

Project Application Guide

BROADBAND EQUITY, ACCESS, AND DEPLOYMENT
(BEAD) PROGRAM

Version 2 | April 1, 2025



**California Public
Utilities Commission**

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Introduction

This Project Application Guide provides applicants with instructions for California’s project application for the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program and the online portal where applicants will complete the application.

About the CPUC’s BEAD Subgrantee Program

The BEAD Program, which is administered by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), allocated approximately \$1.86 billion to the State of California. The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) is implementing the state’s BEAD subgrantee program to award that funding.

The CPUC is planning a multi-step process for selecting subgrantees:

1. **Prequalification Phase**, during which the CPUC will establish the qualifications of prospective applicants
2. **Application Phase**, during which the CPUC will receive, review, and score grant applications
3. **Negotiation Phase**, during which the CPUC will engage with applicants with reference to the Extremely High Cost Per Location Threshold (EHCPLT)

The CPUC will include its provisional awards in its BEAD Final Proposal, which the CPUC will make available for public comment before submitting to NTIA for approval. NTIA must approve California’s Final Proposal before the CPUC can finalize any BEAD grant awards.

About the Application Phase

All applicants must first submit a prequalification application before moving on to the Application Phase and submitting one or more project-specific applications.

The CPUC will begin its evaluation of proposals by ensuring that the applicants have provided all required materials. Following a determination of completeness, the CPUC will review and evaluate the proposals based on the scoring criteria in California’s [Initial Proposal Volume 2 \(IPv2\)](#), which can add up to a total score of 100. See IPv2 section 5.3.

Consistent with NTIA requirements, some scoring criteria differ between “Priority Broadband Projects” (i.e., fiber-to-the-premises) when compared to “Other Last-Mile Broadband Deployment Projects” (i.e., other technologies). As discussed below, applicants will select one of three project types for each application, based on the technology or

technologies proposed: Priority, Non-Priority, or Alternative Technology. Applications for Priority projects will be scored according to the scoring rubric for Priority projects. Non-Priority and Alternative Technology applications will be scored according to the scoring rubric for Other Last-Mile projects.

If feasible given the limited timeline for the BEAD grant program, the CPUC may allow up to three business days for revision requests during the Application Phase to ensure an optimal participation level of qualified applicants.

The CPUC reserves the right to reject any proposal from an applicant that was deemed qualified in the Prequalification Phase if, for example, the size and scope of the project proposal are found not to be commensurate with the applicant's qualifications.

Eligible Project Types

The CPUC will accept applications for the following project types, based on the type(s) of technology proposed:

- *Priority project:* A project that will provision service via end-to-end fiber-optic facilities to each end-user premises and deliver (i) a speed of not less than 100 Mbps for downloads; (ii) a speed of not less than 20 Mbps for uploads; and (iii) latency less than or equal to 100 milliseconds.
- *Non-Priority project:* A project that will provision service via Reliable Broadband Service technology such as non-end-to-end fiber, coaxial cable, or licensed fixed wireless with (i) a speed of not less than 100 Mbps for downloads; (ii) a speed of not less than 20 Mbps for uploads; and (iii) latency less than or equal to 100 milliseconds.
- *Alternative Technology project:* A project that will provision service via any technology that does not qualify as Reliable Broadband Service; includes unlicensed fixed wireless (ULFW) and low-Earth-orbit satellite (LEO). Alternative Technologies must still meet the BEAD technical requirements of (i) a speed of not less than 100 Mbps for downloads; (ii) a speed of not less than 20 Mbps for uploads; and (iii) latency less than or equal to 100 milliseconds.

Applicants will select a single project type for each application.

A Priority project must consist solely of end-to-end fiber and cannot include other technology types. A Non-Priority or Alternative Technology project may include multiple technology types. As described further in Question 1.5 below, if any part of a proposed project uses a technology that fits into a lower-tier project type, the project is categorized as that type. For example, a project using both fiber and coaxial cable would be categorized as a Non-Priority Project, and a project that uses both fiber and unlicensed fixed wireless would be categorized as an Alternative Technology Project.

Application Resources

California’s Initial Proposal Volume 2 describes the state’s grant program design, proposed subgrantee selection process, grant application scoring criteria, plans for workforce development and affordability strategies, and other critical information. That document and other details about the BEAD Program—including [FAQs](#), technical assistance resources, and announcements regarding [events](#), [timelines](#), deadlines, and program milestones—are available on the CPUC’s [California BEAD Program website](#). Downloads of unserved, underserved, served, Community Anchor Institution (CAI), and PAU datasets are available on the [BEAD Grant Data Downloads](#) page. Additional resources are identified in Appendix A.

Participants who have procedural or technical questions should email the following dedicated address: beadgrant@cpuc.ca.gov.

The CPUC will regularly update its [BEAD FAQ Page](#) with the questions and answers generated by email inquiries and in-person meetings. Applicants may wish to view recordings of the webinars hosted by CPUC explaining the preapplication and project application process. Navigate to the CPUC’s [BEAD Events](#) page to view the full list of recorded webinars.

Application Requirements

The project application comprises 12 sections:

1. **Administrative:** Applicants can update basic background information, such as contact details, submitted in the prequalification application. Applicants will indicate their project type (Priority, Non-Priority, or Alternative Technology).
2. **Select Locations:** Applicants will create a Project Area by selecting PAUs on an interactive map. Community Anchor Institutions (CAI) can optionally be added to the proposal.
3. **Project Snapshot:** Applicants will provide the total project cost and total funding request. The NTIA match requirement will be calculated based on the applicant proposed funding values. Applicants can identify locations which they commit servicing with resilient infrastructure. Applicants can commit to or submit waivers for the low-cost and middle-class service offerings.
4. **Scoring Criteria:** Applicants will submit information critical to scoring the project proposal by sharing their policies and capabilities regarding affordability, fair labor practices, minimum BEAD outlay (matching funds), speed to deployment, equity, resilience, and, for non-priority and alternative technology projects, speed of network and technical capability.
5. **Project Plan:** Applicants will submit narratives, technical design files, build timeline, and cost information for the proposed project. Applicants will respond to environmental questions covering topics such as the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).
6. **Organizational and Managerial Capacity:** Applicants will update organization information submitted during the prequalification application if any information has changed.
7. **Financial Capability:** Applicants will submit updated financial information (if any information has changed) and complete Letter of Credit or Performance Bond templates.
8. **Project Staffing and Labor Requirements:** Applicants will submit information on the proposed staff critical to completing the project.
9. **Ownership Information:** Applicants will update ownership information submitted during the prequalification application if any information has changed.

10. **Compliance:** Applicants must certify compliance with BEAD Program requirements; with all applicable federal, state, local, and Tribal laws; and complete certifications of capability, experience, comprehension, and commitment.

11. **Confidentiality and Certification:**

Confidentiality: Applicants can request confidentiality protection for certain responses in their project application. Please note that information required in the NTIA Final Proposal cannot be marked confidential.

Certification: At the end of the application, applicants will be required to print the provided BEAD Project Application Certification document relevant to the applicant's organization; review, sign, and notarize the document; and upload a scanned copy of the document to the application portal.

12. **Review and Submit:** Applicants can review and download a copy of their responses before submitting to the CPUC.

Portal Navigation

Account Registration

Applicants must register for an account and be approved by the CPUC before beginning the prequalification or project application. Applicants may register at register.bead.cpuc.ca.gov. Upon receiving approval, applicants can log in at bead.grant.cpuc.ca.gov and begin the application. If the applicant encounters any technical issues around registration, login, or account administration, please contact the Ready.net support team by email at cahelpdesk@ready.net.

Application Navigation

This section covers general information about the application portal, including button functionalities. The preferred browser to access the application portal is Google Chrome. The numbered Application section titles appear at the top of the page, as in the following sample screenshot. The project application will feature the same format of section titles and application flow as the prequalification application.

The screenshot displays the application portal interface. At the top, a navigation bar shows five steps: 1. Administrative, 2. Select Locations, 3. Project Snapshot, 4. Scoring Criteria, and 5. Project Plan. The current step is '3. Project Snapshot'. On the left, a dark sidebar contains navigation options: HOME, APPLY FOR BEAD, Prequalification, BEAD Applications (highlighted), and PROFILE SETTINGS. The main content area is titled 'Total Costs And LIA/DAC' and contains two numbered questions with input fields:

- * 3.1. Provide the dollar amount of the applicant's proposed Total Project Cost (i.e., the total cost to serve the unserved and underserved locations in the Project Area Units (PAU) selected, including matching funds) rounded to the nearest cent. The input field contains '\$ 100,000'.
- * 3.2. Provide the dollar amount of the applicant's proposed Total Funding Request (i.e., how much grant funding the applicant is seeking with this application to serve the unserved and underserved locations in the Project Area Units (PAU) selected, not including matching funds) rounded to the nearest cent. The input field contains '\$ 15,000'.

On the right side of the form, a sidebar lists subsection titles: 1. Total Costs And LIA/DAC (highlighted), 2. 90% Threshold, and 3. Snapshot Details.

Navigate among sections by clicking the titles. Subsection titles will appear on the right sidebar. Navigate among the different subsections by clicking the subsection title. The application will save each time you navigate to a different section or subsection and when you click either the blue 'Save Application' or 'Next' button at the bottom right of each page. Per [Open Worldwide Application Security Project guidelines](#), after 15 minutes of inactivity and once every 24 hours applicants will be automatically logged out.

Subsequent questions may be presented based on the information provided in prior responses. For example, within the Financial Capability section, selecting "Unqualified


Audited Financials” will prompt the applicant to upload unqualified statements, while selecting “Qualified Audited Financials” will prompt a different set of questions. Applicants can review the different question trees in the portal or later in this guide (see “Application Questions and Instructions”).

