

IDAHO OFFICE OF BROADBAND

BEAD Update

Open Office Hours

August 25, 2025



Agenda

- BoB Round 2
 - Application Window
 - Letter of Commitment
 - Tribal Consent
 - Audited Financials
- Link Up Idaho
- Scoring
- Project Design
- APA/BSL Template
- BSL Exclusions
- FAQ and Resources



Round 2:

Tuesday 8/26 @12:00 Noon MT – Tuesday 9/2 @ 12:00 Noon MT

- 7-calendar-day application window
- Open to all 40 applicants who successfully passed the BEAD Prequalification phase
- Limited to 305 APAs that did not receive Round 1 submissions from more than one technology type
- No application curing due to compressed timeline

Applications will only be accepted for the predetermined APAs, and not the entire state.

Round 2:

Tuesday 8/26 @12:00 Noon MT – Tuesday 9/2 @ 12:00 Noon MT

Letter of Commitment Q#43

If the Letter of Commitment for the letter of credit or performance bond is not available from the financial institution at the time of application submission, it is due no later than **9 business days after the BEAD** application window opens.

DUE 9/10/25

Tribal Consent Q#48

IOB has been notified of a forthcoming Programmatic Waiver from NTIA related to tribal consent that will extend the written tribal consent requirement from being needed prior to the submittal of the Final Proposal to now being required at the time of subgrantee agreement signing.

(Details about Tribal consent are in IOB IPV2 Section 2.4.8)

**DUE Prior to Subgrantee
Agreement**

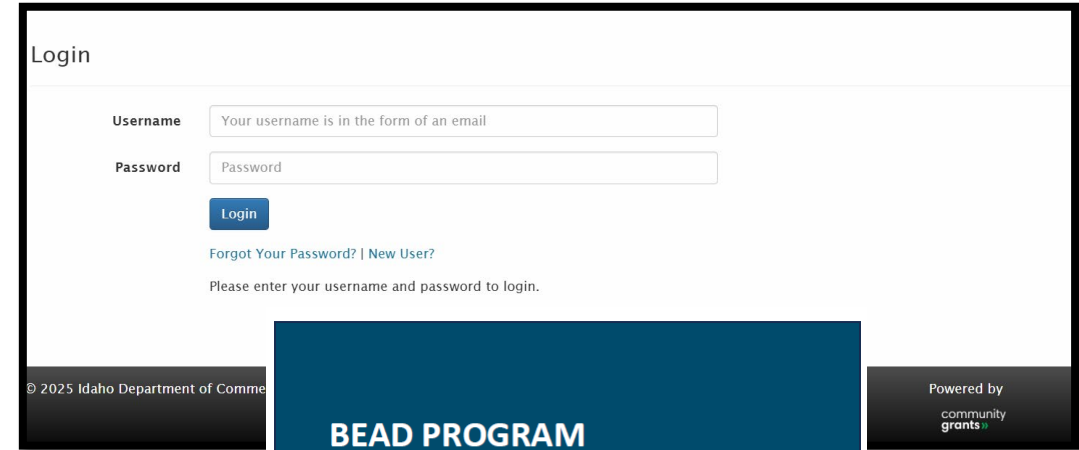
Audited Financial Statements

If you did not submit audited financial statements during Prequalification Application, they are still due no later than 66 calendar days after the BEAD Round 1 application window opened.

DUE 9/19/25

Grant Portal

- Prequal & Funding Applications
- Application Guides, Templates & Resources on **Link Up Idaho**
(<https://linkup.idaho.gov/beadsubgrantee/>)



Login

Username

Password

[Forgot Your Password?](#) | [New User?](#)

Please enter your username and password to login.

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BEAD PROGRAM PREQUALIFICATION APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Updated 07.11.25

IDAHO
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07.15.25

BEAD PROGRAM FUNDING APPLICATION GUIDELINES

IDAHO DEPARTMENT
OF COMMERCE
OFFICE OF BROADBAND



BEAD APA Map 4.0



Subgrantee Selection: Complying with the Policy Notice

States Must Consider “Priority Broadband Projects” (PBP) first.

The term “Priority Broadband Project” is restored to the IIJA definition with no preference for any specific technology:

1. Provide broadband service at speeds of no less than 100 Mbps download and 20 Mbps upload.
2. Has latency less than or equal to 100 ms.
3. Can easily scale speeds over time to meet the evolving connectivity needs of households and businesses.
4. Supports the deployment of 5G, successor wireless technologies, and other advanced services.

