Broadband, Equity, Access, and Deployment Program (BEAD)

Project Application Questionnaire

Arizona Commerce Authority (ACA)

January 2025

Contents

1. Disclaimer

In addition to the guidance outlined herein, the Arizona Commerce Authority will comply with the BEAD Notice of Funding Opportunity, the BEAD Initial Proposal Volume II and BEAD Final Proposal Guidelines, and any subsequent guidance issued by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, as applicable. The Arizona State Broadband Office reserves the right to modify or update this document at its discretion to implement Federal, State, or Local requirements, or for any other reason necessary to effectively administer the BEAD Program.

2. Project Application

2.1 Applicant Information

Details		
Applicant Information		
Applicant Legal Name/Entity Name		
Mailing Address		
Applicant Contact Details (Signatory Authority – Director/Officer)		
First Name		
Last Name		
Title		
Phone Number(s)		
Email Address(s)		
Other Details		
Applicant's Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)		
State Tax ID Number		
Broadband Provider	Traditional ☐	Non-traditional ☐

Details	
Type of Service Provider:	Local Government ☐ Non-profit organization ☐ Private, For-Profit organization ☐ Public Private Partnership ☐ Tribal Organization ☐ Electric Cooperative ☐ Public or Private Utility ☐ Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier (ILEC) Service Provider ☐ Non- ILEC Service Provider ☐ Cooperative(other) ☐ Other, please describe ☐

Is your organization a consortium or a partnership?	☐ Yes	☐ No

If yes, provide a narrative that explains the organizational structure, role, relationship, and significance of each consortium member/partnership entity. The narrative provided should also demonstrate individual expertise and that the Applicant possesses sufficient working capital to successfully carry out and complete the project.

If yes, provide details of the underlying agreement(s) amongst member/ partnership organizations.

Is your organization planning to use specific contractors or subcontractors for the deployment of BEAD broadband infrastructure projects in Arizona?	Yes ☐	No ☐

If yes, include at least one example of each contractor and subcontractor's past performance in the context of a similar project.

Each description of project experience should include details such as the construction cost, start and completion dates of the project, any teaming partners and the value that contributed to the project. Applicants should also indicate the network types that they have deployed or operated in the past

Details
(Fiber-to-the-Premise (FTTP), Hybrid Fiber-Coaxial (HFC), Coaxial, Copper/DSL, Fixed Wireless, Mobile Wireless, etc.). If not applicable, please leave the response blank. **(Attachment 1)**

2.2   Project Executive Summary

Project Executive Summary

Provide a high-level summary of the project, outlining the BEAD eligible locations to be served within the project area, technology to be used including a percentage breakdown of each technology under Part A1, A2 and/or Part B, delivery approach, timeline, budget summary, and match request under each category.
 	
Please note that the Project Application includes three categories: Part A1 is a 100% fiber-based deployment with Outliers, Part A2-100% fiber-based deployment excluding Outliers and Part B is an alternative technology proposal with a mix of fiber, reliable, and alternative technologies deployment.
 	
• Part A1: 100% Fiber based deployment, including CAIs and Outliers
 	
• Part A2: 100% Fiber Based Deployment, Including CAIs but excluding Outliers
 	
• Part B – Fiber, reliable and alternative technologies deployment.
  o Fiber
  o Reliable – HFC technology and Licensed Fixed Wireless
  o Alternative Technologies - Unlicensed Fixed Wireless and LEO
 	
While Applicants can provide Part A1, A2 and/or Part B, Applicants are encouraged to provide their solutions for all Parts A1, A2 and B. This will allow ACA to evaluate and prioritize Project Applications providing the most technically feasible and cost-effective solution for affordable broadband deployment through the BEAD program. Applicants should include any additional details or information deemed relevant to the project.

2.3   Project Area(s)

Project Area
Select the project area from the drop-down list for which you are submitting this application. Note: Applicants are required to submit an application separately for each project area they propose to serve. Applicants can submit multiple applications. Each project area will be evaluated individually and scored accordingly. Applicants planning to apply for adjoining project areas are required to apply for these project areas separately in individual Applications. These Applications will be scored independently and may not be awarded together.

Any efficiencies that the Applicants are expecting to apply for adjoining project areas should be incorporated in the Application separately for each proposed project area. Each Application will be considered valid for each project area, irrespective of their location.

<Dropdown List of Project Areas>

Project Area Information	Output
BEAD Eligible Locations to be Served within the Project Area	
Total number of BSLs included in the Project Area	<auto populated>
Total number of Unserved Locations	<auto populated>
Total number of Underserved Locations	<auto populated>
Total number of eligible Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs) Locations	<auto populated>

Based on the proposed technology solutions in the selected Project Area, submit the Project Area file with the proposed technology breakdown for each BSL for Part A-100% fiber-based deployment and/or Part-B – Fiber, reliable, and alternative technologies.

Note: The Project Area file with the list of BSLs can be downloaded from the 'Selected Project Area' map above"

Community Anchor Institutions		
Do you propose to serve CAIs in your project area?	Yes ☐	No ☐

If yes, provide the number of eligible CAIs proposed to be served in the selected project areas, as published by the Arizona Commerce Authority.

Note: Applicants are also required to provide the list of CAI IDs, CAI address, proposed technology, and cost to serve the CAIs in the "CAIs" tab of the Financial Workbook Template **(Attachment 8A – 100% Fiber based deployment and/or Attachment 8B – Fiber, reliable and alternative technologies deployment)**

Project Area	List of CAIs included in the Project Area	Number of Proposed CAIs to be Served
<auto populated>	<auto populated>	

2.4 Project Infrastructure

2.4.1. Project Type

Project Type

Select the project type your organization's Project Application will include. Note: Priority Broadband Projects and Non-Priority Projects have different scoring criteria. While Part A is focused on 100% Fiber based deployment and Part B is focused on an alternative solution with a mix of fiber, reliable and alternative technologies, Applicants can select both options and provide details for evaluating the most technically feasible and cost-effective option for the same project area.	☐ Priority Broadband Projects	☐ Non-Priority Broadband Projects
Note: Priority and Non-Priority Broadband Projects are defined as follows: Priority Broadband Projects: Priority projects must offer high-quality broadband services that meet specific performance thresholds and must provide services via end-to-end fiber-optic facilities to reach end users. Non-Priority Broadband Projects: All other last-mile deployment projects providing a minimum speed of 100/20 Mbps which are not considered priority projects are defined as Non-Priority Projects.		

2.4.2. Infrastructure and Technology

Infrastructure

Applicants are required to provide details of the proposed infrastructure for:
- Part A1:100% Fiber based deployment (Including Outliers)
- Part A2:100% Fiber based deployment (Excluding outliers), and/or
- Part B: Fiber, reliable and alternative technologies deployment, if applicable.

While Applicants can choose to submit their Project Applications with proposed technologies for Part A1, A2, and/or Part B, ACA encourages Applicants to provide details for all - Part A1, A2 and Part B, if applicable to evaluate the technical and financial feasibility for both the options.

Provide all details that are applicable to the proposed project area for Part A and/or Part B based on the Applicant's selection of the proposed solution(s).	A1	A2	B
Total estimated miles of conduit to be deployed (Note: This mileage should be included in the buried fiber plant mileage)			
Total estimated miles of buried fiber plant to be deployed			
Total estimated miles of buried coaxial cable plant to be deployed			
Total estimated miles of aerial fiber (if fiber proposed) to be deployed			

Total estimated miles of aerial cable plant to be deployed			
Number of towers proposed to be deployed			
Number of towers to be collocated			
Number of towers new build			

Provide a narrative on the number of towers proposed to be deployed indicating if it would be a new build or colocation deployment. Additionally, indicate whether these towers will be owned by your organization or if you are planning to lease these towers from another entity.

Provide the following details that are applicable to the proposed project area for Part A and/or Part B based on the Applicant's selection of the proposed solution(s).	**A1**	**A2**	**B**
Average number of antennas per tower			
Average number of sectors per antenna			
Does the proposed project include MDU WIFI?	Yes ☐ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☐
Does the proposed project include drop and install costs?	Yes ☐ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☐
Does the proposed project include any facility/headend/POP costs?	Yes ☐ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☐
Does the proposed project include Middle-Mile infrastructure?	Yes ☐ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, provide the details for the following for the proposed middle-mile infrastructure in the project area:

Provide the details for Part A and/or Part B on the proposed middle-mile infrastructure in the project area:	**A1**	**A2**	**Part B**
Total estimated miles of buried fiber plant to be deployed			
Total estimated miles of aerial fiber plant to be deployed			
Total estimate other types of middle mile infrastructure			
Provider Geo location(s) of the middle-mile tie up points with the last-mile infrastructure below.			