Templates and Uploads

Some questions require you to upload a completed template. File names should be descriptive and reference the template file name if possible. Please review these file name guidelines and examples:

- [Applicant Organization] – [Template Title].[file extension]
 - For example: HometownInternet - Past performance and experience.xlsx
- [Applicant Organization] – [Question].[file extension]
 - For example: HometownInternet - 3-2 Org Charts.pdf

Submitting the Application

Applicants can track their progress by reviewing the numbered project application section titles at the top of the portal pages. A green circle with a white checkmark in the center  indicates that all required fields have been submitted in that section. (See the screenshot above.) Note that even if a section has a green checkmark, the applicant must still save the application (for example, by selecting “Save Application” or selecting “Next”) to ensure the information in the completed section is saved.

When all sections show a green circle with a white checkmark, navigate to the final section titled “Review and Submit.” Applicants should review their entire application before submitting to the CPUC. Applicants who have an application-specific question after they have submitted their application through the portal should email: beadgrant@cpuc.ca.gov.

Revising the Application

During its application review, the CPUC will request edits via the application portal if any items need to be addressed or corrected. The application portal will automatically notify the applicant via email with instructions and a specified deadline for submitting revisions (up to three business days) and will re-open the application portal for the updated responses/documentation to be submitted, if applicable.

Note: Applicants should submit revisions or additions requested by the CPUC through the application portal. Do not send replies/submission updates via email.

Upon review of the completed application, the CPUC will make a final eligibility determination and communicate this decision by email.

Application Questions and Instructions

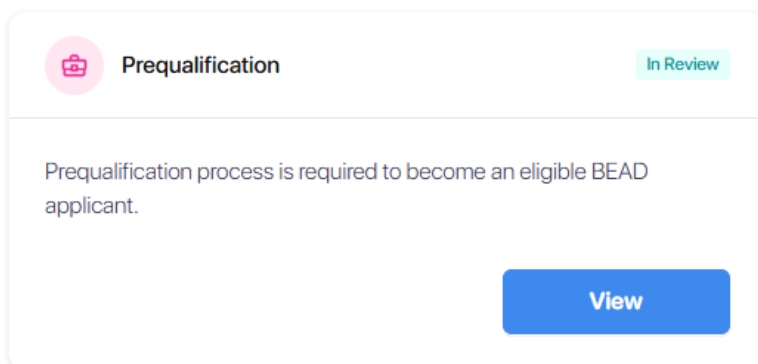
You may not need to answer every question listed in this document. Responses to certain questions in the application portal will determine whether you need to answer subsequent questions. The portal will display the questions you should answer. See the instructions for each question for additional clarification. Required or conditionally required questions are noted with a red asterisk* throughout the application in the portal and in this application guide.

Relevant [Initial Proposal Volume 2 \(IPv2\)](#) and [NTIA Notice of Funding Opportunity \(NOFO\)](#) sections are cited under certain questions for the applicant's reference.

Section 1: Administrative

1.1* Please review your prequalification contact information. Are changes required?

To view information submitted in the prequalification application, select “Save Application” at the bottom of the page, then select “Home” in the left-side menu pane. Select “View” under the Prequalification menu. Review the information submitted in Section 1, “Administrative.”



Select “Yes” or “No.” If “Yes,” proceed to questions 1.1A through 1.1P. If “No,” proceed to question 1.2. Applicants should only submit information that has changed since the prequalification application was submitted.

- **1.1A Organization name**
- **1.1B Organization UEI**
- **1.1C Organization CPCN**
- **1.1D Organization address**
- **1.1E Primary contact first name**
- **1.1F Primary contact last name**
- **1.1G Primary contact title**

- 1.1H Primary contact email
- 1.1I Primary contact phone
- 1.1J Alternative contact email
- 1.1K Alternative contact phone
- 1.1L Authorized Certifying Official first name (if different than primary contact)
- 1.1M Authorized Certifying Official first name (if different than primary contact)
- 1.1N Authorized Certifying Official title
- 1.1O Authorized Certifying Official email
- 1.1P Authorized Certifying Official phone

1.2* Please provide contact information in the following fields:

- 1.2A* Technical Design contact first name, last name
- 1.2B* Technical Design contact email
- 1.2C* Technical Design contact phone
- 1.2D* Operational (Construction) contact first name, last name
- 1.2E* Operational (Construction) contact email
- 1.2F* Operational (Construction) contact phone

Provide name, email, and phone number for the Technical Design point of contact and Operational (Construction) point of contact.

1.3* Is the applicant submitting this application with any partners?

Select “Yes” or “No.” If “Yes,” proceed to questions 1.3A and 1.3B. Otherwise proceed to question 1.4.

Source: IPv2 5.12.2.3 (p. 65); 9.5 (p. 143).

1.3A* Confirm that you are the lead applicant for your BEAD application partnership, and that no member of the BEAD application partnership participates in more than one partnership in the same Project Area Unit (PAU) or participates in both a partnership and as an individual applicant in the same PAU.

Select the checkbox. A response to this question is required from applicants who responded “Yes” to question 1.3.

1.3B* Using the Partners Template, provide a list of the BEAD application partners. For each partner, please list the organization name, organization type, the services

provided in its partnership role, and the name, phone, physical address, and email of the organizational representative.

Upload the completed “Partners Template” in PDF format. A response to this question is required from applicants who selected the checkbox in question 1.3A.

1.4* Provide the lead applicant’s 10-digit FCC Registration Number (FRN), with leading zeros.

Enter the response in the number field.

1.5* Indicate the project type:

- **Priority Broadband Project:** A project that will provision service via end-to-end fiber-optic facilities to each end-user premises.
- **Non-Priority Project:** A project that will provision service via Reliable Broadband Service technology that is not end-to-end fiber such as non-end-to-end fiber, coaxial cable, or licensed fixed wireless with (i) a speed of not less than 100 Mbps for downloads, (ii) a speed of not less than 20 Mbps for uploads, and (iii) latency less than or equal to 100 milliseconds.
- **Alternative Technology Project:** A project that will provision service via any technology that does not qualify as Reliable Broadband Service, such as unlicensed fixed wireless (ULFW) or low-Earth-orbit satellite (LEO). Alternative Technologies must still meet the BEAD technical requirements and provide (i) a speed of not less than 100 Mbps for downloads, (ii) a speed of not less than 20 Mbps for uploads, and (iii) latency less than or equal to 100 milliseconds.

If any part of a proposed project uses a technology that fits into a lower-tier project type, the project is categorized as that type. For example, a project using both fiber and coaxial cable would be categorized as a Non-Priority Project, and a project that uses both fiber and unlicensed fixed wireless would be categorized as an Alternative Technology Project.

Select one of the following options: Priority, Non-Priority, or Alternative Technology. Applicants can optionally add Community Anchor Institutions (CAI) to their proposed project in the next section of the application. CAI locations are considered served by Reliable Broadband Service with a speed of not less than 1 Gbps for downloads and uploads alike and latency less than or equal to 100 milliseconds.

Source: IPv2 5.1.3 (p. 28); 5.11 (pp. 54-56); NOFO (p. 37).

1.5A* Select the technology type(s) for this Non-Priority project. Select all that apply.

Select all that apply: Fiber, Coaxial Cable, Licensed Fixed Wireless (including projects using a hybrid of licensed and unlicensed spectrum), Digital Subscriber Line (DSL). A response to this question is only required from applicants who selected “Non-Priority” in question 1.5.

1.5B* Select the technology type(s) for this Alternative Technology project. Select all that apply.

Select all that apply: Unlicensed Fixed Wireless, LEO Satellite, Fiber, Coaxial Cable, Licensed Fixed Wireless (including projects using a hybrid of licensed and unlicensed spectrum), Digital Subscriber Line (DSL). A response to this question is only required from applicants who selected “Alternative Technology” in question 1.5.

1.6 The Project ID will automatically populate.

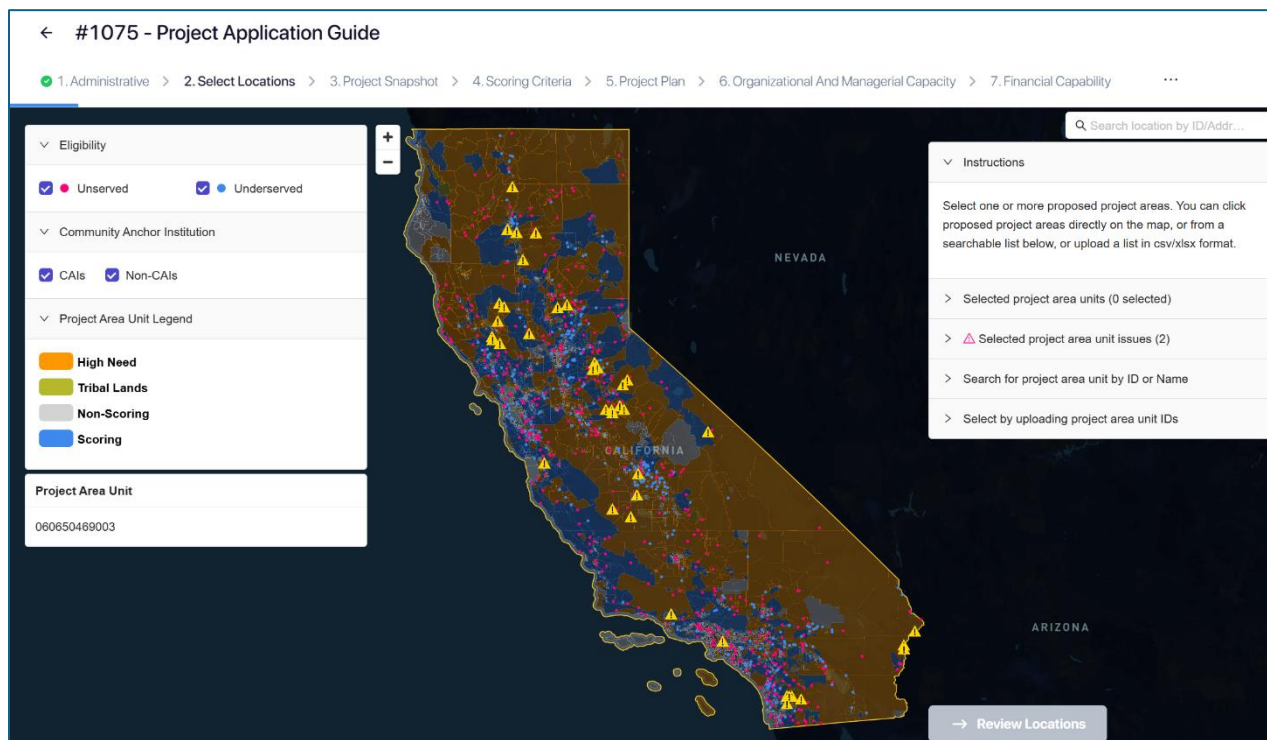
The application portal will automatically populate a response to this question based on a formula required for the final proposal.