Scoring Matrix | Primary Criteria

Idaho's Matrix

	Criterion	Description	Maximum Points
<p>Applications will be evaluated based on the minimal BEAD outlay for APAs in the applicant's proposal.</p> <p>The minimal BEAD outlay is based on the lowest subsidy requested for each APA divided by the number of BSLs proposed to be served in that APA.</p>	Minimal BEAD Program Outlay	Lowest average cost per location in proposed application project area after match	55

2025 Policy Notice

3.6 The Primary Criteria to choose a BEAD subgrantee is “... the option with the lowest cost based on minimal program outlay” (RPN, 3.4, p.12). However, Secondary Criteria are provided. Can you explain this?

Scoring subgrantee applications may consist of a two-part process.

First, the Eligible Entity must determine which Priority Broadband Projects (PBP) proposal costs the least according to the minimal BEAD program outlay definition (see RPN, 3.4, p. 12). (Note: If PBP proposals are too expensive, an Eligible Entity can move to less expensive non-PBPs.) If there are no proposals within 15% of the lowest cost proposal, and costs aren't excessive, that proposal wins.

Second, if there are other proposals for the same project area that are within 15% of the lowest cost proposal, the Eligible Entity then goes on to consider Secondary Criteria in order to determine a winner (RPN, 3.4, p. 12).

Scoring Matrix | Secondary Criteria

Speed to Deployment

The prospective subgrantee's binding commitment to provide service by a date certain that is earlier than four years after the date on which the subgrantee will receive the subgrant from the State. Failure to comply with this commitment will result in contractual penalties. Greater consideration can be awarded to prospective subgrantees promising an earlier service provision date.

Important note: Secondary Scoring Criteria, which can only consist of criteria related to "Speed to Deployment" and "Speed of Network and other Technical Capabilities," is only triggered when there are multiple applications proposing to serve the same project area(s) and those applications propose per-BSL costs within 15% of each other.

Idaho's Matrix

Open Office Hours Update

Description	Maximum Points
Deployment schedule commitment < 24 months	5
Deployment schedule commitment 25-35 months	4
Deployment schedule commitment 36-41 months	3
Deployment schedule commitment 42-47 months	2
Deployment schedule commitment = 48 months	0
Download Speed:	
> 5G	10
2G -5G	8
1G - 2G	5
700-999 Mbps	4
401-699 Mbps	3
250-400 Mbps	2
101-249 Mbps	1
Upload Speed:	
>5G	10
2G-5G	8
1G - 2G	5
650-999 Mbps	4
250-649 Mbps	3
100-249 Mbps	2
21-99 Mbps	1
Latency	
Less than 10 ms	10
10-20 ms	7
21-35 ms	5
36-50 ms	3
51-65 ms	1
Scalability	
≥ 5G	10
2G-4G	8
2G/2G	5
Scalability Stated to 1G/1G	3
Scalability Stated to 500/500 Mbps	1

Project Design

IOB will be looking for applicants to submit their best project design in each application. Applicants are required to provide detailed information to support their funding requests using several different categories:

- **Proposed Project Area** with the goal to maximize the number of BSLs included in the project
- **Project Budget** with a detailed break-down of cost categories
- **Project Deployment Timeline** broken down by key project milestones including planning, design, procurement, permitting, and more.
- **Network Route Diagram** to show technical and operational performance, scalability, and reliability; use of industry best practices; a comprehensive design; knowledge of the existing facilities; and the best use of funding for a successful deployment
- **Technical Questions** on scalability, reliability, equipment-types, and capacity
- **Technology -Specific Questions** to support network performance claims and funding requests

NOTE: The IOB reserves the right to require additional information regarding the proposed network's ability to meet BEAD performance standards and may issue future guidance