2.4.3. Technology and Performance

Technology
Applicants can select all applicable proposed technology options for the project area for evaluating Part A: 100% Fiber based deployment and/or Part B - Fiber, reliable and alternative technologies options for proposing the most technically feasible and cost-effective option for broadband deployment in the selected project area.
For Priority Broadband Projects: From the list provided below, select all applicable network technologies and associated speeds that you propose to use for the delivery of Internet connectivity to the end-user premises. This includes the technology used for the actual connection to each individual premise for the project area. By selecting one of these technologies, your organization confirms a maximum latency of 100 ms.

Fiber Based Deployment:

☐ FCC Code 50: XGS-PON: Up to 10 Gbps download and 10 Gbps upload or greater	☐ FCC Code 50: G-PON: Up to 2.5 Gbps download and 1 Gbps upload
☐ FCC Code 50: XG-PON: Up to 10 Gbps download and 2.5 Gbps upload	☐ FCC Code 50: E-PON: Up to 1 Gbps symmetrical

Split Ratio for Deployment

☐ Split ratio: 1:32	☐ Split ratio: 1:64

If the same split ratio is not used across the deployment, specify the reason and the nodes that do not conform to it.

For Non-Priority Broadband Projects: From the list provided below, select all applicable network technology types that your organization proposes to use for the Non-Priority Broadband Serviceable Locations (BSLs) included in the project area.

DOCSIS Based Deployment

☐ FCC Code 40: Hybrid fiber coaxial (HFC) DOCSIS 4.0	☐ FCC Code 40: Hybrid fiber coaxial (HFC) DOCSIS 3.1
Specify total download speeds (Mbps)	<Applicant to provide>
Specify total upload speeds (Mbps)	<Applicant to provide>
Specify the maximum number of subscribers planned per service group	<Applicant to provide>

Wireless Based Deployment		
☐ FCC Code 70: Wireless using unlicensed spectrum 2	☐ Low Earth (LEO) satellite	
☐ FCC Code 71: Wireless using licensed spectrum 4	If using wireless licensed spectrum, list the spectrum bands licensed for your organization	\<Applicant to provide\>
Specify maximum download speeds per sector (Mbps)	\<Applicant to provide\>	
Specify maximum upload speeds per sector (Mbps)	\<Applicant to provide\>	
Specify the maximum number of subscribers planned per sector	\<Applicant to provide\>	
Specify the spectrum band(s) used in each project area	\<Applicant to provide\>	

2.5   Open Access Network Options

Open Access Network Options		
Confirm whether your organization intends to offer an open access network for the entire useful life of the network asset.	Yes ☐	No ☐
If yes, provide a narrative that details your organization's open access policy, including the provision of wholesale last-mile broadband service for the life of the subsidized network, on fair, equal, and neutral terms to all retail providers. In addition, provide information on whether your policy includes details on: • The number of fiber strands or conduits that will be identified as available for third-party access • The percentage of fiber strands out of the total count of fiber strands that will be identified as available for third-party access • Locations of the infrastructure that can be accessed by a third party • Whether in MDUs, property owners are given ownership of the internal wiring Additionally, Applicants will provide a brief description of their planned wholesale services and rates.		

2.6   Network Design

High-Level Network Design

Provide a high-level network design, showing a proposed network that will deliver broadband service meeting or exceeding the performance requirements to all locations served by the project. **(Attachment 2)**

Applicants must submit the following information:

- GIS files of the project area's initial network design. After the provisional award of the subgrant, Applicants will also be required to submit GIS files of their final network design.

    - Maps including proposed network path layer in GIS format. The path layer should distinguish between aerial and underground to the extent possible. Acceptable file types include PDF, SHP, KMZ/KML types.

    - Location points, points containing network electronics and splitters, and polygons outlining all proposed service areas at a node-level.

    - Identification of backhaul infrastructure and point(s) of internet connectivity.

- If applicable, Applicants should show their existing fiber or cable network routes within and in close proximity to the project area defined by the applicant. Include any applicable information about these existing assets, such as fiber density, available capacity, year of deployment, etc. It should also indicate the location of assets proposed for interconnection whether those assets are owned by the Applicant or not.

- If the project involves laying fiber-optic cables or conduits underground or along a roadway network, the network design should show the inclusion of preliminary interspersed conduit access points at regular and short intervals for interconnection by unaffiliated entities. Conduit access points and interconnections can be finalized once the grant is executed.

- If the project proposes to lay conduits, the network design should show the amount of excess conduit capacity and conduit access point intervals. Conduit access points and interconnections can be finalized once the grant is executed.

Confirm that the design and project plan submitted will be certified by a licensed professional engineer prior to signing the grant agreement.	☐

Confirm if the Professional Engineer will be licensed in the State of Arizona.	Yes ☐	No ☐

If no, briefly explain if you intend to include the BEAD program waiver on Professional Engineer Certification.

Outlier Locations

Does the project area include Outlier location(s)? Note: The ACA has a strong preference towards end-to-end fiber solutions where it is financially and operationally feasible. If the cost to serve an eligible location using an end-to-end fiber solution is higher than **1.5x**	Yes ☐	No ☐

multiple of the average cost to serve for the rest of the BSLs included in the project area, the Applicant should identify these locations as Outliers.		
If yes, provide a list of the BSL ID Number, address of the location(s), proposed technology, and cost to serve each Outlier in the project area in the "Outlier BSLs" tab of the Financial Workbook Template **(Attachment 8A – 100% Fiber based deployment and/or 8B – Fiber, reliable and alternative technologies)**		
Describe what makes the locations you identified as Outlier locations (e.g., geography, topography, remoteness, etc.).		
Provide a narrative on how your organization plans to reduce the cost of serving the identified Outlier locations as part of an alternative technology deployment.		

2.7 Scalability and Resiliency

Network Scalability and Resiliency		
Describe the redundancies in your network and power sources for at least 50% of the BEAD eligible locations included within the project area.		
Describe how the proposed network design ensures scalability to meet the connectivity needs of the project area throughout the lifespan of the network.		
Describe your organization's plan for retrofitting and/or hardening the existing broadband infrastructure assets to withstand potential damage and deterioration from climate threats. Provide a timeline for the expected start and completion of the network resiliency process.		
Confirm your commitment to burying of the fiber network within the project area for at least for 75% within the Project Area for Priority Projects	Yes ☐	No ☐
Confirm your commitment to burying of the fiber network within the project area for at least for 50% within the Project Area for Non-Priority Projects, if applicable	Yes ☐	No ☐

If no, briefly explain what percentage of the fiber network within the project area your organization is planning to construct underground or bury, if applicable.

Provide details of any other network resiliency measures that your organization plans to adopt.

Network Outages

Confirm that your organization will take appropriate measures to ensure that the network's outages do not exceed, on average, 48 hours over any 365-day period except in the case of natural disasters or other force majeure occurrences.	Yes ☐	No ☐

If no, provide an explanation as to why your organization is unable to meet this requirement.

Describe the network design and measures your organization is planning to take to address the requirement stated above. In the case of climate risks, provide details on the planned speeds of restoring service in case of the planned network outage.

Climate Assessment

Provide an initial assessment of potential climate risks impacting the proposed project.

Resilient Design: Provide plans to deploy resilient infrastructure that is less vulnerable to disaster damage. Describe how the proposed network design will withstand, respond to, and recover rapidly from disruptions caused by climate conditions. Designing climate-resilient infrastructure includes:

- Consideration of aerial and buried infrastructure.
- Elimination of single points of failure throughout the network.
- Design of self-healing network topologies.
- Design of network architecture that provides optical redundancy.

Provide details on the following network infrastructure resiliency and climate readiness measures:

1	**Extreme Weather-Related Risks:** Explain how your organization is planning to utilize established climate hazard identifications and processes to prepare for and actively manage extreme weather-related events during project deployment. The plan must include details regarding how these processes may be included in the description of risks and mitigation efforts. Additionally, include details on how your organization is planning to utilize existing plans, procedures, and processes related to addressing climate and weather-related risks for broadband infrastructure.
2	**System Capacity, Redundancy, and Back-Up Features:** Provide a plan to build and maintain critical infrastructure in areas of elevated risk that includes redundancy and additional hardening/resiliency. The design of broadband infrastructure should include back-up power options for vital operations and should be able to accommodate the full extremes of weather, temperatures, and other climate hazards. Additionally, include a plan for additional in-home or onsite back-up power resource inclusion.
3	**Technology Platform:** Provide details on the appropriate technology platform selected to withstand the identified climate threats, particularly considering extreme weather events.

