MBI
MASSACHUSETTS BROADBAND INSTITUTE

at the MassTech
Collaborative

Broadband Equity Access and Deployment (BEAD) Program Infrastructure Deployment Phase

The BEAD Program aims to provide universal broadband access and support digital equity initiatives. Massachusetts was awarded $147 million through the federal BEAD Program to ensure all Broadband Serviceable Locations (BSLs) across the state have access to high-speed, reliable broadband. This program will fund infrastructure projects to connect unserved and underserved BSLs and enable Massachusetts to achieve its goal of 100% universal service through reliable broadband technology at speeds of at least 100/20 Mbps.

MA BEAD
Broadband Equity
Access & Deployment

Eligibility
BEAD Deployment Phase

Project Service Areas will initially be defined by municipality.

The following entities may apply for BEAD grants:

» Private companies (e.g., corporations, limited liability companies, general partnerships, limited partnerships, etc.)

» Local governmental entities (e.g., municipalities or municipal light plants that offer broadband service)

» Tribal governments

» Nonprofit organizations

» Co-operatives, electric co-operatives, and public or private utilities

» Public utility districts

» Public-private partnerships, which are long-term agreements between local government entities and private entities for the delivery and funding of broadband services

» Other entities that develop and/or operate broadband networks and can demonstrate the experience, capacity and financial resources and stability to satisfy the grant obligations

Program Requirements

Organizations who anticipate applying for funding must have already completed the Pre-Qualification Process. Applicants pre-approved by MBI may proceed directly to submit the full project application.

Applications will be evaluated on the following criteria:

» Provides a 25% match
» Commitment to provide affordable broadband service
» Compliance with federal fair labor laws
» Ability to provide service to project area within four years
» Speed of network and other technical capabilities
» Ability to serve Community Anchor Institutes (CAIs)
» Ability to offer low-cost plans
» Ability to serve Multi Dwelling Units (MDUs) at the enterprise level

Key Dates

The BEAD Deployment Phase opened on **January 15** and will close on **February 26** at **5:00 p.m.**

Scan for more program information ➡