BSL/APA Template

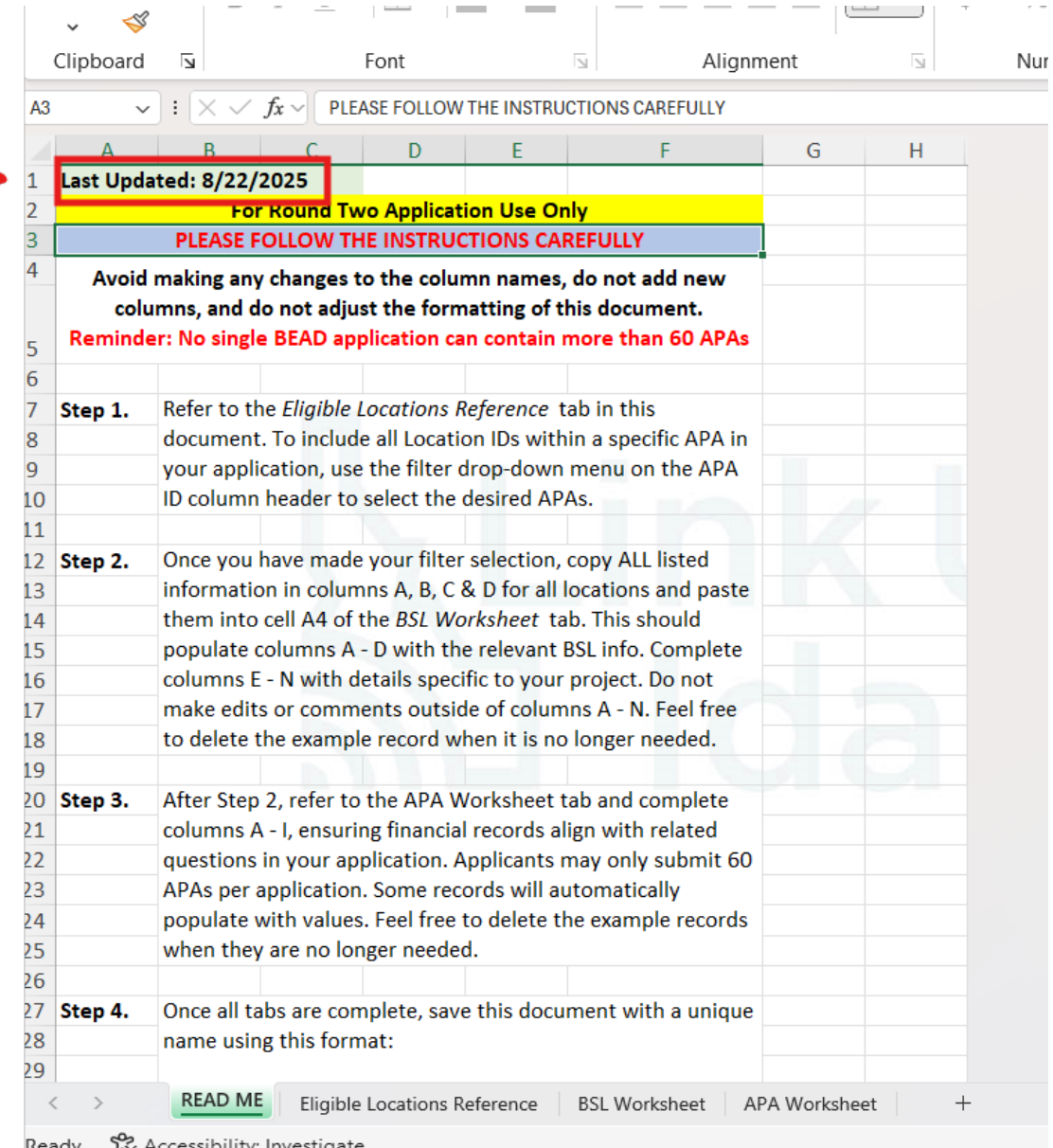
1. Use the correct template

2. DO NOT modify the existing template in any way – including overwriting, altering, or editing

- It renders your data invalid
- There is no curing for Round 2 – take your time and complete the BSL/APA template correctly

3. Sign up for BSL Template Assistance

- 1-on-1 opportunities for applicants to walk through the APA/BSL Template with MBI
 - **Thursday & Friday from 11am – 3 pm MT for 15 minutes each**
- If interested, please email IdahoBEAD@mbakerintl.com to make an appointment.





The screenshot shows the BSL/APA Template spreadsheet. A red box highlights the text "Last Updated: 8/22/2025" in cell A3. Below this, a yellow banner reads "For Round Two Application Use Only". A blue banner reads "PLEASE FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY". The spreadsheet contains several steps for users to follow, including instructions on how to use the filter drop-down menu and how to complete the worksheet. The bottom of the spreadsheet shows tabs for "Eligible Locations Reference", "BSL Worksheet", and "APA Worksheet".


