

2023 OTA ACCOUNTING CONFERENCE

Washington, D.C. Update

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BROADBAND FUNDING PRIORITIES

Congressional Priorities:

- Connect Everyone
 - Network access
 - Affordability
 - Digital literacy
- Non-Duplication
 - Other public efforts
 - Private efforts
- Better coordination between federal broadband agencies

BROADBAND FUNDING PROGRAMS - OVERVIEW

New Network Buildout Funds	USF High Cost Program (2022 \$)
BEAD - \$42 billion	USF High Cost Program - \$4.7 billion
Capital Projects Fund - \$10 billion	
ReConnect - ~\$4.55 billion (Rounds I-IV)	
Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program - \$3 billion	
Middle Mile Broadband Grant Program - \$1 billion	
State Fiscal Recovery Funding (ARPA) - \$219.8 billion (estimated \$8.9 billion for broadband)	
Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (ARPA) - \$130 billion	
New Low-Income Subsidy Programs	USF Lifeline Program
EBB/ACP - \$17.2 billion	\$601 million
New Education Fund	USF E-Rate Program
Emergency Connectivity Fund - \$7.17 billion	\$2 billion

BEAD

Total Funding: \$42.45 billion (Oklahoma: \$797 million)

Timeline

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) – May 13, 2022
 - Eligible Entity (EE) Letters of Intent – June 18, 2022
 - Request for Initial Planning Funds (\$5 million/state) – August 15, 2022
 - EE Five Year Action Plan – Due 270 days after receipt of initial planning funds (May-November 2023)
 - Release of Broadband DATA Maps and Notice of Available Amounts – by June 30, 2023
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- EE Initial Proposals – Due 180 days after allocation (July-December 2023)
 - If approved, EEs receive 20% of allocation
 - States conduct challenge processes
 - EE Final Proposals – Due 12 months after Initial Proposal
 - If approved, EEs receive remainder of allocation

BEAD

Key Points to Watch in Initial Proposal

Volume I

- Method for ISPs without federally enforceable commitment to commit to future buildout

Volume II

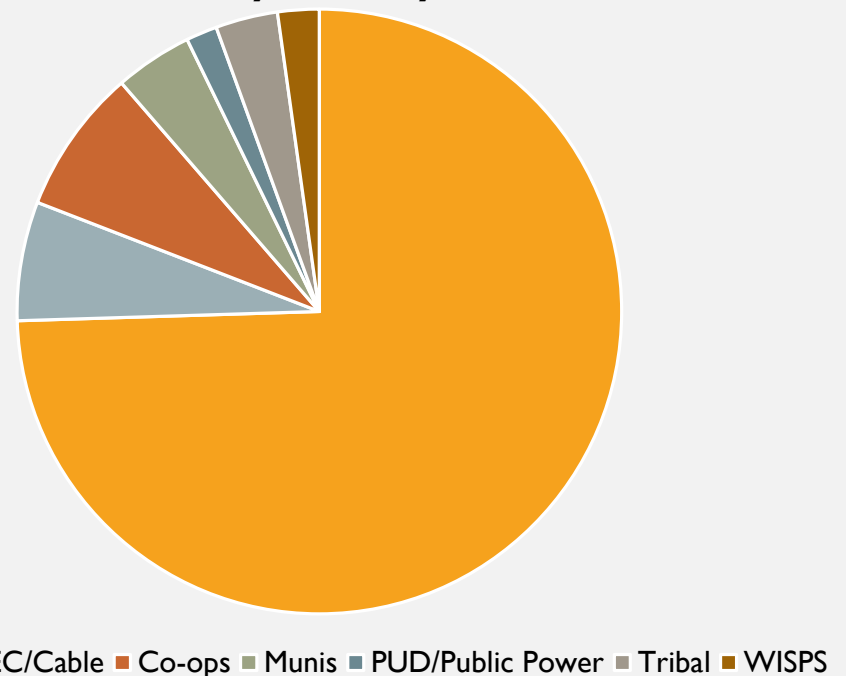
- Priority for Fiber vs. Extremely High Cost Per Location Threshold
- Low Cost Service Option
- Middle Class Affordability
- Preferences for non-profit, municipal, and cooperative providers