Section 2: Select Locations

In this section applicants will create a Project Area for each application by selecting one or more contiguous (sharing a vertex) Project Area Unit(s) (PAU) on the interactive map or via CSV upload within the application portal. Note that PAUs without eligible locations can be added to your Project Area without affecting your score. Selecting these “non-scoring” PAUs may be required to achieve contiguity and connect all of the PAUs the applicant wishes to serve in a single proposal. California’s PAUs are based on Census Block Groups and Tribal lands.

Each application must comprise a proposal for a project serving 100% of unserved and underserved locations within the selected Project Area. Within Section 3 of the same application, an applicant may optionally submit a proposal to serve that same Project Area at a coverage rate of 90% of unserved and underserved locations. An applicant submitting a 90% proposal will use a template automatically generated by the application portal to identify the broadband serviceable locations (BSL) that will be served by the 90% proposal. The number of BSLs to remove from the 100% proposal to create the 90% proposal will be automatically calculated by the application portal.

The following sections explain the Project Area creation process. Along with this written guidance, the CPUC recommends navigating to the [CPUC BEAD homepage](#) and the BEAD Events page for a video walkthrough of the same process.



Map overview before starting the Project Area creation process

Map Overview

Pan and zoom by clicking and dragging the map. Search an address or location_id using the search bar in the top right. Accessibility options are available by selecting “Accessibility” on the left-side menu. Also on the left-side menu, the following options are available to control what data appear on the map:

Eligibility

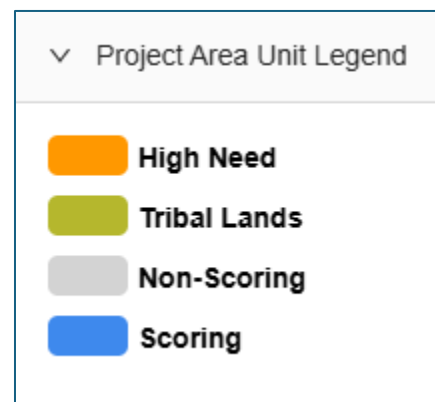
- **Unserved:** Select this checkbox to view eligible unserved BSLs or CAIs on the map.
- **Underserved:** Select this checkbox to view eligible underserved BSLs on the map.

Community Anchor Institution

- **CAIs:** Select this checkbox to view CAI locations on the map.
- **Non-CAIs:** Select this checkbox to view eligible unserved and underserved BSLs on the map.

Project Area Unit Legend

- **High Need:** PAUs containing an eligible unserved or underserved BSL that count toward the Low-Income Area (LIA) or Disadvantaged Community (DAC) requirement. See guidance on question 3.3 for more information about LIA/DAC.
- **Tribal Lands:** PAUs that contain an eligible unserved or underserved BSL that falls within Tribal lands.
- **Non-Scoring:** PAUs that do not contain an eligible unserved or underserved BSL. Non-scoring PAUs can be added to the Project Area.
- **Scoring:** PAUs that contain an unserved or underserved BSL.



PAU legend with associated colors

Map Layers

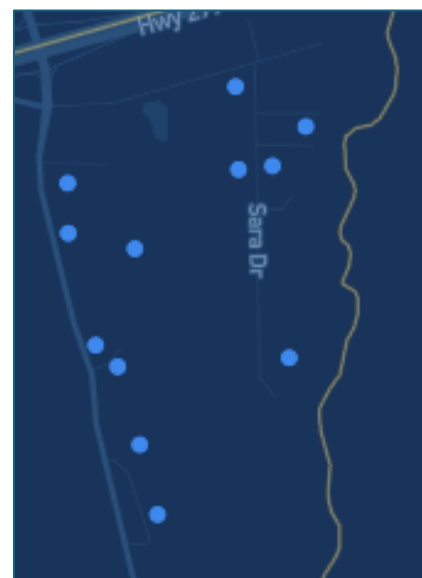
The following overlay layers are to be used for applicant reference:

- **High Cost Area:** NTIA defined “high-cost areas”
- **High Fire Threat Area**
- **County Boundaries**
- **California Middle-Mile Broadband Network**
- **State Highways**

The zoom level will determine how BSL and CAI locations are visualized on the map. At lower levels (farther from the earth) you will see fewer locations, and the exact geolocation may be summarized or ‘sampled.’ When reviewing a PAU for map selection or when optionally selecting CAIs, a higher zoom level (closer to the earth) is recommended. Certain CAIs and BSLs may have the same geolocation.



High zoom level



Low zoom level

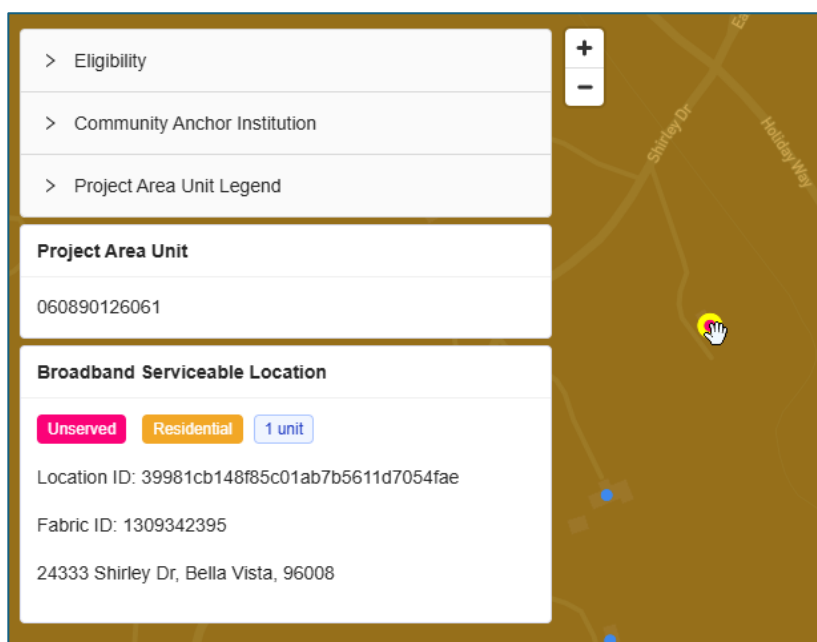
Clicking “Collapse” at the bottom of the left-side menu closes the menu. The extra mapping room may be helpful for lower-resolution monitors.

Hover Information Pane

While hovering your mouse over a PAU, BSL, or CAI location, information panes will appear under the Project Area Unit Legend.

Step One: Create Project Area

Create the Project Area for this application by selecting contiguous (sharing a vertex) PAUs you wish to serve. While selecting PAUs you will see the NTIA-projected Net Present Value (NPV) estimate for fiber and fixed wireless aggregated at the PAU level within the hover information pane. NPV could be positive or negative based on the NPV of the BSLs in each PAU. The NPV is based on the CostQuest greenfield investment model (new entrants, not incumbent providers) to show the value of a broadband infrastructure investment in the BSL. The CostQuest NPV takes into account factors including, but not limited to, new subscriber take rate, the cost of construction, operating expenses, taxes and maintenance. The displayed estimate is based on NTIA data



PAU and BSL information pane visible after the mouse hovers over the BSL location and intersecting PAU.

and will have no impact on project scoring or whether your proposal will be selected for funding. Certain PAUs only contain a single eligible location. The estimate for PAUs with a single location is averaged based on surrounding BSLs. As such, the displayed costs for single-BSL PAUs do not represent the actual NTIA-projected costs and may have a significantly different value from the NTIA-projected cost.

There are three methods to select PAUs:

1. Click on the PAU directly on the map.
2. Search for a PAU by ID. This method is available under the menu titled “Search for Project Area Unit by ID or Name.”
3. Upload a CSV or XLSX file of PAU IDs. Sample CSV and XLSX files are available in the application portal. This method is available under the menu titled “Select by uploading Project Area Unit IDs.”

Note that PAUs without eligible locations can be added to your Project Area without affecting your score. Due to the nature of Tribal lands, certain Tribal land PAUs may be non-contiguous. This is an expected outcome of the Project Area creation process. Applicants creating a Project Area with these non-contiguous PAUs may not have a fully contiguous Project Area, but this is acceptable for the application.

Regardless of your selection method, the following Project Area creation rules will be enforced by the application portal:

- **Minimum Selection Not Met** – Please select at least one PAU.
- **No Eligible Locations Selected** – Please select PAUs that cover at least one eligible unserved or underserved location.
- **Multiple Contiguous Areas Selected** – You have selected PAUs that form two contiguous areas. Please adjust your selection to form a single contiguous area.
- **Required Selection Rules Not Met** – Please do one of the following:
 - Select one or more contiguous Tribal lands for inclusion
 - Select 50% or more contiguous high-need areas for inclusion.
 - Select all contiguous (sharing a vertex) high-need areas for inclusion.