2.8 National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)

Provide a high-level description of the site and the surrounding area (e.g., developed land versus open space; adjacent natural resources; and any protected lands) and any natural or manmade geographic, physical, or other factors such as climate, historic sites, wildlife, etc., that may pose a risk to the development of the project including details related to flood zones from Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) floodplain maps and impacted wetland or waterways from US Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) National Wetlands Inventory wetland maps**.**
Provide detailed plans on how the project will be implemented including outlining the applicant's approach to remaining compliant with the State Historical Preservation Act (SHPA), National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. part 4321 et seq.), National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) (54 U.S.C. part 300101 et seq.), and any other environmental or national historic preservation requirements. If the Applicant has a completed NEPA plan for this project, please upload it. **(Attachment 3)** Additionally, recommend feasible plans to minimize adverse environmental and historical preservation impacts.

2.9   Make Ready / Project Preparedness

Make Ready
Describe the make-ready / project preparedness activities that your organization has already completed or has planned for the proposed project (e.g., surveyed site, signed agreements, obtained necessary costs, prepared engineering designs, access to right of way, etc.). Include all prior activities, a complete description of the next steps for make-ready activity, and how project costs were estimated.

2.10   Timeline

Project Timeline – Deployment
Describe the project timeline, key milestones, and the number of months needed between the signing of the grant agreement and the delivery of service to the last eligible BSL included in the Project Area for Part A1: 100% Fiber based Deployment, A2: 100% Fiber based Deployment excluding Outliers and/or B: Fiber, Reliable, and Alternative Technologies, if applicable.

Project Schedule
Provide a detailed project timeline with key implementation phases and milestones for 25%, 50%, 75%, and 100% completion. This may include stages such as contracting, engineering, pole licensing, make-ready, permitting, construction, connections, etc. Each milestone represents a specific stage of the project's completion and the availability of service to the percentage of eligible BSLs in the project area. The timeline should include a start date and expected end date for all phases. Project Schedule template can be found on the application portable. **(Attachment 4A - 100% Fiber based deployment and/or Attachment 4B-Fiber, reliable, and alternative technologies deployment,** if applicable**)**
Applicant can provide additional information related to the project schedule below.

Confirm that your organization will deploy the planned broadband network and begin providing services to each customer that desires broadband service within the project area not later than four (4) years after the date on which the subgrantee receives the subgrant from ACA.	Yes ☐	No ☐

2.11   Barrier and Permitting Requirements

The BEAD program requires Applicants to identify and detail all potential barriers and permits necessary for the deployment of broadband infrastructure. These may include critical land crossings and permits on local, state, tribal, and federal lands**.** Identify any known critical crossings/permits related to this project. Select all that apply from the list below:

State of Arizona Managed Lands

☐ Arizona Department of Transportation Managed Rights of Way

☐ Arizona Department of Environmental Quality

☐ Arizona Department of Water Resources

☐ Arizona State Land Department

☐ Arizona State Parks Board

☐ Game and Fish Department

☐ Bridge Crossings

☐ Drain Crossings

☐ Other Crossings (if selected – please explain) _____

Federal Government Managed Lands

☐ US Army Corps of Engineers Managed Properties	☐ US Forest Service Managed Lands
☐ Department of the Interior Managed Lands	☐ Railroad Crossings

☐ Tribal Lands	☐ Wetland Crossings	☐ Significant Water Crossings

Tribal Nations Managed Lands

☐ Tribal Nations Managed Rights of Way

☐ Bridge Crossings

☐ Drain Crossings

☐ Other Crossings (if selected – please explain) _____

Local Government Managed Lands

☐ Local Government Managed Rights of Way

☐ Bridge Crossings

☐ Drain Crossings

☐ Other Crossings (if selected – please explain) _____

Other Crossings/Permitting

Provide details of any other crossings/permits not listed above.

Barrier Identification
Provide a description of the critical crossings/permits related to this project. Additionally, describe any steps or plans that your organization has undertaken with regards to the permitting processes for the identified critical crossings and/or permits.
Provide a description of any concerns or issues with the critical crossings/permits related to this project.
Provide a narrative on any supply chain issues and describe your plan to overcome them.
Provide a narrative on any workforce related issues that could potentially delay the project deployment and describe your plan to overcome them.
Provide a description of potential concerns/issues related to inclement weather that may impact the timeline of this project.
Describe any other barriers or concerns that may impact the timeline of this project.

2.12   Project Financials

Confirm that the Applicant will use grant funds as specified in the BEAD NOFO.	Yes ☐	No ☐
Letter of Credit (LOC)		

Note: Please note that Applicants do not need to provide the actual Letter of Credit or the performance bond at the Pre-registration or Application phase. That will be required later in the process prior to final award, based on the actual amount to be awarded.

At this Project Application phase, an Applicant must submit a commitment to provide the Letter of Credit or performance bond, up to a specified dollar amount.

The commitment to provide a Letter of Credit must be a letter from an eligible bank or from a credit union that is insured by the FDIC and have a Weiss Bank Safety Rating of B- or higher, committing to provide such a Letter of Credit if an award is made, including reference to the terms of the Model Letter of Credit and a maximum amount for the Letter of Credit that the institution would be willing to provide.

The commitment to provide a performance bond must be a letter from a company holding a certificate of authority as an acceptable surety on federal bonds, as identified in the Department of Treasury Circular 570 committing to issue a Performance Bond reflecting the maximum bonding value that the company is willing to provide.

The submission requirements and options for a commitment letter for an LOC or a surety letter for a performance bond to be provided by the Applicants as part of this Project Application are explained below:

☐ If opting for obtaining a bank LOC as per the BEAD NOFO, confirm that your organization will obtain and submit a Letter of Credit from a bank on a per project basis in the amount of 25% of the subaward prior to the signing the grant agreement.

If confirmed, submit a letter from a bank meeting the eligibility requirements consistent with those set forth in 47 C.F.R. § 54.804(c)(2) committing to issue an irrevocable standby letter of credit in a value of no less than 25 percent of the subaward amount. **(Attachment 5)**

☐ Confirm that your organization will also submit an opinion letter from legal counsel clearly stating, subject only to customary assumptions, limitations, and qualifications, that in a proceeding under Title 11 of the United States Code, 11 U.S.C. § 101 et seq. (the "Bankruptcy Code"), the bankruptcy court would not treat the letter of credit or proceeds of the letter of credit as property of the winning Subgrantee's bankruptcy estate under Section 541 of the Bankruptcy Code prior to signing the grant agreement.

Provide any additional information below as necessary.

Letter of Credit Waiver Options

BEAD originally mandated that states require deployment subgrantee to obtain a Letter of Credit from an eligible bank valued at least 25% of an award's amount. However, the NTIA subsequently issued a Notice of Programmatic Waiver allowing states to ease this requirement. The Notice provided four different options for extending additional flexibility to subgrantees.

• Option # 1 - LOC from a Credit Union: Subgrantee may obtain the Letter of Credit from a credit union substantially similar to the model letter of credit established by the FCC in connection with the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF). Subgrantees can use any United States credit union that:

   (a) is insured by the National Credit Union Administration; and

   (b) has a credit union safety rating issued by Weiss of B− or better

• Option # 2 - Performance Bond: Subgrantee may obtain a qualified performance bond instead of obtaining a Letter of Credit from a company holding a certificate of authority as an acceptable surety on federal bonds as identified in the Department of Treasury Circular 570 in a value of no less than 100 percent of the subaward amount.

- Option # 3 - Reduction of LOC upon completion of project milestones: Subgrantee may step down the amount of the Letter of Credit or performance bond based on progress toward completion of project milestones.

- Option # 4 - Alternative initial 10% LOC or 10% Performance Bond: Subgrantee may obtain a Letter of Credit or performance bond for only 10% of the subaward amount if:

  o ACA issues funding on a reimbursable basis;

  o The reimbursement for periods of no more than six months; and

  o The subgrantee commits to maintain a letter of credit or performance bond in the amount of 10% of the subaward until it has demonstrated to satisfaction of ACA that it has completed the buildout of 100 percent of locations to be served by the project or until the period of performance of the subaward has ended, whichever occurs first.

ACA is adopting Options # 1, # 2, and # 4 for its implementation of BEAD Program (i.e., Option # 3 is NOT allowed) as these options provide more flexibility to subgrantee in the amount of the Letter of Credit or Performance Bond.

Note: If applying for an LOC waiver, Applicants can select one of the below options (Option # 1, # 2, or # 4) for each project area included in the Project Application as applicable.

Option # 1: Commitment Letter for Issuance of Letter of Credit from a Credit Union

☐ Confirm that your organization will obtain and submit a Letter of Credit on a per project basis in the amount of 25% of the subaward prior to the final award from a credit union.

