The division will then evaluate the documentation to assess project compliance, using a defined procedure and checklist. As part of the desktop review, the following compliance measures will be assessed:

- 1. **Construction Contracts and Timelines:** Subgrantees will be asked to provide all contracts associated with the construction of the project to assess that contractual provisions are met using BEAD funds and project schedules are maintained and adhered to.
- 2. Permits and Other Construction Related Records: Subgrantees will be asked to provide copies of all permits obtained that were necessary to complete the contract, to assess that necessary documentation was obtained to compliantly construct the project. Additional documentation such as historical reviews, the sign-off of project milestones from engineers or architects of record, or similar personal, may also be collected and reviewed.
- 3. **Reporting and Spend:** Each Subgrantee will have to submit documentation substantiating the accuracy of metrics being reported upon, including grant funds expended, through monthly status reports, payment disbursement requests, and semiannual BEAD reporting have been met (e.g. through source documentation such as general ledger detail, invoices, and/or proof of payment from additional eligible funding sources).
- 4. Internal Controls: Per 2 CFR 200.303, recipients must establish and maintain effective internal controls to manage their BEAD award in compliance with Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the BEAD award. Documentation such as how the Subgrantee keeps records tracking fund usage in accordance with Federal guidelines, provides staff training to assess comprehension of BEAD requirements, and has processes for consistently reviewing and updating controls may be evaluated.
- 5. Procurement and Cost Principles: BEAD Subgrantees must also meet federal and state cost principles. All costs charged to the BEAD program must be necessary, reasonable, and directly related to eligible broadband deployment activities. This includes verifying that no procurement unduly favors a particular vendor, that prices are fair and competitive, and that contract terms serve the public interest. Procurement files may bas assessed and reviewed to demonstrate clear documentation of the procurement method used, the rationale for contractor selection, the basis for contract pricing, and evidence of cost reasonableness. It should be noted that Subgrantees that receive fixed amount BEAD subawards are not required to comply with the cost principles and procurement practices requirements of the Uniform Guidance and have more flexible property standards options.

- 6. **Audit Requirements:** Per the BEAD NOFO and applicable provisions of the executed subgrant agreement, BEAD Subgrantees are subject to audit requirements as outlined in 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart F Audit Requirements. If applicable, Subgrantees must retain documentation to substantiate compliance with audit requirements including single audits.
- 7. **Specific Award Condition (SAC) Requirements:** Subgrantees will be asked to provide evidence of compliance with applicable recipient-specific SAC requirements.
- 8. **Recordkeeping Requirements:** Recipients must maintain records and financial documents for five years after all BEAD funds have been expended or returned to the NTIA. Wherever practical, such records should be collected, transmitted, and stored in open and digital formats. The subgrantee shall provide documentation evidencing the maintenance of records and financial documents for BEAD awards, as well as potentially other similar awards, to ensure they are tracked separately and accurately.
- 9. Domestic Preference for Procurements: Per the BEAD NOFO, all funds made available through the BEAD program must comply with the Build America, Buy America Act (BABA) which requires that all of the iron, steel, manufactured products (including but not limited to fiber-optic communications facilities), and construction materials used on BEAD projects or other eligible activities are produced in the United States unless a waiver is granted. Subgrantees documentation will be assessed for compliance with BABA.
- 10. Permitting, Environmental, and National Historic Preservation Requirements:
  Subgrantees are required to obtain all necessary federal, state, and local permits and approvals necessary to complete the awarded projects. Additionally, all BEAD projects will be subject to compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). The Subgrantees will be asked to provide applicable documentation to demonstrate compliance with permitting, NEPA, and NHPA requirements.
- 11. **Speed and Latency Requirements:** Subgrantees are required to deliver speeds of not less than 100 Mbps for downloads and 20 Mbps for uploads for broadband serviceable locations; speeds of not less than 1 Gigabit symmetrical for CAIs; and 95 percent of latency measurements during testing windows to fall at or below 100 milliseconds round trip time. The Subgrantee must maintain documentation of performance testing to demonstrate compliance with these requirements.

Any discrepancies or issues identified during the desktop review may prompt further inquiries or corrective actions, with the Subgrantee being notified of any required follow-up actions, including a timeline for resolution (e.g. additional documentation requests or narrative clarifications provided over email).

# 5.1 BEAD Desk Review Outputs

Following the desktop review, the division will develop a summary report detailing the desk review results, such as any observations, findings, instances, or potential instances, of non-compliance, recommendations, corrective actions, and/or opportunities for improvement. The report will be discussed with each Subgrantee. Subgrantees' responses and implementation efforts to any corrective actions or recommendations will then be tracked as a part of ongoing monitoring efforts and/or ongoing status reporting efforts by the division until closed out

#### **6 SITE VISITS**

Site visits will be conducted on each BEAD project at least once during the period of performance. Projects determined to be high risk from the risk assessment will be prioritized and may be subject to additional site visits, at the discretion of the division.

Site visits differ from desktop reviews in that they are conducted in-person at project sites and serve to better understand and assess the physical progress of each project. During these visits, the division will verify in-person the inputs received from documentation submitted by Subgrantees, interview project staff, and assess project progress of the work completed on-site.

Similar to desktop reviews, BEAD Subgrantees are notified via email once they are selected for a site visit and will then be required to meet with the division for a kick-off call. The email will detail the expectations of the Subgrantee in advance of a future site visit, and, if necessary, include a documentation request list and/or a list of questions to be prepared to answer during the visits.

