

Idaho Broadband

The Idaho Office of Broadband and the Idaho Broadband Advisory Board's mission is to improve broadband access across the state. Stable, reliable broadband infrastructure positions Idaho communities to attract business and enhance the quality of life for their citizens. To help in this mission, current and future broadband funds are available to expand broadband access throughout the state.

CURRENT AND FUTURE BROADBAND FUNDS

Idaho Broadband Fund

\$8.7M

In January 2023, IBAB funded \$26.3 million for two middle-mile projects covering 300 miles.

Capital Projects Fund (CPF)

Via the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

\$120M

In December 2023, IBAB awarded \$120 million to 18 projects across the state.

Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) Program

Via the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)

\$583M

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) awarded Idaho over \$583 million under the BEAD Program.

BEAD Regional Coordination and Planning Grant

\$500K

IBAB awarded \$500,000 from the State's BEAD Initial Planning Funds to 15 Idaho communities statewide.

IDAHO BROADBAND ADVISORY BOARD

The Idaho Broadband Advisory Board (IBAB) was created by the Idaho Legislature in 2021 through House Bill 127. The board consists of three members from the Idaho House of Representatives, three from the Idaho Senate and three private sector Governor appointees.

The board created the broadband strategic plan for structuring, prioritizing and distributing grants from state and federal funding. This plan supports the board's vision that Idahoans have access to affordable and reliable broadband infrastructure.

MEMBERS

SENATOR DOUG RICKS (CHAIR)

REPRESENTATIVE JOHN VANDER WOUDE (VICE-CHAIR)

REPRESENTATIVE JAMES HOLTZCLAW

REPRESENTATIVE BRANDON MITCHELL

SENATOR JAMES RUCHTI

SENATOR TREG BERNT

MARGIE WATSON - JC Watson & Company

ANDY EMERSON - MH Solutions

RICK BELLUZZO - Viavi Solutions, Chairman



“Our historic broadband investments mean students and families across Idaho will have the tools they need to succeed. First responders will have the connection and communication they need to do their jobs, and healthcare providers can expand their utilization of telemedicine. The benefits of these completed projects are just the beginning of many more in Idaho.” — Governor Brad Little

SINCE 2020...

\$194.5M
Awarded

131
Projects

69,600
Broadband
Serviceable
Locations
(BSL)

To continue its mission of expanding broadband access across the state, the Idaho Office of Broadband and the Idaho Broadband Advisory Board have awarded funds to broadband projects throughout Idaho totaling \$194.5 million across 131 projects, connecting 69,600 Broadband Serviceable Locations (BSLs).

The most recent award was \$500,000 in funding from the State’s BEAD Regional Coordination and Planning Grant to 15 Idaho communities statewide.

LINK UP IDAHO

The Link Up Idaho initiative is led by the Idaho Broadband Advisory Board (IBAB) and the Idaho Office of Broadband, in coordination with the Idaho Office of Information Technology Services.

This multifaceted initiative aims to gather information about connectivity challenges in Idaho communities to provide insight into broadband availability across the state, provide outreach across Idaho to inform communities of the availability of broadband funds and through the work of the IBAB, disperse funds to communities to improve internet access.

Link Up Idaho’s mission is to provide all Idahoans with access to high-speed, affordable and reliable broadband infrastructure.

Learn more at LinkUp.Idaho.gov.

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For additional information, visit LinkUp.Idaho.gov or contact the Idaho Office of Broadband at broadband@commerce.idaho.gov.