☐ Confirm that the Letter of Credit from a credit union will be substantially similar to the model letter of credit established by the FCC in connection with the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF) and will use any United States credit union that is insured by the National Credit Union Administration; and has a credit union safety rating issued by Weiss of B− or better.

If confirmed, submit a commitment letter from the credit union committing to issue an LOC to the subgrantee valued at no less than 25% of the subaward amount prior to signing the grant agreement. **(Attachment 5)**

☐ Confirm that your organization will also submit an opinion letter from legal counsel clearly stating, subject only to customary assumptions, limitations, and qualifications, that in a proceeding under Title 11 of the United States Code, 11 U.S.C. § 101 et seq. (the "Bankruptcy Code"), the bankruptcy court would not treat the letter of credit or proceeds of the letter of credit as property of the winning Subgrantee's bankruptcy estate under Section 541 of the Bankruptcy Code prior to signing the grant agreement.

Provide any additional information below as necessary.

Option # 2: Surety Letter for Issuance of Performance Bond

☐ Confirm that your organization will provide a Performance Bond equal to 100% of the BEAD subaward amount in lieu of a Letter of Credit on a per project basis, acceptable in all respects to ACA prior to signing of the grant agreement.

☐ Confirm that Performance Bond will be issued by a company holding a certificate of authority as an acceptable surety on federal bonds, as identified in the Department of Treasury Circular 570.

If confirmed, submit a letter from an acceptable surety company committing to issue a Performance Bond to the prospective subgrantee. The letter must reflect the bonding amount equal to the total subaward **(Attachment 6)**

Provide any additional information below as necessary.

Option # 4: Alternative Initial LOC or Performance Bond

☐ Confirm that your organization commits to maintain a letter of credit or performance bond in the amount of 10% of the subaward until it has demonstrated to satisfaction of the ACA that it has completed the buildout of 100% of locations to be served by the project or until the period of performance of the subaward has ended, whichever occurs first.

If confirmed, submit a letter from a bank committing to issue an irrevocable standby Letter of Credit that meets the program eligibility requirements consistent with those set forth in 47 C.F.R. § 54.804(c)(2). This should be valued at no less than 10% of the subaward amount. **(Attachment 5 – for LOC)**; or

If confirmed, submit a letter from an acceptable surety company committing to issue Performance Bond to the prospective subgrantee. The letter must reflect bonding amount equal to at least 10% of the subaward for the project. **(Attachment 6 – for Performance Bond)**.

Provide any additional information below as necessary.

Project Match – Part A1: 100% Fiber Based Deployment (Including CAIs and Outliers)

Provide summary information about project funding sources in the table below for Part A1-100% Fiber based deployment. Arizona will regard all cash, loans, federal grants, and state grants as cash match.

Category	Total
Total Project Cost	$
Total Grant Amount Requested	$
Total Match Amount	$
Total Match Percentage (Must be Min. of 25% w/o waiver)	%

Matching Fund Details

Provide details of matching funds in the table below and submit evidence of the committed matching funds (e.g., letter from bank stating the loan amount) for Part A1-100% Fiber based deployment. ACA will regard all cash, loans, federal grants, and state grants as cash match. **(Attachment 7-A1)**

Match Sources Type	Amount	Secured (Yes / No)
1. Cash	$	Y/N
2. Loan(s)	$	Y/N
3. Federal Grant	$	Y/N
4. In-Kind	$	Y/N

Matching Waiver Request (Conditional)

Does your project area include high-cost areas as defined by NTIA and listed in the following link High-Cost Areas.xlsx?	Yes ☐	No ☐
Is your organization planning to apply for a match waiver?	Yes ☐	No ☐

Provide a description of the special circumstances underlying the reason it is not feasible to provide the minimum match requirement of 25% of the project cost. Document any efforts made to obtain matching fund commitments for the project from capital funding sources and explain how a waiver would serve the public interest and advance the goals of the BEAD Program. Note that match waivers are not guaranteed, and the ACA may request additional information to assist in making its determination.

Project Match – Part A2: 100% Fiber Based Deployment (Including CAIs but excluding Outliers)

Provide summary information about project funding sources in the table below for Part A2-100% Fiber based deployment excluding outliers. Arizona will regard all cash, loans, federal grants, and state grants as cash match.

Category	Total
Total Project Cost	$
Total Grant Amount Requested	$
Total Match Amount	$
Total Match Percentage (Must be Min. of 25% w/o waiver)	%

Matching Fund Details

Provide details of matching funds in the table below and submit evidence of the committed matching funds (e.g., letter from bank stating the loan amount) for Part A2-100% Fiber based deployment. ACA will regard all cash, loans, federal grants, and state grants as cash match. **(Attachment 7-A2)**

Match Sources Type	Amount	Secured (Yes / No)
Cash	$	Y/N
Loan(s)	$	Y/N
Federal Grant	$	Y/N
In-Kind	$	Y/N

Matching Waiver Request (Conditional)

Does your project area include high-cost areas as defined by NTIA and listed in the following link High-Cost Areas.xlsx ?	Yes ☐	No ☐
Is your organization planning to apply for a match waiver?	Yes ☐	No ☐

Provide a description of the special circumstances underlying the reason it is not feasible to provide the minimum match requirement of 25% of the project cost. Document any efforts made to obtain matching fund commitments for the project from capital funding sources and explain how a waiver would serve the public interest and advance the goals of the BEAD Program. Note that match waivers are not guaranteed, and the ACA may request additional information to assist in making its determination.

Project Match – Part B: Fiber, Reliable and Alternative Technologies

Provide summary information about project funding sources in the table below for Part B- Fiber, reliable and alternative technologies deployment. Arizona will regard all cash, loans, federal grants, and state grants as cash match.

Category	Total
Total Project Cost	$
Total Grant Amount Requested	$
Total Match Amount	$
Total Match Percentage (Must be Min. of 25% w/o waiver)	%

Matching Fund Details

Provide details of matching funds in the table below and submit evidence of the committed matching funds (e.g., letter from bank stating the loan amount) for Part B-Fiber, reliable and alternative technologies deployment. ACA will regard all cash, loans, federal grants, and state grants as cash match. **(Attachment 7 B)**

Match Sources Type	Amount	Secured (Yes / No)
Cash	$	Y/N
Loan(s)	$	Y/N
Federal Grant	$	Y/N
In-Kind	$	Y/N

Matching Waiver Request (Conditional)

Does your project area include high-cost areas as defined by NTIA and listed in the following link High-Cost Areas.xlsx ?	Yes ☐	No ☐
Is your organization planning to apply for a match waiver?	Yes ☐	No ☐

Provide a description of the special circumstances underlying the reason it is not feasible to provide the minimum match requirement of 25% of the project cost. Document any efforts made to obtain matching fund commitments for the project from capital funding sources and explain how a waiver would serve the public interest and advance the goals of the BEAD Program. Note that match waivers are not guaranteed, and the ACA may request additional information to assist in making its determination.

Project Cost Estimation

Applicants are required to provide project cost details to serve each eligible BSL in the project area for the technology solution(s) they are proposing for Part A and/or Part B:

- Part A: 100% Fiber based deployment
- Part B: Fiber, reliable and alternative technologies

ACA encourages Applicants to provide estimations for both parts A and B to evaluate and prioritize all Project Applications for proposing the most technically feasible and cost-effective solution for effective broadband deployment through the BEAD program.

PART A – 100% Fiber Based Deployment

Provide the average cost to serve per location using fiber technology for all unserved and underserved BSLs:

Project Area	Number of BSLs to be Served	Average Cost to Serve per BSL with Fiber Technology	Total Cost to Serve BSLs included in the Project Area

<auto populated>	<auto populated>	$	$ <auto calculated>

Provide the average cost to serve per CAI location using fiber technology in the Project Area.