The percentage of PAUs in the proposed Project Area that qualify as high-need areas will be automatically calculated. The percentage is dynamically updated when PAUs are added or removed from the Project Area and can be viewed within the right-side menu pane underneath the “Required Selection Rules Not Met” error message if under 50%. If the percentage is below 50%, you must add PAUs that are immediately contiguous to non-high-need PAUs in the proposed Project Area until the level has reached at least 50% or until no immediately contiguous high-need PAUs remain unselected. You are not required to include

a high-need PAU that is adjacent only to another high-need PAU you added to your Project Area to fulfill this requirement. If those available do not add up to 50%, you must apply for an automatic waiver of the minimum high-need area threshold requirement in question 3.3Ai. For Project Areas that include Tribal lands, you may submit the application without meeting the minimum threshold or maximum available inclusion requirements for high-need PAUs.

After selecting one or more PAUs, a summary of the intersecting Unserved BSLs, Underserved BSLs, Unserved CAIs, and “Indicated” locations will appear under the right-side menu titled **Selected Project Area Units**.

The “Eligible Locations” value is a sum of the Unserved, Underserved, and CAI locations. Certain eligible locations may be funded by other enforceable commitments, such as the [Last Mile Federal Funding Account \(FFA\)](#) or the [California Advanced Services Fund \(CASF\)](#), and are referred to as “Indicated” locations. “Indicated” eligible locations with pending enforceable commitments are represented on the map with a yellow triangular symbol. Locations that will be served by FFA, CASF, or another enforceable commitment are not eligible for BEAD funding and will be removed from your BEAD project proposal during the negotiation process.

After creating your Project Area click the blue “Review Locations” button on the bottom right to proceed to the next step. If this button is greyed out, that means certain Project Area creation rules were not met. Check the menu titled **Selected Project Area Unit issues** on the right-side menu pane for more information.

Selected project area units (2 selected)	
Area Name	Eligible Locations
060890108052 ✕	4
060890108051 ✕	141
Total Clear ✕	145
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 10 Unserved BSLs ● 10 Unserved CAI 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 125 Underserved ▲ 0 Indicated

Selected Project Area Units information pane



Two Indicated locations with the ▲ symbol

Step Two: Review Locations

In this step applicants can review information on each eligible unserved and underserved location that falls within the Project Area. Applicants are required to serve all eligible locations within the Project Area; the total number of eligible locations is identified on the menu titled “Required locations (*n* selected)” where *n* is the total. Applicants may export a CSV or XSLX file of the eligible locations in the Project Area within the same menu. The export will contain the fabric ID, address information, service level (unserved or underserved), latitude, longitude, and “id”.

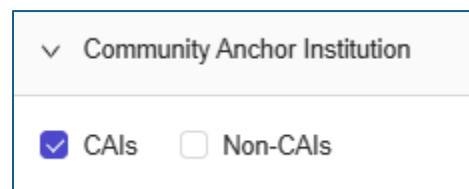
	Fabric ID	City
		20141 JILL LN, REDDING, CA 96003
	1309384614	Redding
	1309374096	Redding

Hovering your mouse over the city name will display the location’s address

After reviewing the eligible locations, click the blue “Select Community Anchor Institutions” button on the bottom right to proceed to the next step.

Step Three: (Optional) Select CAI Locations

After creating the Project Area, applicants may optionally add CAI locations to the proposed project by selecting them on the map. CAIs will be considered and funded only after all unserved and underserved locations have been considered and funded. Applicants should not include costs associated with serving CAI locations in the overall project cost proposal. If CAIs are not visible, check the “Community Anchor Institution” menu on the left side and make sure the “CAIs” option is toggled on. There are two methods to select CAIs:



This menu can be found on the left side menu pane

1. Click on the CAI points directly on the map.
2. Upload a CSV or XLSX file of CAI id. Sample CSV and XLSX files are available in the portal.

After selecting CAIs, click the “Save Selections” button on the bottom right. Then click the blue “Next” button to continue to the next section.

Editing the Map Selection

It is possible to navigate back to Section 2 and modify the Project Area and selected CAIs at any time before submitting the project application. After navigating to Section 2, click the white “Edit Project Area” button in the bottom right to modify the selected PAUs and CAIs.

Section 3: Project Snapshot

3.1* Provide the dollar amount of the applicant’s proposed Total Project Cost (i.e., the total cost to serve the unserved and underserved locations in the Project Area Units (PAU) selected, including matching funds) rounded to the nearest cent.

Enter the response in the currency field. Applicants should not include costs associated with serving CAI locations in the Total Project Cost.

3.2* Provide the dollar amount of the applicant’s proposed Total Funding Request (i.e., how much grant funding the applicant is seeking with this application to serve the unserved and underserved locations in the Project Area Units (PAU) selected, not including matching funds) rounded to the nearest cent.

Enter the response in the currency field. Include all BEAD funding requested. In the case that the applicant is requesting a match waiver, include any BEAD funding requested to meet the 25% match requirement.

3.3 Percentage of PAUs in the proposed Project Area that qualify as high-need areas. This field will auto-fill.

If the percentage is below 50%, the applicant must add PAUs that are immediately contiguous to non-high-need PAUs in the proposed Project Area from those available until it has reached at least 50% or until it has reached the maximum number available. The applicant is not required to include a high-need PAU that is adjacent only to another high-need PAU in its Project Area (for example, one that was added to fulfill this requirement). For Project Areas that include Tribal lands, the applicant may submit the application without meeting the minimum threshold or maximum available inclusion requirements for high-need PAUs.

If those available high-need PAUs do not add up to 50%, the applicant must apply for an automatic waiver of the minimum high-need area threshold requirement in the following question.

The application portal will automatically calculate a response to this question based on the PAUs selected in Section 2.

Low-Income Area (LIA) or Disadvantaged Community (DAC) “high-need areas” are different than the NTIA-defined “High-Cost Areas.” The PAU is considered a high-need area if it meets any of the following criteria:

- Census tracts receiving the highest 25% of overall scores in CalEnviroScreen 4.0.

- Census tracts lacking overall scores in CalEnviroScreen 4.0 due to data gaps but receiving the highest 5% of CalEnviroScreen 4.0 cumulative pollution burden scores.
- Census tracts identified in the 2017 DAC designation as disadvantaged, regardless of their scores in CalEnviroScreen 4.0.
- Census tracts where aggregated household incomes are less than 80% of area or state median income, utilizing whichever of the two aggregated household incomes data points is higher.
- Lands under the control of federally recognized Tribes.

LIA or DAC “high-need areas” are predefined in the application portal and look different on the map. See Section 2 for map and legend guidance.

Source: IPv2 5.7 (p. 49).

3.3Ai* The applicant must check the box to apply for an automatic waiver of the minimum high-need area (LIA/DAC, including Tribal lands) threshold requirement. In order to receive this waiver, the applicant must have included all immediately contiguous high-need areas to non-high-need PAUs in their proposed Project Area. If a Project Area has less than 50% LIA/DAC PAUs, the applicant must either

1. Select contiguous high-need PAUS until the 50% threshold is met, or,
2. Submit a waiver if no remaining contiguous high-need PAUs remain

If the Project Area has less than 50% LIA/DAC PAUs as calculated in question 3.3, the applicant cannot proceed unless all immediately contiguous LIA/DAC PAUs are added to the Project Area. For Project Areas that include Tribal lands, you may select the checkbox and submit the application without meeting the minimum threshold or maximum available inclusion requirements for high-need PAUs.

If all immediately contiguous LIA/DAC PAUs are added to the project and the total Project Area still contains less than the 50% LIA/DAC (or high-need) threshold, then the applicant may proceed with an automatic waiver by selecting the checkbox.

Source: IPv2 5.7 (p. 49).

3.3B* Each applicant must submit a proposal for a project serving 100% of unserved and underserved locations in a Project Area. Will the applicant also submit a proposal to serve that same Project Area at a coverage rate of 90% of unserved and underserved locations?

The 90% proposal will not be scored separately; it will receive the same score as the 100% proposal. The 90% proposal may be considered for award if 100% applications are not selected.

Select “Yes” or “No.” If “Yes,” proceed to question 3.3Bi through 3.3Bxviii. Otherwise proceed to question 3.3C.

Source: IPv2 5.7 (p. 50); Decision (p. 17).

3.3Bi The total number of unserved and underserved BSLs to be served by a 90% application will be automatically calculated.

The application portal will automatically calculate a response to this question.

3.3Bii* Using the provided “90 Percent Proposal Locations List” template, identify the unserved and underserved BSLs the applicant proposes to serve in the 90% proposal.

The application portal will validate that the total locations in this proposal must match the value automatically calculated by the application portal in question 3.3Bi.

The application portal will automatically generate a “90 Percent Proposal Locations List” CSV template based on the proposed Project Areas. Any selected CAIs will not be included in the 90% locations list. Applicants should not make any changes to the values in the first 12 columns of the template:

- A. **id:** A unique ID (UUID) generated by the application portal. Do not modify data in this column.
- B. **fabricId:** The unique ID used in the Broadband Serviceable Location Fabric will be auto-populated by the application portal.
- C. **serviceLevel:** Unserved (0) or Underserved (1) values will be auto-populated by the application portal.
- D. **address:** The address will be auto-populated by the application portal.
- E. **city:** The city will be auto-populated by the application portal.
- F. **zipCode:** The Zip Code will be auto-populated by the application portal.
- G. **state:** The State will be auto-populated by the application portal.
- H. **latitude:** The latitude will be auto-populated by the application portal.
- I. **longitude:** The longitude will be auto-populated by the application portal.

- J. **isHighFireThreat:** If the location falls within a Tier 2 or Tier 3 High-Fire Threat District this value will be “1.” This value will be auto-populated by the application portal.
- K. **isHighCost:** If the location falls within an NTIA “High-Cost” area this value will be “1.” This value will be auto-populated by the application portal.
- L. **pendingEnforceableCommitment:** Certain eligible locations may be funded by other enforceable commitments, for example the Last Mile Federal Funding Account (FFA) or the California Advanced Services Fund (CASF). Eligible locations with pending enforceable commitments are indicated in this column as “1.” This value is auto-populated by the application portal.

