



Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Local Planning Grant Program

University of Wisconsin – Madison, Division of Extension
Broadband Planning Series
April 3rd, 2023

BEAD Local Planning Grant Program

- Provide funds to support local broadband planning efforts and build local capacity that will be needed throughout the BEAD planning and initial implementation period.
- Enables eligible entities to opt-in to receive formula funding to participate in broadband planning activities support locally informed analysis of broadband needs.
- Commission seeks to gain insight into each local community's vision for broadband development.
- Inform the state Five-Year Action Plan which will guide broadband deployment and implementation of the BEAD program.

By the numbers...

- 77 entities have opted in
 - All 72 counties
 - 5 Tribes
- 48 entities are collaborating through one of six participating Regional Economic Development Organizations (REDOs)
- 29 entities are participating independently

Allocations

BEAD Local Planning Grant Recipients					
Formula:					
Independent Award = 1,500,000/((0.1*(Regional Collaborator Count))+(Total Participants))					
Collaborator Award=1.1*Independent Award					
Funding Available: \$1,500,000					
Participating Entities: 77					
Independent Award = \$18,337.40					
Independent Participants: 29					
Collaborator Award = \$20,171.15					
Regional Collaborators: 48					
Participating Regions	Award	Contact Name	Contact Title/Position	Contact Email	Contact Phone
Centergy	\$100,855.75	Angel Whitehead	Executive Director	president@centergy.net	715-849-5510 ext 307
Adams County		Kyle Patterson	Finance Director	kyle.patterson@co.adams.wi.us	608-339-4201
Lincoln County		Ken Wickham	Lincoln County Broadband Committee Chair	ken.wickham@co.lincoln.wi.us	715-360-0912
Marathon County		Gerard Klein	Director, CCITC	Gerard.Klein@co.marathon.wi.us	715-261-6707
Portage County		Jeff Hartman; Jeremy Solin	GIS/LIS Coordinator; Area 7 Extension Director	HartmanJ@co.portage.wi.gov; Jeremy.Solin@wisc.edu	715-346-1221; 715-498-7051
Wood County		Jason R. Grueneberg	Planning + Zoning Director	jason.grueneberg@woodcountywi.gov	715-421-8478
Madison Region Economic Partnership	\$100,855.75	Gene Dahlhoff	Vice President - Talent and Education	gdahlhoff@madisonregion.org	608-571-0403
Columbia County		Chris Polzer	Columbia County Board Chair	christopher.polzer@columbiacountywi.gov	608-697-1085
Dane County		Alexandra Andros	Senior Planner	andros@countyofdane.com	608-261-9780 (o), or 608- 720-0168 (c)
Dodge County		Cameron Clapper	County Administrator	cclapper@co.dodge.wi.us	920-386-4251
Jefferson County		Ben Wehmeier	County Administrator	benjaminw@jeffersoncountywi.gov	920-674-7101
Sauk County		Melanie Platt-Gibson	Sauk County Development Director	melanie.plattgibson@saukcountywi.gov	608-355-4840

Grant Instructions

- **April 3rd, 2023:** Grant instructions issued and posted
- **April 28th, 2023:** Deadline for submitting questions and requests for clarification
- **April 28th, 2023:** Deadline for requesting Grant System assistance
- **May 1st, 2023 at 1:30pm:** Applications due from applicants (deadline for submitting on PSC Grants System). Applications are public.

Grant Instructions (continued)

- Applicants are:
 - Counties opting to participate independently
 - REDOs that have opted to facilitate collaborative participation among one or more of their represented counties and/or Tribes
 - Federally recognized Tribes opting to participate independently
- Note: Counties and Federally recognized Tribes that have opted to participate collaboratively through a REDO, do NOT need to fill out an application through the PSC Grants System.

Grant System

- [PSC Grants System](#)
- [PSC Grants System User's Guide](#)
- Utilizing the Grant Instructions, we need applicants to complete a simple application via the Grants System
- Create an account (tied to ERF account)

Grant System (continued)

- Details tab
 - Project Name, Project Description, Grant Amount Requested (from allocation table), Recipient & Partner Contributions (should be 0), Grant Application Details
- Contacts tab
 - One primary contact minimum, can add secondary contacts
- Budget tab
 - Applicants should enter their allocation amount in the 'Other' row

Grant System (continued)

Grant Type: BEAD Local Planning Grant | Grant Name: BEAD Local Planning Grant | Grant Year: 2023 | Project: WBO TEST

[Details](#) [Contacts](#) [Budget](#) [Narrative](#) [Submit](#) [Create PDF](#)