Project Area	Number of CAIs to be Served	Average Cost to Serve per CAI with fiber technology	Total Cost to Serve CAIs included in the Project Area
<auto populated>	<auto populated>	$	$ <auto calculated>

Provide the average cost to serve per location using fiber technology for Outliers in the Project Area:

Project Area	Number of Outliers proposed to be served	Average Cost to Serve per Outlier with Fiber Technology	Total Cost to Serve Outliers included in the Project Area
<auto populated>	<Applicant to Enter>	$	$ <auto calculated>

Part A1: Total Project Costs for 100% Fiber Based Deployment (Including CAIs and Outliers)	$ <auto calculated>
Part A2: Total Project Costs for 100% Fiber Based Deployment (Including CAIs but excluding Outliers)	$ <auto calculated>

PART B – Fiber, Reliable and Alternative Technologies

If choosing to use a mix of fiber, reliable and/or alternative technologies for select eligible BSLs, please provide the following inputs:

Fiber based deployment

The average cost to serve per location for select fiber only BSLs and CAIs

Project Area	Number of BSLs to be Served	Technology Type	Average cost to Serve per BSL with Fiber Technology	Total Cost to Serve the project area
<auto populated>	<Applicant to Enter>	Fiber Based Deployment	$	$ <auto calculated>
Project Area	**Number of CAIs to be Served**	**Technology Type**	**Average cost to Serve per CAI with**	**Total Cost to Serve the Project Area**

			Fiber Technology	
<auto populated>	<Applicant to Enter>	Fiber Based Deployment	$	$ <auto calculated>
Total Costs for Fiber Based Deployment BSLs and CAIs				$ <auto calculated>

Reliable/alternative technologies deployment

If choosing reliable and/or alternative technologies for select eligible BSLs, please provide the average cost to serve per BSL with a reliable and/or alternative technology:

Project Area	**Number of BSLs to be Served with Reliable /Alternative Technology**	**Technology Type**	**Average cost to Serve per BSL with Reliable / Alternative Technology**	**Total Cost to Serve the Project Area**
<auto populated>	<Applicant to Enter>	<Dropdown List>	$	$ <auto calculated>
<auto populated>	<Applicant to Enter>	<Dropdown List>	$	$ <auto calculated>
<auto populated>	<Applicant to Enter>	<Dropdown List>	$	$ <auto calculated>
<auto populated>	<Applicant to Enter>	<Dropdown List>	$	$ <auto calculated>

If your project includes High-Cost BSLs / Outliers included in the Project Area, please provide the average cost to serve per High-cost/Outlier BSL with a reliable and/or alternative technology

Project Area	**Number of High Cost BSLs/Outliers proposed to be Served with Reliable /Alternative Technology**	**Technology Type**	**Average cost to Serve per BSL with Reliable / Alternative Technology**	**Total Cost to Serve the Project Area**
<auto populated>	<Applicant to Enter>	<Dropdown List>	$	$ <auto calculated>

<auto populated>	<Applicant to Enter>	<Dropdown List>	$	$ <auto calculated>
Total Costs for Reliable/ Alternative Technologies Deployment BSLs				$ <auto calculated>
Total Project Cost - Fiber, Reliable, and Alternative Technologies for the Project Area				$ <auto calculated>

Project Cost Summary – 100% Fiber Based and Fiber, Reliable, and Alternative Technologies		
Project Cost (Includes all BSLs + # of CAIs to be Served by the Applicant)	**Avg cost per BSL**	**Total Cost for the Project Area**
A1: 100% Fiber Based Deployment for the Project Area	$<auto calculated>	$<auto calculated>
A2: 100% Fiber Based Deployment for the Project Area Excluding Outliers	$<auto calculated>	$<auto calculated>
B: Total Project Cost - Fiber, Reliable, and Alternative Technologies for the Project Area	$<auto calculated>	$<auto calculated>

☐ Confirm that the project cost information presented above is accurate for the project area. Note that ACA requires that the project cost provided should include all costs, and that the project cost should not be subject to any conditions. You can provide any additional information, as necessary, below.

Project Financials Workbook (Detailed information intake)

Populate and upload the Project Financials excel workbook, which can be found in <link> and will include detailed information covering: **(Attachment 8A – 100% Fiber based deployment and/or Attachment 8B – Fiber, reliable and alternative technologies deployment)**

- High-level project budget information
- Capital costs
- Operating costs
- List of outliers, proposed technologies, and cost to serve
- List of CAIs, proposed technologies, and cost to serve
- Details on funding sources and matching
- Capital investment schedule
  - Demonstrates that the Applicant will achieve complete build-out and service initiation within four years of the final award
- Project pro forma financials & cashflow

- The duration should be for not less than a 10-year period, or the length of any expected debt or capital leases, whichever is longer.
- Identify any periods during which the project is expected to have a net operating revenue loss and identify the expected source of funds to cover such losses.
- Demonstrate the availability of funds to cover all project costs exceeding the grant amount, along with the ongoing financial capacity to meet eligible project expenses.
- Include the following:
  - Revenue & Operating Expenses
  - Net Operating Revenue
  - Net Income
  - Unlevered and Levered Free Cash Flows
  - Other Capital Sources
  - Net Cash

Provide a budget narrative that explains the assumptions used in the pro forma and any expected financial challenges.

Provide any additional related analyses that establish the sustainability of the proposed project.

2.13   Project Workforce

Equitable Workforce Development and Job Quality

Provide a narrative demonstrating your commitment to investing appropriately in cultivating a skilled and diverse workforce to fulfill job requirements and meet the infrastructure buildout timelines submitted in the Project Application. In the narrative:

- Discuss your organization's efforts towards the development of a suitably skilled workforce by providing or supporting employees' attainment of occupational training, certification, and licensure.

- Provide details of training partnerships with local providers to establish in-house training programs that give your employees industry-specific knowledge and skills.

- Provide details regarding the creation of equitable on-ramps to broadband-related jobs by promoting partnerships with workforce boards, training partners, labor and community organizations, or participation in employer-led collaboratives.

- Discuss your approach to providing diverse job opportunities and hiring from underrepresented groups through activities such as participating in diversity job fairs, offering internships to students from diverse backgrounds, creating training programs to prepare these individuals for roles in the broadband industry, and/or publicly reporting workforce demographic data.

Fair Labor and Employment Laws

Provide the following information related to fair labor practices and highly skilled workforce. It is important to note that these questions may have already been answered during the preregistration phase. If not answered at the preregistration phase, then these questions are project-specific and must be answered as part of the current Project Application phase.

Have you provided the following information as part of the Pre-registration Application?	Yes ☐	No ☐

If not submitted during the preregistration phase, certify your organization's compliance with federal labor and employment laws. Submit documented and signed evidence of compliance with federal and State labor and employment laws for the past three years by an Officer/Director-level employee of the entity (e.g., President, Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer, or equivalent position). It should also certify that that the Applicant and its contractors or subcontractors will ensure a track record of compliance with federal labor and employment laws.

If a new provider, the Applicant must commit to robust labor and employment standards and protections, including compliance with federal labor and employment laws for BEAD-funded Projects in the future.

(Attachment 9)

Disclose any non-compliance with federal and State labor and employment laws by your organization over the past three years. This record should also describe the corrective steps taken to avoid similar incidents and ensure future compliance.

Select the appropriate response that best relates to your organization and the proposed project.

Are you planning to use contractors or subcontractors?

☐ Yes, our organization is planning to use contractors or subcontractors related to this Project Application.

☐ No, our organization is not planning to use contractors or subcontractors related to this Project Application.

☐ Our organization answered this question at the preregistration phase as it is applicable to all of our organization's BEAD projects for the state of Arizona.

If yes, certify your contractors and/or subcontractor's compliance with federal and/or state labor and employment laws, or any other applicable labor and employment laws for the past three years. The certification must be provided by an Officer/Director-level employee of the entity.

(Attachment 10)

If using contractors or sub-contractors, disclose any non-compliance with federal and State labor and employment laws by your organization over the past three years. This record should also describe the corrective steps taken to avoid similar incidents and ensure future compliance.

Certify that the Applicant has disclosed any instances in which it or its contractors or subcontractors have been found to have violated laws such as the Occupational Safety and Health Act, the Fair Labor Standards Act, or any other applicable labor and employment laws for the preceding three years.	☐

Submit your organization's plan, along with plans from affiliated contractors or subcontractors, on monitoring and ensuring adherence to labor and employment laws. The plan should also include steps for internal audits and investigations to identify and correct any potential violations of labor rules and regulations, maintaining records of worker classifications, hours worked, wages earned, and other relevant employment documentation, as well as addressing any employee complaints or grievances.

Workforce Arrangement

Confirm if your organization plans to use a directly employed workforce to perform the work.	Yes ☐	No ☐

If yes, provide a narrative outlining the nature of the workforce arrangement.

Confirm if your organization plans to use a subcontracted workforce to perform work.	Yes ☐	No ☐

If yes, provide a narrative outlining the nature of the workforce arrangement.

Confirm if your organization plans to use a combination of both a directly employed workforce and a subcontracted workforce to perform work.	Yes ☐	No ☐

If yes, provide a narrative outlining the nature of your workforce arrangement and the percentage breakdown of your organization's workforce arrangement, including the percentage of directly employed workforce and the percentage of subcontracted workforce.

Provide comprehensive details about the projected wage structures for employees, contractors, or subcontractors who will work directly on the construction of BEAD-funded network deployment projects.

Provide information on your organization's labor and employment practices regarding wage, fringe benefits, and overtime payments, as well as ongoing verification for the duration of the projects.