The number of locations that the applicant must identify is automatically calculated in the previous question, 3.3Bi. Within the template use the following column to identify which locations you are serving in the 90% proposal:

- M. **includeInNinetyPercent:** Identify the unserved and underserved BSLs the applicant proposes to serve in the 90% proposal by entering “TRUE” or “1.” Leave blank if you are not serving the location. Do not type “FALSE” or “0.”

3.3Biii The percentage of selected unserved and underserved locations in the proposed 90% Project Area that fall within an NTIA-defined High-Cost Area (HCA) will be automatically calculated.

The application portal will automatically calculate a response to this question based on the file uploaded in the previous question, 3.3Bii.

3.3Biv* Provide the dollar amount of the applicant’s proposed Total Project Cost for the 90% proposal (i.e., the total cost to serve 90% of the unserved and underserved locations in the Project Area Units (PAU) selected, including matching funds) rounded to the nearest cent.

Enter the response in the currency field. Applicants should not include costs associated with serving CAI locations in the Total Project Cost.

3.3Bv* Provide the dollar amount of the applicant’s proposed Total Funding Request for the 90% proposal (i.e., how much grant funding the applicant is seeking with this application to serve the unserved and underserved locations in the Project Area Units (PAU) selected, not including matching funds) rounded to the nearest cent.

Enter the response in the currency field. Include all BEAD funding requested for the 90% proposal. In the case that the applicant is requesting a match waiver, include any BEAD funding requested to meet the 25% match requirement.

3.3Bvi* For the 90% proposal, provide the total amount of cash and in-kind matching funds for the project to be provided by the applicant itself.

Enter the response in the currency field.

3.3Bvii* For the 90% proposal, provide the total dollar amount of cash and in-kind matching funds for the project to be provided by match-eligible, non-BEAD federal sources. If there are no match-eligible, non-BEAD federal sources, please respond with “0.”

Enter the response in the currency field.

3.3Bviii* Using the Match-Eligible Federal Sources Template, provide a breakdown of the funding dollar amount per federal source.

Upload the “Match-Eligible Federal Sources Template” in XLSX format. A response to this question is required only to applicants who entered a response greater than \$0 into question 3.3Bvii.

3.3Bix* For the 90% proposal, provide the total dollar amount of cash and in-kind matching funds for the project to be provided by non-BEAD state sources. If there are no non-BEAD state sources, please respond with “0.”

Enter the response in the currency field.

3.3Bx* For the 90% proposal, provide the total amount of cash and in-kind matching funds for the project to be provided by other sources such as non-profit organizations. If there are no other sources, please respond with “0.”

Enter the response in the currency field.

If the dollar amount of matching funds provided by non-BEAD sources (the sum of the answers to 3.3Bvi to 3.3Bx) *plus* the Total Funding Request entered in question 3.3Biv does not equal the Total Project Cost entered in question 3.3Bv, the applicant will be forced to revise the relevant question responses.

3.3Bxi* For the 90% proposal, are you requesting a minimal percentage matching fund waiver? Please note your match level is part of the validation and project proposals that commit to meeting at least minimum matching requirements will be processed first. If provisionally awarded, projects that seek match waivers will be

submitted to NTIA along with the waiver justifications. Final award will be subject to NTIA approval.

Select “Yes” or “No.” If “Yes,” proceed to questions 9.3Bxii and 9.3Bxiii. Otherwise proceed to question 9.3Bxiv.

Source: IPv2 5.7 (p. 51).

3.3Bxii* Provide the total dollar amount of the match waiver requested.

Enter the response in the currency field. A response to this question is only required from applicants who answered “Yes” to question 3.3Bxi. The waiver request amount must be 25% of the total project cost (for locations outside NTIA High-Cost Areas) minus the applicant’s match contribution.

3.3Bxiii* Upload waiver support documentation.

Upload a single file in XLSX or PDF format. Documentation must provide proof that the project is in an NTIA High-Cost or describe the special circumstances underlying the request and explain how a waiver would serve the public interest and effectuate the purposes of the BEAD Program (see the BEAD NOFO, Section III.B.5). A response to this question is only required from applicants who answered “Yes” to question 3.3Bxi.

3.3Bxiv The total dollar amount of matching funds from all sources for the 90% proposal will be automatically calculated.

The total dollar amount of matching funds for the 90% proposal will be automatically calculated by the application portal by summing the responses of the following five questions:

- 3.3Bvi - Total amount of cash and in-kind matching funds for the project to be provided by the applicant itself,
- 3.3Bvii - Total dollar amount of cash and in-kind matching funds for the project to be provided by match-eligible, non-BEAD federal sources,
- 3.3Bix - Total dollar amount of cash and in-kind matching funds for the project to be provided by non-BEAD state sources,
- 3.3Bx - Total amount of cash and in-kind matching funds for the project to be provided by other sources such as non-profit organizations, and
- 3.3Bxii - Total dollar amount of the match waiver requested (if applicable).

3.3Bxv NTIA 25% Match Requirement. This will be automatically calculated.

The application portal will automatically calculate a response to this question. If the percentage of matching funds for eligible locations outside NTIA High-Cost Areas is less than 25%, the applicant must apply for a matching fund waiver in question 3.3Bxi.

Source: NOFO (p.20).

3.3Bxvi* Do any of the matching funds included in this response qualify as in-kind?

Select “Yes” or “No.” If “Yes,” proceed to questions 3.3Bxvii and 3.3Bxviii. Otherwise proceed to question 3.3C. Please reference the NOFO (pages 21-22) for more information about qualified in-kind contributions.

3.3Bxvii* Using the In-Kind Matching Funds Template, provide the dollar amount and source for all in-kind matching funds for the project.

Upload the “In-Kind Matching Funds Template” in XLSX format. A response to this question is only required from applicants who answered “Yes” to question 3.3Bxvii.

3.3Bxviii* Upload financial justification for the valuation of in-kind matching funds. Financial justification must break out costs for each line item for the in-kind match.

Upload a single file in XLSX or PDF format. A response to this question is only required from applicants who answered “Yes” to question 3.3Bxvii.

3.3C The total number of unserved and underserved broadband serviceable locations (BSL) in the Project Area will be automatically calculated.

The application portal will automatically calculate a response to this question based on the Project Area created in Section 2.

3.3Ci The total number of unserved BSLs this project proposes to serve will be automatically calculated.

The application portal will automatically calculate a response to this question based on the Project Area created in Section 2.

3.3Cii The total number of underserved BSLs this project proposes to serve will be automatically calculated.

The application portal will automatically calculate a response to this question based on the Project Area created in Section 2.

3.3Ciii The total number of CAIs this project proposes to serve will be automatically calculated.

The application portal will automatically calculate a response to this question based on the applicant's selection in Section 2.

3.3Civ The total number of unserved, underserved, and CAI locations this project proposes to serve will be automatically calculated.

The application portal will automatically calculate a response to this question by summing the responses to questions 3.3Ci, 3.3Cii and 3.3Ciii.

3.3Cv The percentage of selected unserved and underserved BSLs in the proposed Project Area that fall within an NTIA-defined High-Cost Area (HCA) will be automatically calculated.

The application portal will automatically calculate a response to this question based on the Project Area created in Section 2.

3.3D* Using the Locations List Template provided, submit information on each BSL and CAI the project intends to serve, including the proposed technology type, anticipated upload and download speeds, whether or not the proposed service meets the definition of low latency, and, if applicable, information on the eligibility of the location for BEAD funding.

Applicants should identify the locations in the proposed Project Area for which the applicant commits to build infrastructure to meet the requirements for Resilient Infrastructure established in California's Initial Proposal Volume 2.

For locations outside Tier 2 or Tier 3 High-Fire Threat Districts, the location will be considered to be served by resilient infrastructure if the applicant proposes to ensure that 72-hour backup power will be supplied to all facilities necessary to maintain its service to that location.

For locations within Tier 2 or Tier 3 High-Fire Threat Districts, for which 72-hour backup power is already required, the location will be considered to be served by resilient infrastructure if the applicant includes reasonable plans to deploy infrastructure serving that location utilizing appropriate risk mitigation and infrastructure hardening practices.

One point will be awarded for proposing a Project Area consisting of at least 10% of locations meeting the relevant criteria, with an additional one point awarded for every additional 10 percentage points (rounded down) meeting the relevant criteria for a total of 10 points possible.

The application portal will automatically generate a "Location List" CSV template based on the proposed Project Area and selected CAI locations. Upload a single CSV file. Applicants

can view the source data for Tier 2 and Tier 3 High-Fire Threat Districts via [this link](#), and find more information about the CPUC’s fire-threat rulemaking at [this link](#).

Applicants must not make any changes to the values in the first 12 columns of the template:

- A. **id**: A unique ID (UUID) generated by the application portal. Do not modify data in this column.
- B. **fabricId**: The unique ID used in the Broadband Serviceable Location Fabric will be auto-populated by the application portal.
- C. **serviceLevel**: Unserved (0) or Underserved (1) values will be auto-populated by the application portal.
- D. **address**: The address will be auto-populated by the application portal.
- E. **city**: The city will be auto-populated by the application portal.
- F. **zipCode**: The Zip Code will be auto-populated by the application portal.
- G. **state**: The State will be auto-populated by the application portal.
- H. **latitude**: The latitude will be auto-populated by the application portal.
- I. **longitude**: The longitude will be auto-populated by the application portal.
- J. **isHighFireThreat**: If the location falls within a Tier 2 or Tier 3 High-Fire Threat District this value will be “1.” This value will be auto-populated by the application portal.
- K. **isHighCost**: If the location falls within an NTIA "High-Cost" area this value will be “1.” This value will be auto-populated by the application portal.
- L. **pendingEnforceableCommitment**: Certain eligible locations may be funded by other enforceable commitments, for example the Last Mile Federal Funding Account (FFA) or the California Advanced Services Fund (CASF). Eligible locations with pending enforceable commitments are indicated in this column as “1.” This value is auto-populated by the application portal.