Grant Application Budget

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Save changes <input type="checkbox"/> Cancel changes			
Budget Item	Grant Funded	Contribution Funded	Notes
Contractual, Consultant fees			
Labor (Salary, Fringe)			
Other	\$18,337.40	\$0.00	Placeholder!
Training			
Supplies			
Travel			

Grant System (continued)

- Narrative tab
 - Is the applicant a Wisconsin county, Regional Economic Development Organization (REDO), or federally recognized Tribe listed on the allocation letter? (yes/no)
 - Will the applicant use the grant funds for BEAD local planning eligible activities and costs that are allowable under these federal funds? (yes/no)
 - List up to three eligible planning activities that the applicant will complete during the performance period (February 1, 2023 – May 1, 2025) and provide a short description of the intended outcomes or deliverables for each of these activities.
 - By June 19, 2023, does the applicant agree to submit the required interim project status report with the five required deliverables? (yes/no)

Budget

- Overview and Budget Document
- For purposes of the May 1st, 2023 application deadline, we are asking applications to submit a 'placeholder' budget
 - Full allocation will go in the 'Other' category
 - Detailed grant project budget with cost categories will be due June 19th, 2023
- Contract, Consultant fees
- Labor (salary and fringe)
- Training
- Travel
- Supplies
- Other

Initial Deliverables

- By June 19, 2023, it will be expected that each grant signatory will have:
 1. convened an initial planning group or provide documentation of meetings of an existing group.
 2. began outreach to stakeholders in their community and/or region related to broadband planning.
 3. identified a preliminary regional broadband vision and draft goals.
 4. identified key barriers and opportunities related to Internet for All in their community and/or region.
 5. and submitted a detailed grant project budget by cost category.

Allowable Categories of activities under federal BEAD planning funding:

- Research and data collection, including initial identification of unserved locations and underserved locations consistent with the rules, regulations, and processes the Federal Communications Commission has established for making these determinations in the Broadband DATA Maps.
- Publications, outreach, and communications support related to broadband and digital equity planning.
- Providing technical assistance to potential subgrantees (i.e. providers and communities), including through workshops and events; that support the development of the state 5-year action plan.
- Training for employees of political subdivisions of Wisconsin, and related staffing capacity or consulting or contracted support to effectuate the goals of the BEAD Program.
- Asset mapping across the county and/or region to catalogue broadband adoption, affordability, equity, access and deployment activities occurring within Wisconsin.
- Conducting surveys of unserved, underserved, and underrepresented communities to better understand barriers to internet adoption.
- Costs associated with meeting the local coordination requirements including capacity building at the local and regional levels or contracted support.

Examples of allowable activities that may be proposed by BEAD Local Planning Sub-awardees:

- Conduct outreach to improve and challenge the National Broadband Map.
- Hire new staff or allocate existing staff time to broadband planning; including but not limited to embedding broadband into regional and economic plans, or other community planning activities.
- Allocate staff time to participate in technical assistance workshops or webinars.
- Convening industry stakeholders to identify strategies related to financing broadband or preparing workforce.
- Hire or allocate staff to refine or review permitting processes related to broadband deployment.
- Training staff, elected officials, or local broadband champions to improve their knowledge of broadband, internet adoption, or federal grant administration.
- Host and document event(s) to discuss broadband and barriers to adoption.
- Purchase software licenses or data (mapping software, speed-tests) related to broadband planning, permitting, or adoption.

Examples of allowable activities that may be proposed by BEAD Local Planning Sub-awardees:

- Conduct surveys or promote existing surveys of citizens on their broadband needs and barriers.
- Hire or allocate staff time to perform analyses of the survey results, state and federal maps, data, and existing resources related to broadband adoption.
- Send flyers advertising broadband listening sessions and digital equity events.
- Hosting meetings with potential internet service provider partners.
- Get outreach materials translated into other languages.
- Hire translators and/or interpreters and/or childcare providers to support Wisconsinites' participation in planning meetings.
- Create models for best practice public private partnerships for broadband deployment.
- Any other activities proposed by the applicant that are allowable by the funding and approved by the Commission.

Draft Grant Agreement

- A Draft BEAD Local Planning Grant Agreement is available on the Commission's website
- Once the application is submitted, staff will follow-up with a grant agreement to sign
- In the meantime, you may wish to review the draft grant agreement with your legal counsel
- It is **required** that each approved grant applicant enter into a grant agreement with the Commission

In Summary

- Entities opt-in
- Allocations determined
- Grant instructions issued
- Entities submit application and placeholder budget via grants system
- Commission approves and grant agreements are signed
- Initial deliverables due June 19th, 2023
- Continued planning activities throughout performance period

Resources

- [BEAD Local Planning Grant Program Webpage](#)
- [5-BP-2023 Docket](#)
- [ERF Home and Docket Subscription](#)
- [PSC Grants System](#)



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General questions?

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