A BEAD Site Review Checklist will be used during each site inspection and include the following categories:

- Physical Progress: The Subgrantee will need to verify project progress against reported values, including the number of locations served and the take rate. The site inspection team will review these values, assess physical progress, and make additional observations regarding the project's physical advancement.
- **Project Safety:** The site inspection team will note any safety concerns and detail any reported safety events. Subgrantees will be asked to provide their project safety plans on site, and the site inspection team may verify that specific elements of these plans are being implemented.
- **Schedule:** The Subgrantee must present the contract schedule and provide explanations for any variances. Quantities and additional commentary related to the schedule will be reviewed, and the site inspection team will compare reported schedules to the actual project status observed.
- **Labor:** The Subgrantee should outline the project's labor strategy, providing additional commentary. The site inspection team may interview workers onsite to verify labor usage and hours, among other requests.
- Project Risks: The site inspection team will request a summary of the known risks from the Subgrantee and provide additional commentary to understand the overall risk profile of the project. Any observable risks arising during site visits will be documented.
- **Project Quality:** The site inspection team will document any observed or reported quality concerns. Observations may include any deviations from the project's approved quality management plan or observed quality issues.
- Speed Testing and Technical Assessments: The site inspection team will conduct speed testing to ensure that network performance meets BEAD requirements. This includes verifying broadband speeds and latency at various points in the network.

Additional technical assessments may also be conducted to evaluate network performance.

 Observations and Risks: The site inspection team will describe any additional observations and risks identified during the site visit, offering comprehensive feedback to the Subgrantee.

# **6.1 BEAD Site Visit Outputs**

Following each site visit, the division will compile the BEAD Site Review Checklist detailing the findings and observations, non-compliance issues identified, recommendations, and next steps. A site inspection report will also be provided, which will include photographs (i.e., physical evidence) of the project being constructed. Any observed deficiencies or risks will be communicated to the Subgrantee. The division will then work with the Subgrantee to develop a corrective action plan to address any deficiencies and risks. Corrective action measures will be tracked as part of ongoing monitoring efforts through regular check-ins already being conducted (e.g., monthly or quarterly) and ongoing status reporting efforts by the division until closed.

# 7 STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS AND GUIDING DOCUMENTS

The division and Subgrantees will comply with applicable statutes and regulations, including but not limited to:

- <u>47 U.S.C. § 1702 IIJA</u> (Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act BEAD enabling statute): The foundational legislative framework authorizing the BEAD program, ensuring broadband equity, access, and deployment.
- <u>BEAD NOFO.pdf</u> The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), U.S. Department of Commerce issued a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) to describe the requirements for all grant awards under 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.
- NTIA BEAD Restructuring Policy Notice NTIA issued the BEAD Restructuring Policy Notice on June 6, 2025, to provide updated implementation guidance under the BEAD program. This Policy Notice clarifies and amends several provisions outlined in the original BEAD NOFO. It reflects NTIA's commitment to ensuring a fair and open competitive process, aligning BEAD implementation with the statutory requirements of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021, Division F, Title I, Section 60102, Public Law 117-58, 135 Stat. 429 (November 15, 2021). The Policy Notice supersedes prior guidance where conflicts exist and is a mandatory compliance document for all participating Subgrantees and Eligible Entities
- <u>BEAD Initial Proposal Funding Request General Terms and Conditions</u> The
  General Terms and Conditions for the NTIA BEAD program requires the division ensure
  each Subgrantee or contractor, including lower tier subcontractors, complies with all
  applicable Federal, state, and local laws and regulations, and all applicable terms and
  conditions of this award.
- Department of Commerce Financial Assistance Standard Terms and Conditions The Department of Commerce will apply to each award in this Program, the Financial Assistance Standard Terms and Conditions in effect on the date of award. The current version, dated November 12, 2020, is accessible at <a href="Department of Commerce Financial">Department of Commerce Financial</a> Assistance Standard Terms and Conditions.
- <u>BEAD Policy and Waiver Notices</u> This site contains various policy notices and notices of waivers issued by NTIA in connection with the BEAD program.
- <u>Title 2 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200</u> 2 CFR 200 is a set of rules and regulations for federal grants that created uniform administrative requirements, cost principles, and audit requirements for Federal awards. Included in 2 CFR Part 200 is Subpart D Subrecipient Monitoring and Management which provides the overall framework for subrecipient monitoring.
- Costs specifically identified as prohibited under the BEAD program An Eligible Entity or Subgrantee (including contractors and subcontractors of Subgrantees) may not

use grant funds received under the BEAD program to purchase or support any covered communications equipment or service (as defined in Section 9 of the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019 (47 U.S.C. § 1608)).

- Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 In accordance with 2 C.F.R. Part 170, all recipients of a federal award made on or after October 1, 2010, are required to comply with reporting requirements under the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (Pub. L. No. 109-282).
- Pre Award Notification Requirements The Department of Commerce will apply the Pre-Award Notification Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements dated December 30, 2014 (79 FR 78390), accessible at <a href="http://go.usa.gov/hKkR">http://go.usa.gov/hKkR</a>. Refer to Section VIII of <a href="https://go.usa.gov/hKkR">BEAD NOFO</a> (Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)) for more information.
- Environmental and National Historical Preservation Requirements Awarding agencies are required to analyze the potential environmental impacts, as required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. § 4321 et seq.) and the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) (54 U.S.C. § 300101 et seq.) for Eligible Entity proposals and awardee projects and other eligible activities seeking funding under the BEAD program. Eligible Entities with projects or other eligible activities containing construction and/or ground-disturbing activities are required to submit all required environmental documentation to NTIA with their Final Proposals.
- **Domestic Preference for Procurements** All funds made available through the BEAD program for broadband infrastructure must comply with the <u>Build America</u>, <u>Buy America Act</u>. Additionally, the Infrastructure Act expressly prohibits Subgrantees from using BEAD funding to purchase or support fiber optic cable and optical transmission equipment manufactured in the People's Republic of China unless a waiver of this requirement is received from the Assistant Secretary.