RECONNECT

Rounds I-IV: ~\$4.8 billion in awards
Oklahoma Awardees: ~\$332.4 million

- Canadian Valley Telephone
- Carnegie Telephone Co.
- Cimarron Telephone Co. (2)
- Cross Cable Television (2)
- Hilliary (4)
- KanOkla
- Osage Nation
- Pawnee Nation (2)
- Pioneer Telephone Co-op (2)
- Pine Telephone/Pine Cellular (5)
- Southern Plains Cable (2)
- Terral Telephone Co. (2)
- Rally Networks
- Valliant Telephone Co.

ReConnect Awards By Industry Sector 2019-2023

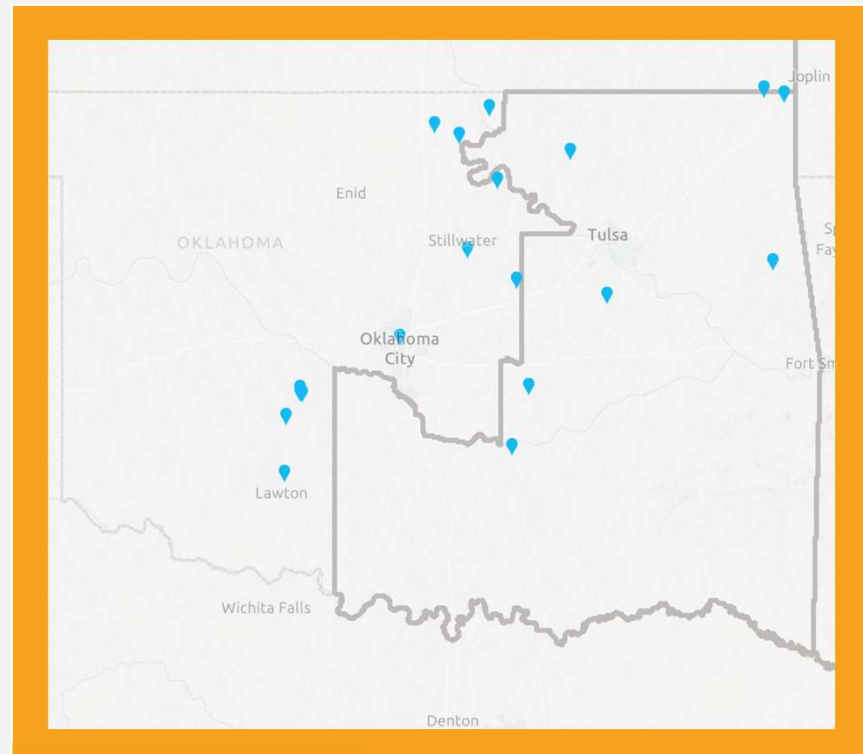


TRIBAL BROADBAND CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM

Rounds I: 226 awards, \$1.86 billion

**Oklahoma Awardees:
18 awards, \$208 million**

**Round II: \$980 million
- Applications due Jan 23, 2024**



AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM

EBB/ACP - \$17.4 billion

Nationally

- 21.3 million households enrolled
- 41% of eligible households
- At this enrollment rate, funds expire before June
 - BEAD low-income commitments depend on ACP

Oklahoma

- 319,707 households enrolled
- 45.6% of eligible households enrolled
- 46% of households are eligible



<https://acpdashboard.com/>

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Universal Service Fund

- **Future of USF**
 - E-ACAM
 - CAF-BLS
 - Contributions Modernization
 - 5th Circuit Court Case
- **Open Internet/Net Neutrality**
- **Broadband Definition Update**
- **Digital Discrimination**

FUTURE OF FEDERAL BROADBAND FUNDING

Will BEAD truly connect everyone with 100/20 Mbps?

Is 100/20 Mbps good enough for the future?

Will initial network funding and existing customers be enough for operational costs and upgrades to higher speeds?

Will ACP get additional funding?

Which other programs will see continued funding?

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