Outline the measures your organization will take to ensure the implementation of workplace safety committees that are authorized to raise health and safety concerns in connection with the delivery of deployment project(s).

Appropriately Compensated Workforce

Option # 1: Confirm that your organization will comply with the Davis-Bacon Act.	Yes ☐	No ☐

If yes, provide a certification stating that, for the relevant project, all laborers and mechanics employed by contractors and subcontractors in the performance of such project are paid wages at rates no less than those prevailing, as determined by the U.S. Secretary of Labor in accordance with subchapter IV of chapter 31 of title 40, United States Code (commonly known as the "Davis-Bacon Act"). These rates should align with those for corresponding classes of laborers and mechanics employed on projects of a similar character to the contract work in the civil subdivision of the State (or the District of Columbia) where the work is to be performed. **(Attachment 11)**

Option # 2: Confirm that your organization will comply with the State Prevailing Wage.	Yes ☐	No ☐

If yes, provide a certification stating that, for the relevant project, all laborers and mechanics employed by contractors and subcontractors in the performance of such project are paid wages at rates no less than those prevailing for the corresponding classes of laborers and mechanics employed on projects of a similar character to the contract work in the civil subdivision of the State of Arizona where the work is to be performed. These rates should be determined by the state prevailing wage. **(Attachment 12)**

Option # 3: If you do not certify compliance with option 1 - Davis-Bacon or option 2 - State Prevailing Wage, confirm that your organization will provide a Project Employment and Local Impact Report at the singing of the grant agreement.	Yes ☐	No ☐

If yes, provide a certification that a Project Employment and Local Impact Report that includes the following will be provided prior to signing the grant agreement: **(Attachment 13)**

- The number of contractors and subcontractors working on the project.

- The number of workers on the project hired directly and through a third party.

- The wages and benefits of workers on the project by classification.

- Whether or not those wages are at rates lower than those prevailing.

Based on the option selected above, provide a comprehensive plan detailing your organization's contractors', and subcontractors' strategies to comply with applicable wage laws, pay prevailing wages and benefits, and collect the required certified payrolls.

Project Labor Agreements

Confirm if the proposed project will include a project labor agreement, meaning a pre-hire collective bargaining agreement consistent with section 8(f) of the National Labor Relations Act (29 U.S.C 158(f)) that outlines your dedication to employing project labor agreements.	Yes ☐	No ☐

If yes, provide a comprehensive and transparent plan, emphasizing your commitment to upholding the terms of the project labor agreements.

If no, provide a justification for your organization's decision to exclude a project labor agreement from the project and complete the Project Continuity Plan section of this Project Application.

Local Hire Provisions

Confirm whether the project will prioritize hiring locally.	Yes ☐	No ☐

If yes, provide a narrative on your organization's approach to prioritizing local hires for the proposed project.

Union Neutrality

Submit a written policy on union neutrality. **(Attachment 14)**

Confirm that your organization does not engage in tactics such as intimidation, retaliation, or coercion against employees who wish to form or join a union.	Yes ☐	No ☐

Labor Peace Agreements

Confirm if your organization commits to using labor peace agreements to ensure the BEAD deployment project schedule remains on track.	Yes ☐	No ☐

If yes, provide the following:

1. Provide details on how your organization plans to address labor peace agreements.

2. Provide a plan or strategy outlining how your organization intends to maintain labor peace throughout the project duration. This plan may include details on how you intend to foster a

positive labor-management relationship, how you will respond to any labor disputes, and how you will ensure compliance with any applicable labor laws or regulations.

Appropriately Skilled Workforce

Provide plans that will be undertaken by your organization, contractors and subcontractors regarding the use of an appropriately skilled workforce, including plans to prioritize the employment of workers through training programs such as joint labor-management training programs or Registered Apprenticeships. These plans should have a particular focus on groups that have historically been underrepresented.

Education and Training Providers: Provide plans to partner with local educational institutions, vocational training centers, and online learning platforms to develop and deliver industry-specific curricula.

Registered Apprenticeships and Pre-Apprenticeships: Provide plans to promote Registered Apprenticeships and pre-apprenticeships integrated with other high-quality work-based learning programs.

Engagement with Employers and Unions: Provide plans to coordinate with employers and unions to tailor training to industry needs. The plan must include a comprehensive training framework, measures to ensure that members of the workforce have industry-recognized training and credentials, a holistic approach to recruitment and job creation, and plans to partner with various organizations.

Provide plans to promote a culture that prioritizes workforce safety and effectiveness within your organization, along with the affiliated subcontractors.

Appropriately Credentialed Workforce

Credential Verification Process: Provide plans regarding the verification of qualifications, certifications, and licenses of your workforce. This is to ensure that the BEAD workforce possesses the necessary skills.

Credential Passport System: Confirm if your organization plans to introduce a system that details each worker's skills, qualifications, and experience.	Yes ☐	No ☐

If yes, provide details on the planned credential passport system.
Recognition of Prior Learning: Provide plans that highlight the integration of workers' previous work experience, skills, and experiences that were obtained outside of formal education.

Misclassification of Workers

Provide a description of the steps taken to prevent the misclassification of workers, including detailed information about your organization's workforce classification methodologies.

Unionized Workforce

Confirm if your organization's, contractor's, or subcontractor's workforce is unionized.	Yes ☐	No ☐
If no, provide the following details for the non-unionized workforce and complete the Project Continuity Plan section:		

Workforce Plan

Job Titles & Workforce Size: Provide a clear breakdown of job roles and the corresponding full-time equivalent (FTE) positions required for the project. This requirement includes roles within any contractor or subcontractor that your organization employs.
Additionally, for each job title required to carry out the proposed work (including contractors and subcontractors), the details should include:
Provide details on any on-the-job training programs your organization offers or requires for each position related to the proposed work. This information should also include any relevant certification or licensure requirements, such as OSHA 10, OSHA 30, confined space, traffic control, or other applicable training. Additionally, outline the plans to ensure that all workers obtain the necessary certifications for their specific positions.
Provide a description of the professional certifications in place and any in-house training programs offered or required to guarantee the project deployment is completed to a high standard. Also, articulate any in-house training programs your organization plans to offer.

Provide details on any procurement and retention methods for Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs), Women's Business Enterprises (WBEs), and Local Small Businesses (LSBs) in the workforce plan.

Additionally, if known, provide certification of MBE/WBE/LSB partners participating in the BEAD funding project. **(Attachment 15)**

Project Continuity Plan

Upload your organization's Project Workforce Continuity Plan, which should be consistent with the requirements included in the BEAD NOFO. **(Attachment 16).** This includes:

- Steps taken and to be taken to ensure the project maintains a ready supply of appropriately skilled and unskilled labor. This is to guarantee competent completion of construction throughout the life of the project (as required in Section IV.C.1.e). This should include a description of any required professional certifications and/or in-house training, registered apprenticeships, labor-management partnership training programs, and partnerships with entities like unions, community colleges, or community-based groups.

- Steps taken and to be taken to minimize risks of labor disputes and disruptions that could jeopardize the timeliness and cost-effectiveness of the project.

- Steps taken and to be taken to ensure a safe and healthy workplace, avoiding delays and costs associated with workplace illnesses, injuries, and fatalities. This should include descriptions of safety training, certification, and/or licensure requirements for all relevant workers (e.g., OSHA 10, OSHA 30, confined space, traffic control, or other training required for workers employed by contractors). It should also encompass issues raised by workplace safety committees and their resolution.

- The name of any subcontracted entity performing work on the project, and the total number of workers employed by each such entity, disaggregated by job title; and

- Steps taken and to be taken to ensure that workers on the project receive wages and benefits sufficient to secure an appropriately skilled workforce in the context of the local or regional labor market.