Unless specified, the following columns must be populated for each unserved, underserved, and CAI location:

- M. **willServeWithResilientInfrastructure**: Enter “TRUE” or “1” if the applicant will serve this location with resilient infrastructure. One point will be awarded for proposing a Project Area consisting of at least 10% of locations meeting the relevant criteria, with an additional one point awarded for every additional 10 percentage

points (rounded down) meeting the relevant criteria for a total of 10 points possible. Leave blank if you are not serving the location. Do not type “FALSE” or “0.”

N. **technology:** Applicants must enter the type of technology to be deployed to serve each location. This column must be completed for all locations unless the location has been identified as non-BEAD-eligible by the applicant in the ‘zero_funding_reason’ column and the reason code is either “1 location should not have broadband service” or “2 location does not need mass-market broadband service.” Allowable technology types to enter are:

- 10 Copper Wire
- 40 Coaxial Cable / HFC
- 50 Optical Carrier / Fiber to the Premises
- 61 Non-Geostationary Satellite
- 70 Unlicensed Terrestrial Fixed Wireless
- 71 Licensed Terrestrial Fixed Wireless
- 72 Licensed by-Rule Terrestrial Fixed Wireless

The code or codes selected in this column must match the technology type or types selected in Question 1.5 of the application for the locations for which the applicant is requesting BEAD funding.

O. **uploadSpeedAnticipatedMbps:** Applicants must enter the planned maximum upload speed in Mbps for each location as an integer. This column must be completed for all locations unless the location has been identified as non-BEAD-eligible by the applicant in the ‘zero_funding_reason’ column.

P. **downloadSpeedAnticipatedMbps:** Applicants must enter the planned maximum download speed in Mbps for each location as an integer. This column must be completed for all locations unless the location has been identified as non-BEAD-eligible by the applicant in the ‘zero_funding_reason’ column.

Q. **lowLatency:** Applicants must enter whether the committed service meets the definition of low latency (1) or does not meet the definition of low latency (0). Enter 1 or 0. Low latency is defined as having a round-trip latency of less than or equal to 100 milliseconds based on the 95th percentile of measurements. This column must be completed for all locations unless the location has been identified as non-BEAD-eligible by the applicant in the ‘zero_funding_reason’ column.

- R. **zeroFundingReason:** Applicants may optionally enter the NTIA reason code that explains why they are not requesting BEAD funding for the location. Allowable zero funding reason codes are:
- 1 location should not have broadband service
 - 2 location does not need mass-market broadband service
 - 4 location is already served by an enforceable commitment
 - 5 location is already served by nonsubsidized service (privately funded network)
- S. **nonBslCode:** Applicants must enter the reason the location should not have broadband service if the applicant selected “1: location should not have broadband service” in the ‘zero_funding_reason’ column. Allowable reason codes are:
- (D) location has been demolished and is not expected to be rebuilt
 - (B) residential location is not habitable
 - (U) location is a support structure (e.g., a garage, parking structure, barn, silo, storage shed) to a nearby building
 - (M) location is intended to be mobile (e.g., it is an RV or boat)
 - (R) location is not a building but a land formation, such as a large rock or collection of hay bales
- T. **locationType:** Applicants must enter the reason the location does not need mass-market broadband service if the applicant selected, ”2: location does not need mass-market broadband service” in the ‘zero_funding_reason’ column. Allowable reason codes are:
- (E) enterprise
 - (C) CAI
 - (P) government property
- U. **evidenceType:** Applicants must enter the type of evidence they will provide for any locations they have identified as ineligible for BEAD funding or to be non-BSLs if the reason selected in the ‘zero_funding_reason’ column is “1: location should not have broadband service,” ”2: location does not need mass-market broadband service,” “4: location is already served by an enforceable commitment,” or “5: location is already served by nonsubsidized service (privately funded network).” Leave this column empty otherwise. Applicants will indicate the count of locations and upload relevant evidence in questions 3.3E through 3.3Eii. Allowable types of evidence and minimum standards for each evidence type are:

- (L) attestation by unit of local or Tribal government – applicable to reason code 1 in the ‘zero_funding_reason’ column. An attestation by a unit of local or Tribal government owning the location must be dated and retained as a PDF file. Attestations for locations on Tribal lands must be made by a representative of the Tribal government. The signatory must be identified by title as a representative of the unit of local or Tribal government or federal government agency. The signature may be either digital or scanned. If a single attestation applies to multiple locations, the attestation must list all Location IDs. Evidence must demonstrate that the location is not a business or residential location at which fixed broadband Internet access service is, or can be, installed and there is a demand for such service.
- (G) attestation by government entity owning location – applicable to reason codes 1 and 2 in the ‘zero_funding_reason’ column. An attestation by a unit of state government or agency of the federal government, or other government entity owning the location must be dated and retained as a PDF file. The signature may be either digital or scanned. If a single attestation applies to multiple locations, the attestation must list all Location IDs.
 - For Reason Code 1: Location should not have a broadband connection, evidence must demonstrate that the location is not a business or residential location at which fixed broadband internet access service is, or can be, installed and there is a demand for such service.
 - For Reason Code 2: Location does not need mass-market broadband service due to the nature of use, evidence must demonstrate that the location does not have a demand for mass market broadband service.
- (F) FCC location challenge identifier – applicable to reason codes 1 and 2 in the ‘zero_funding_reason’ column.
- (S) evidence of subscription (service record) – applicable to reason codes 2 and 5 in the ‘zero_funding_reason’ column. Evidence of subscription must be preserved as a PDF file and must contain a date. Any personally identifiable information must be redacted. The evidence of subscription must indicate the service address, service provider, the technology type, and the speed tier.
- (O) attestation by private property owner – applicable to reason codes 1 and 2 in the ‘zero_funding_reason’ column. An attestation by a private property owner must be retained as a PDF file. It must contain a date and a digital or

scanned signature. If a single attestation applies to multiple locations, it must list all street addresses or Location IDs.

- For Reason Code 1: Location should not have a broadband connection, evidence must demonstrate that the location is not a business or residential location at which fixed broadband internet access service is, or can be, installed and there is a demand for such service.
- For Reason Code 2: Location does not need mass-market broadband service due to the nature of use, evidence must demonstrate that the location does not have a demand for mass market broadband service.
- (E) enforceable commitment – applicable to reason code 4 in the ‘zero_funding_reason’ column. An enforceable commitment contract must be retained as a PDF file. Evidence must demonstrate that the location is already served, or planned to be served, with qualifying broadband.

Source: IPv2 (pp. 43-44).

3.3Di* The total number of selected locations within Tier 2 or Tier 3 High-Fire Threat Districts will be automatically calculated.

The application portal will automatically calculate a response to this question based on the proposed Project Area. The sum includes unserved, underserved, and optionally selected CAI locations.

3.3Dii* The total number of selected locations outside Tier 2 or Tier 3 High-Fire Threat Districts will be automatically calculated.

The application portal will automatically calculate a response to this question based on the proposed Project Area. The sum includes unserved, underserved, and optionally selected CAI locations.

3.3Diii* The total number of locations within Tier 2 or Tier 3 High-Fire Threat Districts the applicant will serve with resilient infrastructure will be automatically calculated.

The application portal will automatically calculate a response to this question based on the locations identified in question 3.3D.

3.3Div* The total number of locations outside Tier 2 or Tier 3 High-Fire Threat Districts the applicant will serve with resilient infrastructure will be automatically calculated.

The application portal will automatically calculate a response to this question based on the locations identified in question 3.3D.

3.3E* Has the applicant identified any locations that are ineligible for BEAD funding or any non-BSLs in the proposed Project Area?

Select “Yes” or “No.” If “Yes,” proceed to questions 3.3Ei and 3.3Eii. Otherwise proceed to question 3.4.

3.3Ei* How many locations are ineligible for BEAD funding or any non-BSLs in the proposed Project Area, as identified by the applicant?

Enter the response into the number field. A response to this question is only required from applicants who answered “Yes” to question 3.3E. The total locations identified in this question must match the count of location identified in question 3.3D, “zeroFundingReason” column.

3.3Eii* Upload evidence for each location the applicant has identified as ineligible for BEAD funding or to be a non-BSL. The evidence type must adhere to one of the options in the column titled “evidence_type” of the Locations List Template in question 3.3D. The file must be named as follows: “[Location ID]-[Type of Evidence Code]-ineligible-or-non-BSL”.

Upload files in PDF, CSV, or JPEG format. File names should follow the requirement listed in the question. A response to this question is only required from applicants who answered “Yes” to question 3.3E. For “Location ID” please include the NTIA fabric ID, otherwise referenced by “fabricId”.

3.4* Provide the total amount of cash and in-kind matching funds for the project to be provided by the applicant itself.

Enter the response in the currency field. For more information on in-kind matching funds applicants should reference the NOFO pages 21-22.

3.4A* Provide the total dollar amount of cash and in-kind matching funds for the project to be provided by match-eligible, non-BEAD federal sources. If there are no match-eligible, non-BEAD federal sources, please respond with “0.”

Enter the response in the currency field.

3.4Ai* Using the Match-Eligible Federal Sources Template, provide a breakdown of the funding dollar amount per federal source.

Upload the “Match-Eligible Federal Sources Template” in XLSX format. A response to this question is required only to applicants who entered a response greater than \$0 in question 3.4A.

3.4B* Provide the total dollar amount of cash and in-kind matching funds for the project to be provided by non-BEAD state sources. If there are no non-BEAD state sources, please respond with “0.”

Enter the response in the currency field.

3.4C* Provide the total amount of cash and in-kind matching funds for the project to be provided by other sources such as non-profit organizations. If there are no other sources, please respond with “0.”

Enter the response in the currency field.

If the dollar amount of matching funds provided by non-BEAD sources (the sum of the answers to 3.4 to 3.4C) *plus* the Total Funding Request entered in question 3.2 does not equal the Total Project Cost entered in question 3.1, the applicant will be forced to revise the relevant question responses.