	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	Last Updated: 8/22/2025							
2	For Round Two Application Use Only							
3	PLEASE FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY							
4	Avoid making any changes to the column names, do not add new columns, and do not adjust the formatting of this document.							
5	Reminder: No single BEAD application can contain more than 60 APAs							
6								
7	Step 1.	Refer to the <i>Eligible Locations Reference</i> tab in this document. To include all Location IDs within a specific APA in your application, use the filter drop-down menu on the APA ID column header to select the desired APAs.						
8								
9								
10								
11								
12	Step 2.	Once you have made your filter selection, copy ALL listed information in columns A, B, C & D for all locations and paste them into cell A4 of the <i>BSL Worksheet</i> tab. This should populate columns A - D with the relevant BSL info. Complete columns E - N with details specific to your project. Do not make edits or comments outside of columns A - N. Feel free to delete the example record when it is no longer needed.						
13								
14								
15								
16								
17								
18								
19								
20	Step 3.	After Step 2, refer to the APA Worksheet tab and complete columns A - I, ensuring financial records align with related questions in your application. Applicants may only submit 60 APAs per application. Some records will automatically populate with values. Feel free to delete the example records when they are no longer needed.						
21								
22								
23								
24								
25								
26								
27	Step 4.	Once all tabs are complete, save this document with a unique name using this format:						
28								
29								


BSL Exclusions

- Applicants are strongly encouraged to design their proposed project to serve all eligible BSLs
- To support projects in high-cost areas, an applicant **may identify up to 5% of the BSLs within each APA** included in a proposed project that it **prefers not to serve**.
- These designated BSLs may include, but are not exclusive to, eligible BSLs in NTIA-designated high-cost census block groups.
- Applicants may also identify BSLs that they believe are no longer “eligible” BSLs under the BEAD Program rules and request not to serve.



WHAT ARE THE NON-SERVICE CODES?

- No Broadband Connection** 

Location should not have a broadband connection (example: barn, hay bale, or rock)
- No Demand for Mass-Market Broadband Service** 

Location does not need mass-market broadband service due to the nature of internet use (example: the entity located at the BSL requires enterprise service)
- Removal from FCC's Fabric**

Location has been removed from the latest version of the FCC Fabric
- Enforceable Commitment**



Location will be served through an enforceable commitment (EC) that was not deduplicated during the EE's challenge process
- Served by Non-Subsidized Service**

Location is already served by non-subsidized service (i.e., a network built by an ISP with private funds). The current FCC National Broadband Map must depict currently available qualifying broadband service at the location.
- Other Reasons**

Any other reasons that are not listed
- Insufficient Funds**

The EE is financially incapable of serving an underserved location

Key:

-  Reason codes with sub-codes
-  EEs must file an FCC Location Challenge prior to FP submission

NTIA

BSL Application Questions

Question #	Question	Notes
13	Brief Proposed Project Description (to be posted on the Link Up Idaho website). Include the APA identifier(s), number of eligible BSLs to be served , planned technology type, proposed speeds, match amount, and BEAD grant funds requested.	
17-21	Number of Passings (Eligible Broadband Serviceable Locations (BSLs) in the proposed project area to be served with BEAD funding)	“Passings” are BSLs that the applicant commits to serve with BEAD funding. Questions 18-21 require the applicant to provide a further breakdown of the total passings
23	Project Area and BSL Template . Please complete and upload the Project Area and BSL Template.	Applicants are required to complete the second, third, and fourth tabs. <u>Eligible Locations Reference</u> tab of the template: Applicants will use the pre-populated list in the Eligible Locations Reference tab to copy and paste the BSLs for each APA into the BSL Worksheet tab.
24-26	Prefer Not to Serve BSLs : Total number of BSLs in the proposed project area that applicant has identified as high-cost and would prefer not to serve. If none, please put “0.”	Applicants are strongly encouraged to serve all BSLs in the project area. However, the Project Area and BSL Template allows applicants to identify up to five percent of the BSLs in each APA in the project area as “prefer not to serve.”
40-41	Total Project Cost per Eligible BSL Passing - AND - BEAD Requested Funding Cost per Eligible BSL Passing	Provide the calculated cost per passing (unserved, underserved, and CAI BSLs) for the proposed project, and calculate a cost-per-passing using only the amount of requested funding from the Idaho BEAD Program.

Questions?