2.14   Local Support and Community Engagement

Local and Tribal Authorities Consultation		
Confirm that your organization has consulted with Local government entities and Tribal Authorities regarding your qualifications and plans within the project area.	Yes ☐	No ☐

Letter of Support		
Confirm that your organization has received a letter of support from Local and Tribal Governments.	Yes ☐	No ☐
If yes, provide the letters of support received and confirm that it includes any financial commitments from the relevant Local or Tribal Government, diversity, any commitments made by the relevant Local or Tribal Government(s) (including direct or in-kind commitments like right of way access or permitting assistance), and recognition of the Applicant's coordination efforts in the community through the letter(s) of support. Provide the letter(s) of support as an attachment. **(Attachment 17)**	Yes ☐	No ☐

Engagement Plan
Provide your engagement plan to support coordination with Local and Tribal Communities in the BEAD Program. This plan should include awareness campaigns, integration with the Digital Navigator program, organization of meetings, development of outreach materials, and facilitation of community workshops, among other coordination activities. Provide Engagement Plan(s) as an attachment. **(Attachment 18)**

2.15   Affordability

For Priority Projects		
Provide details of the most affordable total price for 1 Gbps symmetrical service in the project area for five years after the project completion. The price must include all recurring charges to subscribers, including all taxes, fees and charges imposed on the subscriber, and detail all non-recurring fees.		
Minimum Speed	**Monthly Cost**	**Non-recurring Fees**
1 Gbps/1Gbps (Priority Broadband Project)	$	
For Non-Priority Projects		
Provide details of the most affordable total price for the 100/20 Mbps service in the project area for five years after project completion. The price must include all recurring charges to subscribers, including all taxes, fees, and charges imposed on the subscriber, and detail all non-recurring fees.		
Minimum Speed	**Monthly Cost**	**Non-recurring Fees**
100 Mbps/20 Mbps	$	
Low-Cost Broadband Service Option		

Confirm participation in any successor broadband subsidy programs or any future programs, which will allow eligible subscribers to apply the subsidy to the proposed service option.	Yes ☐	No ☐
Confirm that at least one low-cost broadband service option will be provided for the entire service territory of the proposed project.	Yes ☐	No ☐
Confirm that end users are allowed to apply the Lifeline subsidy to the service price.	Yes ☐	No ☐
Confirm that prospective consumers will be informed of the existence of the Lifeline program benefits and the process of enrollment and application for the subsidies.	Yes ☐	No ☐

Describe or upload details of an existing or proposed low-cost broadband service plan. The details should explain subscriber qualifications, speed, latency, cost, and any available subsidies for subscribers. **(Attachment 19)**

Provide details of your organization's approach to notifying each address in the proposed project area that a low-cost plan and federal subsidies will be available upon project completion (e.g., online, print, radio, etc.).

Furthermore, outline your marketing plans and accompanying budget to educate potential and existing qualifying consumers about low-cost plans and federal subsidies. Include any information on equitable considerations, such as how you plan to communicate with consumers who may not speak English.

Service Characteristics Requirements

Confirm that the service will consistently and reliably provide download speeds of at least 100 Mbps and upload speeds of at least 20 Mbps.	Yes ☐	No ☐
Confirm that the service will provide typical latency measurements of no more than 100 milliseconds.	Yes ☐	No ☐
Confirm that the service is not subject to data caps, surcharges, or usage-based throttling, and adheres only to the same acceptable use policies that apply to all other broadband internet access service plans offered to home subscribers.	Yes ☐	No ☐
Confirm that the service will be installed within 10 calendar days of a service request once the network is operational.	Yes ☐	No ☐

Ability to Upgrade

Confirm that, in the event your organization later offers a low-cost plan with higher downstream and/or upstream speeds, you will allow eligible subscribers who are already subscribed to a low-cost broadband service option to upgrade to the new low-cost offering at no cost.	Yes ☐	No ☐
If yes, provide details of the plans to upgrade the low-cost broadband service option.		
Confirm that the low-cost monthly service plan is priced at $30, which encompasses all costs and additional charges.	Yes ☐	No ☐
If not, confirm your application for a waiver from the ACA, and that the value of the low-cost plan included in the waiver request does not exceed $50.	Yes ☐	No ☐

Waiver Requirements

Justification for the Waiver: Provide specific reasons and evidence for requesting a waiver, such as data, research, or assessments that support the request. **(Attachment 20)**		
Legal and Regulatory Compliance: Confirm that request aligns with applicable laws, regulations, and policies.	Yes ☐	No ☐
Public Interest and Benefit: Describe the public interest or community benefit that would result from granting the waiver. Provide an explanation of how the waiver aligns with broader policy goals and societal needs.		
Cost-Benefit Analysis: Conduct and provide a cost-benefit analysis to demonstrate that the benefits of granting the waiver outweigh any potential drawbacks.		

Middle Class Affordability

Confirm that the broadband infrastructure to be deployed will offer a middle-class service option throughout the useful life of the network assets.	Yes ☐	No ☐
Confirm that prospective customers will be informed of the option by making the plan information publicly available and easily accessible.	Yes ☐	No ☐
Confirm that a middle-class service option will be available at locations within the area(s) awarded under the BEAD Program.	Yes ☐	No ☐

2.16 Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs)/ Women's Business Enterprises (WBEs)/ Labor Surplus Firms Inclusion

Provide detailed narratives about your organization's plan to address the six requirements for contracting with M/WBEs and Labor Surplus Area Firms.		
i. Narrative for placing qualified small and minority-owned businesses and women-owned business enterprises on solicitation lists.		
ii. Narrative for assuring that small and minority-owned businesses, and women-owned business enterprises are solicited whenever they are potential sources.		
iii. Narrative for dividing total requirements, when economically feasible, into smaller tasks or quantities to permit maximum participation by small and minority-owned businesses, and women-owned business enterprises.		
iv. Narrative for establishing delivery schedules, where the requirement permits, which encourage participation by small and minority business, and women's business enterprises.		
v. Narrative for using the services and assistance, as appropriate, of such organizations as the Small Business Administration and the Minority Business Development Agency of the Department of Commerce.		
vi. Narrative for requiring prime contractors to take these affirmative steps, if subcontracts are to be let.		
Confirm adherence with affirmative steps for contracting with Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs)/ Women's Business Enterprises (WBEs)/ Labor Surplus Firms provided in 2 CFR 200 Part 321.	Yes ☐	No ☐
Program Development and Implementation		
Curriculum Design: Provide details of your plan to develop curriculum and training programs in collaboration with educational institutions, training providers, and industry experts, ensuring alignment with the specific skill needs identified for each broadband deployment phase. Additionally, outline plans		

to prioritize the creation of flexible, accessible, and responsive programs that can adapt to changing demands.

Apprenticeship Programs: Provide details on the development of apprenticeship programs that cater to the unique needs of M/WBE suppliers in each deployment phase. Also, share plans to collaborate with industry associations and businesses to offer hands-on training and real-world experience to apprentices.

Outreach and Partnerships

Stakeholder Engagement: Provide plans to engage with MBEs/WBEs stakeholders, including businesses, associations, and local communities, to communicate the benefits of available training programs and apprenticeships for different phases of broadband deployment.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Performance Metrics: Provide your plan to establish key performance indicators (KPIs) for measuring the success of training programs, apprenticeships, and workforce initiatives during each phase of broadband deployment. In addition, detail how you are planning to monitor indicators such as the number of program participants, employment rates, and employer satisfaction, with specific focus on MBEs/WBEs suppliers.

Feedback Loops: Provide your plan to regularly gather feedback from MBEs/WBEs suppliers and program participants. This feedback will be crucial in identifying areas that require adjustments or improvements.

Reporting and Documentation

Documentation: Describe your plan to maintain comprehensive records that document program implementation, outcomes, and lessons learned during each phase of broadband deployment. Provide regular progress reports to relevant stakeholders and funding agencies to demonstrate the impact on M/WBE suppliers.

2.17 Cybersecurity Compliance and Supply Chain Risk Management Compliance

2.17.1. Cybersecurity Risk Management Compliance

Have you submitted a cybersecurity risk management plan as part of the Pre-registration Application?	Yes ☐	No ☐
If not submitted during the preregistration phase or if further updates have been made to the plan submitted during the preregistration phase, upload your organization's latest updated cybersecurity risk management plan. **(Attachment 21)**		
Confirm that a cybersecurity risk management plan is operational if your organization is already providing services prior to the grant award.	Yes ☐	No ☐
In case of not yet providing service prior to the grant award, your organization must demonstrate a readiness to operationalize the cybersecurity risk management plan upon providing service after the grant award.	Yes ☐	No ☐
Certify that your organization's cybersecurity risk management plan is based on the latest available version of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Framework for Improving Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity, which is currently Version 2.0	Yes ☐	No ☐
Certify that your organization adheres to the standards and controls outlined in Executive Order 14028 and specifies the particular security and privacy controls being implemented.	Yes ☐	No ☐
Confirm that the cybersecurity risk management plan will be subject to periodic reevaluation and updating, as well as changes in response to significant events.	Yes ☐	No ☐
Confirm that if any substantive changes are made to the plan, a new version will be submitted within 30 days	Yes ☐	No ☐

2.17.2. Supply Chain Risk Management Compliance

Have you submitted a supply chain risk management plan as part of the Pre-registration Application?	Yes ☐	No ☐
If not submitted during the preregistration phase or if further updates have been made to the plan submitted during the preregistration phase, upload your organization's supply chain risk management plan. **(Attachment 22)**		