3.4D* Are you requesting a matching fund waiver? Please note your match level is part of the score and project proposals that commit to meeting at least minimum matching requirements will be processed first. If provisionally awarded, projects that seek match waivers will be submitted to NTIA along with the waiver justifications. Final award will be subject to NTIA approval.

Select “Yes” or “No.” If “Yes,” proceed to questions 3.4Di and 3.4Dii. Otherwise proceed to question 3.4E.

Source: IPv2 5.7 (p. 51).

3.4Di* Provide the total dollar amount of the match waiver requested.

Enter the response in the currency field. A response to this question is only required from applicants who answered “Yes” to question 3.4D. As a reminder, the Total Funding Request (question 3.2) must include the total dollar amount requested in the match waiver.

3.4Dii* Upload waiver support documentation.

Upload a single file in XLSX or PDF format. Documentation must describe the special circumstances underlying the request and explain how a waiver would serve the public interest and effectuate the purposes of the BEAD Program (see the BEAD NOFO, Section

III.B.5). A response to this question is only required from applicants who answered “Yes” to question 3.4D.

3.4E The total dollar amount of matching funds from all sources will be automatically calculated.

The total dollar amount of matching funds will be automatically calculated by the application portal by summing the responses to the following five questions:

- 3.4 – Total amount of cash and in-kind matching funds for the project to be provided by the applicant itself,
- 3.4A – Total dollar amount of cash and in-kind matching funds for the project to be provided by match-eligible, non-BEAD federal sources,
- 3.4B – Total dollar amount of cash and in-kind matching funds for the project to be provided by non-BEAD state sources, and
- 3.4C – Total amount of cash and in-kind matching funds for the project to be provided by other sources such as non-profit organizations.
- 3.3Di – Total dollar amount of the match waiver requested (if applicable).

3.4F NTIA 25% Match Requirement.

The application portal will automatically calculate a response to this question. If the percentage of matching funds for eligible locations outside NTIA High-Cost Areas is less than 25%, the applicant must apply for a matching fund waiver in question 3.4D.

Source: NOFO (p.20).

3.4G* Do any of the matching funds included in this response qualify as in-kind?

Select “Yes” or “No.” If “Yes,” proceed to questions 3.4Gi and 3.4Gii. Otherwise proceed to question 3.5. Please reference the NOFO pages 21-22 for more information about qualified in-kind contributions.

3.4Gi* Using the In-Kind Matching Funds Template, provide the dollar amount and source for all in-kind matching funds for the project.

Upload the “In-Kind Matching Funds Template” in XLSX format. A response to this question is only required from applicants who answered “Yes” to question 3.4G.

3.4Gii* Upload financial justification for the valuation of in-kind matching funds. Financial justification must break out costs for each line item for the in-kind match.

Upload a single file in XLSX or PDF format. A response to this question is only required from applicants who answered “Yes” to question 3.4G.

3.5* Provide the estimated number of total route miles for the new project build. For wireless technologies, include only route miles to the tower/antennae or ground station.

Enter the response in the number field.

3.6* Provide the estimated miles of aerial fiber for the new project build. If no aerial fiber will be used, please enter “0.”

Enter the response in the number field.

3.7* Provide the estimated miles of underground fiber for the new project build. If no underground fiber will be used, please enter “0.”

Enter the response in the number field.

3.8 The dollar amount of the average BEAD funding cost per unserved and underserved BSL that the applicant proposes to serve will be automatically calculated.

The application portal will automatically calculate a response to this question by dividing the Total Funding Request (question 3.2) by the count of BSLs in the proposed Project Area (question 3.3C).

Source: BEAD NOFO (p. 43).

3.8A The dollar amount of the average BEAD funding cost per unserved and underserved BSL that the applicant proposes to serve in the proposed project to serve 90% of unserved and underserved locations will be automatically calculated.

If the applicant responded “Yes” to question 3.3B the application portal will automatically calculate a response to this question by dividing the Total Funding Request in the 90% proposal (question 3.3Bv) by the count of BSLs in the 90% proposal (question 3.3Bi).

Source: BEAD NOFO (p. 43).

3.9* Select the category that best describes the lead applicant’s service provider type.

Select a single option: ILEC, Non-ILEC Service Provider, Cooperative, Tribal Government, Municipality or Local Government, Nonprofit Organization, Public-Private Partnership, Public or Private Utility, Public Utility District.

This selection will determine if the applicant is a non-traditional provider as defined by the BEAD NOFO (p. 14).

3.10* Indicate whether the lead applicant is a Woman-Owned Business Enterprise (WBE).

Select “Yes” or “No.”

3.10A* Indicate whether the lead applicant is a Minority Business Enterprise (MBE).

Select “Yes” or “No.”

3.10B* Indicate whether the lead applicant qualifies as a small business.

Select “Yes” or “No.”

3.11* Provide a website address (URL) for the lead applicant.

Enter the response in the textbox.

3.12* Provide the estimated number of employment opportunities (full-time equivalent) created by the project.

Enter the response in the number field.

3.13* Does the applicant commit to providing a low-cost broadband service option for the life of the infrastructure that meets, at a minimum, all of the following criteria specified in California’s Initial Proposal Volume 2:

- Will be available to all households that meet the eligibility requirements of the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) (e.g., available to households with an income equal to or below 200% of the federal poverty line) and all other eligible subscribers as defined in the BEAD NOFO
- Costs \$30 per month or less (\$75 per month or less on Tribal lands), inclusive of all government taxes and fees. Subgrantees may apply increases in price after at least 12 months not to exceed the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) 12-month percentage point change for the “All Items” category, published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Existing customers must be informed via mail, billing announcement, or email no later than 30 days before a price increase.
- Allows the end user to apply the ACP subsidy to the cost of service and encourages ISPs to ensure that prospective customers are aware of their participation in the ACP
- Meets performance requirements as established by the BEAD Program, with download speeds of at least 100 Mbps and upload speeds of at least 20 Mbps
- Delivers typical latency of no more than 100 milliseconds

- Is not subject to data caps, surcharges, or usage-based throttling, and is subject only to the same acceptable use policies to which subscribers to all other broadband internet access service plans offered to home subscribers by the participating subgrantee must adhere
- Allows subscribers to upgrade at no cost in the event the provider later offers a low-cost plan with higher speeds (downstream and/or upstream)
- Does not charge a fee for installation or set-up
- Provides a free modem or router
- Does not require a minimum term of service

Select “Yes” or “No.” If “No,” proceed to question 3.13A. Otherwise proceed to question 3.14.

The requirement to offer the low-cost broadband service option will be included as a condition of the BEAD subgrant agreement the CPUC executes with successful applicants.

The CPUC will allow applicants to submit waiver requests proposing alternative commitments to address this requirement. Applicants must provide justification for the request.

Source: IPv2 13.1 (p. 205).

3.13A* Does the applicant seek a modification to the low-cost broadband service option requirement as set forth in California’s Initial Proposal Volume 2, specifically for the price charged? You will be asked to provide a justification if you select “yes.”

Select “Yes” or “No.” If “Yes,” proceed to questions 3.13B through 3.13F. Applicants who responded “No” to question 3.13 must respond “Yes” to this question.

Source: IPv2 13.1 (p. 206).

3.13B* Provide the dollar amount of the applicant’s proposed alternative monthly rate for the low-cost broadband service option, which must not exceed \$50 per month inclusive of all taxes and fees.

Enter the response in the currency field. A response is only required from applicants who responded “Yes” to question 3.13A.

3.13C* Provide the following evidence supporting the applicant’s proposed rate:

- Per-subscriber costs in an area indicating that the State’s target rate (\$30 or less) would be financially unsustainable; and/or

- **The impact on average revenue per user (ARPU) and total project revenue of the target rate (\$30 or less) would be financially unsustainable given actual or projected subscriber adoption and subscription patterns.**

Upload one or more files in PDF format. A response is only required from applicants who responded “Yes” to question 3.13A.

3.13D* Confirm that if a modification request is granted, the modified price shall remain for the lifetime of the asset (as defined by NTIA).

Select the checkbox.

3.13E* Upload a document that provides a justification as to why this proposed price will ensure affordability for low-income customers, an explanation of why it would be infeasible for the applicant to meet the low-cost service option requirement, and why this would imperil core objectives of the BEAD program, and any supporting documentation, such as business plans or a pro forma.

Upload one or more files in PDF format. A response is only required from applicants who responded “Yes” to question 3.13A.

3.13F* Confirm that the applicant will participate in any successor program to the ACP at the State or federal level. If there is no such successor program, the applicant must agree to participate in other low-income connectivity programs, as applicable, such as Lifeline, California LifeLine, and/or any similar low-income connectivity program or subsidy offered federally or by the State.

Select the checkbox. A response is only required from applicants who responded “Yes” to question 3.13A.

3.14* Does the applicant commit to providing a Middle-Class Affordable Service Option (MCASO) that meets, at minimum, all of the following criteria specified in California’s Initial Proposal Volume 2:

- **Proposes a monthly non-promotional price not to exceed \$84, including all taxes, fees, and charges billed to the customer or subscribers, and justification for the price.**
- **Provides consistent and reliable download speeds of at least 100 Mbps and typical upload speeds of at least 20 Mbps.**
- **Provides typical latency measurements of no more than 100 milliseconds.**
- **Is not subject to data caps, surcharges, or usage-based throttling and is subject only to the same acceptable use policies to which subscribers to all**

other broadband internet access service plans offered to home subscribers by the participating subgrantee must adhere.

- Only allows prices charged to end users to increase after 12 months has passed and at a rate that does not exceed the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) 12-month percentage point change for the “All Items” category, published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Existing customers must be informed via mail, billing announcement, or email no later than 30 days before a price increase.

Select “Yes” or “No.” If “No,” proceed to questions 3.14A and 3.14B. Otherwise proceed to Section 4.