Confirm that a supply chain risk management plan is operational if your organization is already providing service prior to the grant award.	Yes ☐	No ☐
In case of not yet providing service, your organization must demonstrate a readiness to operationalize the supply chain risk management plan upon providing service after the grant is awarded.	Yes ☐	No ☐
Certify that your organization's supply chain risk management plan is based on the best practices outlined in NIST publication NISTIR 8276, Key Practices in Cyber Supply Chain Risk Management: Observations from Industry. Additionally, the supply chain risk management plan will also reference relevant guidance from NIST, such as NIST 800-161, Cybersecurity Supply Chain Risk Management Practices for Systems and Organizations and will specify the supply chain risk management controls being implemented.	Yes ☐	No ☐
Confirm that the supply chain risk management plan will be subject to periodic reevaluation and updating, as well as appropriately revised in response to significant events.	Yes ☐	No ☐
Confirm that if any substantive changes are made to the plan, a new version will be submitted within 30 days	Yes ☐	No ☐

2.18   Certifications

By submitting this Project Application, your organization confirms compliance with the following:		
Acknowledge that your grant application creates a binding obligation if accepted by ACA and cannot be withdrawn once submitted until ACA announces the conclusion of BEAD award process.	Yes ☐	No ☐
Certify that your organization can and will commit to the grant application and that, if granted a grant award, any inconsistency or failure to follow-through on application details shall be considered a violation of the grant agreement and subject to claw-back of funds, at the discretion of ACA.	Yes ☐	No ☐
Certify that your organization will adhere to prohibited communications rules as defined by the FCC until ACA announces final awards at the end of the BEAD award process.	Yes ☐	No ☐

Confirm an agreement to comply with the BEAD requirements, including a non-collusion affidavit that the prices quoted in your applications have been independently determined, and that there has been no collusion with competing prospective contractor(s).	Yes ☐	No ☐
Certify that your organization will engage in fair, equal and equitable business practices such as grant application safeguards against collusion, bias, conflicts of interest, arbitrary decisions, and other factors that could undermine confidence in the public process.	Yes ☐	No ☐
Confirm that your organization understands that the grant will be implemented on a cost reimbursement basis for actual costs incurred, consistent with Section IV.C.1.b of the NOFO, with reimbursement periods of no more than six (6) months.	Yes ☐	No ☐
Confirm that your organization understands that an amount equivalent to 10 percent (10%) of the amount shown to be due on each reimbursement payment request will be withheld until the project has been completed, and a final closeout review has been performed.	Yes ☐	No ☐
Confirm that your organization will submit timely quarterly progress reports, commit to the details of your grant application, submit to technical reviews and financial audits, and uphold the grant agreement if awarded and signed.	Yes ☐	No ☐
Acknowledge that all requested certifications asked throughout the applications are not exhaustive.	Yes ☐	No ☐
Certify your organization will comply with The Infrastructure Act which explicitly 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 is granted by the Assistant Secretary.	Yes ☐	No ☐
If no, provide details of the waiver the applicant is planning to apply.		
Confirm that the project will serve every Unserved and Underserved location within each project area included in your Project Application.	Yes ☐	No ☐
Certify your organization will comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. part 4321 et seq.) and National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) (54 U.S.C. part 300101 et seq.) and any other environmental or national historic preservation requirements.	Yes ☐	No ☐

Certify that your organization understands that NEPA analysis will be required for every project funded through the BEAD Program and agrees to provide sufficient information to allow for NEPA analysis such as a detailed project description, including applicable supporting documentation.	Yes ☐	No ☐
Certify that your organization acknowledges the significance of minimizing the environmental and historic preservation impacts associated with construction in sensitive areas and will ensure that projects and eligible activities will be designed to minimize potential adverse impacts on the environment.	Yes ☐	No ☐
Certify your organization will coordinate with other state offices experienced in administering federal grants and identifying subcontractors for environmental assessments (e.g., U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), U.S. Forest Service (USFS), and State or Local Historic Preservation Offices).	Yes ☐	No ☐
Certify that your organization is aware that should further details be needed post-application approval for funding, ACA/NTIA reserves the right to retain funds under a specific award condition until the awardee provides the requisite additional information pertaining to environmental compliance.	Yes ☐	No ☐
Certify the capability to complete and operate this grant project, and that the information provided is true and accurate to the best of your(?) knowledge.	Yes ☐	No ☐
Certify that an Arizona licensed professional engineer will be involved in certifying the final design, diagrams, project costs estimate, and other technical aspects of the project and will provide the necessary verification post award.	Yes ☐	No ☐
Certify that you have read and will adhere both the ACA Procurement and Grant Compliance policy and the ACA Uniform terms and conditions (additional information can be found on ACA website www.azcommerce.com/about-us/aca-policies/)	Yes ☐	No ☐
Prohibition on Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment:		
All funds made available through the BEAD Program for broadband infrastructure must comply with the prohibition on certain telecommunications and video surveillance services or equipment (2 CFR 200.216). This regulation prohibits federal funds from being used to purchase or install telecommunications and video surveillance equipment, services or systems produced from prohibited companies and/or their subsidiaries. In addition, for public safety installations, there is an extended list of vendors and	Yes ☐	No ☐

requirements listed in the National Defense Authorization Act (Public Law 115-232, Section 889) which is the source legislation for this condition.		
Certify your organization will not procure, obtain, extend or renew a contract to procure or obtain or enter into a contract to procure or obtain equipment, services, or systems that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system. As described in Public Law 115-232, section 889, covered telecommunications equipment is telecommunications equipment produced by Huawei Technologies Company or ZTE Corporation (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities).	Yes ☐	No ☐
Understand that telecommunications or video surveillance services provided by such entities or using such equipment is prohibited.	Yes ☐	No ☐
Understand that for the purposes of public safety, security of government facilities, physical security surveillance of critical infrastructure, and other national security purposes, video surveillance and telecommunications equipment produced by Hytera Communications Corporation, Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company, or Dahua Technology Company (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities) is also prohibited.	Yes ☐	No ☐
Understand that telecommunications or video surveillance equipment or services produced or provided by an entity that the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Director of the National Intelligence or the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, reasonably believes to be an entity owned or controlled by, or otherwise connected to, the government of a covered foreign country is prohibited.	Yes ☐	No ☐
Understand that if any equipment is installed on a federally funded project, your organization will bear the sole responsibility and cost of removing the prohibited equipment and replacing it with equipment acceptable to the State and Federal government.	Yes ☐	No ☐
By signing this Project Application, certify to the best of your knowledge and belief that the Project Application is true, complete, and accurate, and the designs, costs and project plans are for the purposes and objectives set forth in the terms and conditions of the Federal award. You are aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent information, or the omission of any material fact, may subject you to criminal, civil or administrative penalties for fraud, false statements, false claims or otherwise.	Yes ☐	No ☐

3.   Appendix – Required Attachments

Applicants shall include the following documents as attachments. Failure to provide any of these documents may result in an incomplete Project Application. Feel free to include additional attachments that offer relevant information regarding your service area, network, business model, and organization to enhance or complete your Project Application. Applicant to provide separate attachment for each project area included in the Project Application.

Attachment	Purpose
Attachment 1	Contractor/Sub-contractor Experience
Attachment 2	High-Level Network Design
Attachment 3	National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Certification
Attachment 4A	Project Schedule -100% Fiber based deployment
Attachment 4B	Project Schedule - Fiber, reliable and alternative technology
Attachment 5	Commitment Letter for Letter of Credit
Attachment 6	Surety Letter for Performance Bond
Attachment 7- A1	Matching Funds- Part A1 (100% Fiber based deployment including CAIs and Outliers)
Attachment 7- A2	Matching Funds- Part A2 (100% Fiber based deployment including CAIs and excluding Outliers)
Attachment 7B	Matching Funds – Part B (Fiber, reliable and alternative technology)
Attachment 8A	Project Financials Workbook – Part A (100% Fiber based deployment)
Attachment 8B	Project Financials Workbook – Part B (Fiber, reliable and alternative technology)
Attachment 9	Certification on Compliance with Fair Labor Practices – Applicant
Attachment 10	Certification on Compliance with Fair Labor Practices – Contractors/Sub-contractors
Attachment 11	Davis-Bacon Act Certification
Attachment 12	Compliance with the State Prevailing Wage.
Attachment 13	Certification on Project Employment and Local Impact Report
Attachment 14	Policy on Union Neutrality

Attachment	Purpose
Attachment 15	MBE/WBE/SBE Certification
Attachment 16	Project Workforce Continuity Plan
Attachment 17	Letters of Support from Local and Tribal Governments.
Attachment 18	Engagement Plan
Attachment 19	Details of Existing or Proposed Low-Cost Broadband Service Plan
Attachment 20	Waiver Need and Justification
Attachment 21	Cybersecurity Risk Management Plan
Attachment 22	Supply Chain Risk Management Plan