Source: IPv2 14 (pp. 210-11).

3.14A* Does the applicant seek a waiver to modify the MCASO?

A response of “Yes” is required if the applicant responded “No” to question 3.14.

Source: IPv2 14 (pp. 210-11).

3.14B* Provide the following information:

- The proposed price to be charged to customers for a plan meeting the technical requirements of the MCASO and justification of why this proposed price will ensure affordability for middle-class customers.
- The length of time for which the MCASO will be available.
- An explanation of why it would be infeasible for the prospective subgrantee to meet the MCASO requirement and why this would imperil core objectives of the BEAD program.
- Supporting documentation, such as business plans or a pro forma.

The proposed price justification shall consider the median income for counties included in the proposed service area and the share of monthly income accounted for by the proposed price for households at the top (double the Area Median Income) and bottom (two-thirds of Area Median Income) of the middle-class range, and shall explain how the proposed price will ensure that high-quality broadband services are available to all middle-class families in the BEAD-funded network’s service area at a reasonable price. In evaluating a prospective subgrantee’s MCASO, the CPUC will also consider the price required for providers to achieve economic viability for projects.

Upload one or more files in PDF format. A response is only required from applicants who responded “Yes” to question 3.14A.

Section 4: Scoring Criteria

4.1* Affordability – Priority Broadband Projects: Provide the proposed monthly cost of symmetrical 1 Gbps service to BEAD-funded locations inclusive of taxes and fees rounded to the nearest dollar.

35 points for applicants that commit to \$55 per month in clear and unambiguous terms, without caveats that compromise the commitment; 1 point deducted for every additional \$1 per month charged.

Enter the response in the currency field. A response is only required if the applicant is responded “Priority” to question 1.5.

Source: IPv2 Section 5.3.2 (pp. 39-45).

4.1A* Will you offer this plan at a cost that does not exceed your price commitments as stated in this application, allowing for adjustments for inflation and increases to government taxes and fees for the BEAD program period of performance?

Select “Yes” or “No.” A response is only required if the applicant responded “Priority” to question 1.5.

4.1B* Affordability – Other Last-Mile Deployment Projects: Provide the proposed monthly cost of 100/20 Mbps service to BEAD-funded locations inclusive of all fees rounded to the nearest dollar.

35 points for applicants that commit to \$35 per month in clear and unambiguous terms, without caveats that compromise the commitment; 1 point deducted for every additional \$1 per month charged.

Enter the response in the currency field. A response is only required if the applicant responded “Non-Priority” or “Alternative Technology” to question 1.5.

4.1C* Will you offer this plan at a cost that does not exceed your price commitments as stated in this application, allowing for adjustments for inflation and increases to government taxes and fees for the BEAD program period of performance?

Select “Yes” or “No.” A response is only required if the applicant responded “Non-Priority” or “Alternative Technology” to question 1.5.

4.2* Fair Labor Practices: Does the applicant have at least three years of continued operational service as an internet service provider?

Select “Yes” or “No.” If “Yes,” proceed to question 4.2A. Otherwise proceed to question 4.2B.

4.2A* Does the applicant and its partners, contractors, and subcontractors (if any) have a demonstrated history of compliance with federal labor laws, including but not limited to the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act and the Occupational Safety and Health Act? The applicant must disclose whether the applicant, its contractors or subcontractors has received any final finding of violation of any federal or State labor or employment laws in the three years preceding the date of the application. Up to 8 points will be awarded based on the applicant’s history of compliance and commitment to future compliance.

Select “Yes” or “No.” If “Yes,” proceed to question 4.2C. Otherwise proceed to question 4.2Ai.

4.2Ai* Indicate the number of violations of federal or State labor or employment laws the applicant its contractors or subcontractors has had on broadband deployment projects in the last three years.

Enter the response in the number field. A response is only required for applicants who responded “No” to question 4.2A.

4.2B* Can the applicant demonstrate that principals of its organization have a documented history of compliance with federal labor laws in similar prior organizations in which they were principals?

Up to 3 points based on the quality of the demonstration.

Select “Yes” or “No.” If “Yes,” proceed to question 4.2Bi. Otherwise proceed to question 4.2C. A response is only required from applicants who responded “No” to question 4.2.

4.2Bi* Provide a narrative identifying the principals of the organization and demonstrating the principals’ documented history of compliance with federal labor laws and practices in similar prior organizations.

Enter the response in the textbox (3,000-character limit). A response is only required from applicants who responded “Yes” to question 4.2B.

4.2C Please certify that the applicant makes a demonstrated commitment to future compliance with federal labor laws, including but not limited to the Occupational Safety and Health Act, the Fair Labor Standards Act, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and California labor and employment laws.

- Up to 5 points for new entrants.

- **Up to 8 points for existing providers based on the history of compliance in question 4.2A and this commitment to future compliance.**

This question is optional. Select the checkbox.

4.2D* Does the applicant commit to implementing any of the labor practice-related items referenced in California’s Initial Proposal Volume 2 (p. 41)? If yes, select the labor practice-related items that the applicant commits to implementing in questions 4.2Di-4.2Dviii.

Up to 12 points will be awarded on the basis of the quality and contents of labor practice-related items.

Select “Yes” or “No.” If “Yes,” proceed to questions 4.2Di through 4.2Dix. Otherwise proceed to question 4.3.

Source: IPv2 5.3.2 (pp. 40-41).

4.2Di Using a directly employed workforce, as opposed to a subcontracted workforce. (2 points)

This question is optional. Select the checkbox.

4.2Dii Using project labor agreements (i.e., pre-hire collective bargaining agreements between unions and contractors that govern terms and conditions of employment for all workers on a construction project). (2 points)

This question is optional. Select the checkbox.

4.2Diii Use of local hire provisions. (1 point)

This question is optional. Select the checkbox.

4.2Div Commitments to union neutrality. (1 point)

This question is optional. Select the checkbox.

4.2Dv Use of labor peace agreements. (1 point)

This question is optional. Select the checkbox.

4.2Dvi Use of an appropriately skilled workforce (e.g., through Registered Apprenticeships or other joint labor-management training programs that serve all workers, particularly those underrepresented or historically excluded). (2 points)

This question is optional. Select the checkbox.

4.2Dvii Use of an appropriately credentialed workforce (i.e., satisfying requirements for appropriate and relevant preexisting occupational training, certification, and licensure). (2 points)

This question is optional. Select the checkbox.

4.2Dviii Taking steps to prevent the misclassification of workers. (1 point)

This question is optional. Select the checkbox.

4.2Dix* Please describe the specific labor practices you have committed to, including how you will implement, monitor, and enforce them for your organization and any partners, contractors, and/or subcontractors, and plans for compliance with federal labor and employment laws.

Enter the response in the textbox (3,000-character limit). A response is only required for applicants who responded “Yes” to question 4.2D. Please provide a justification for each of the selected commitments in questions 4.2Di through 4.2Dviii.

4.3 Minimum BEAD Outlay: The total percentage amount of matching funds committed by the applicant relative to the funding request will be auto-calculated.

“Applicants will receive 20 points for offering matching funds equal to 65 percent or more of the requested BEAD funding. Applicants will be deducted 1 point for every 2 fewer percentage points of matching funds offered...” (IPv2, p. 42)

The application portal will automatically calculate a response to this question by summing the responses to the following questions, and dividing by the total requested BEAD funding in question 3.2:

- 3.4 – Total amount of cash and in-kind matching funds for the project to be provided by the applicant itself
- 3.4A – Total dollar amount of cash and in-kind matching funds for the project to be provided by match-eligible, non-BEAD federal sources
- 3.4B – Total dollar amount of cash and in-kind matching funds for the project to be provided by non-BEAD state sources
- 3.4C – Total amount of cash and in-kind matching funds for the project to be provided by other sources such as non-profit organizations,

Source: IPv2 (p. 42).

4.4* Speed to Deployment: How many months does the applicant require to complete the project, starting upon receipt of funds and authorization to start the

project upon fulfilling federal and state environmental requirements (such as excluding time to comply with State environmental laws)? This commitment is binding and subject to technical evaluation of network and project materials:

- 5 points for Priority Broadband Projects that will be completed within 24 months
- 1 point for Other Last-Mile Broadband Projects that will be completed within 24 months
- 1 point for Priority Broadband Projects that will be completed in 25-36 months
- 0 points for Other-Last Mile Broadband Projects that will be completed in 25-36 months
- 0 points for any projects that exceed 36 months or fail to demonstrate compliance with this timeline

Enter the response in the number field. Applicants should respond in whole numbers.

4.5 Equity: Automatic calculation of the percentage of BSLs in the Project Area that are located in a Disadvantaged Community (including Tribal Lands) or Low-Income Area as defined in California’s Initial Proposal Volume 2.

1 point will be awarded for proposing a Project Area consisting of at least 10% BSLs located within a Disadvantaged Community or Low-Income Area. An additional point will be awarded for each additional 10 percentage points (rounded down) of the BSLs in a proposed project that are located in a Disadvantaged Community or Low-Income Area, for a maximum of 10 points possible.

The application portal will automatically calculate a response to this question by dividing the count of BSLs within selected LIA/DAC PAUs by the total count of BSLs in the proposed Project (question 3.3C).

4.6* Resilience: Does the applicant propose to ensure that for all locations the applicant identified outside Tier 2 or Tier 3 High-Fire Threat Districts, 72-hour backup power will be supplied to all facilities as necessary to maintain service? This is required for locations to be considered served by resilient infrastructure.

Select “Yes” or “No.” If “Yes,” proceed to question 4.6A. Otherwise proceed to question 4.7. A response is required from applicants who optionally identified eligible locations to serve with resistant infrastructure and question 3.3Div is greater than zero.

4.6A* Describe reasonable plans to deploy resilient infrastructure serving the locations identified in this application within Tier 2 or Tier 3 High-Fire Threat

Districts utilizing appropriate risk mitigation and infrastructure hardening practices, such as by undergrounding cables and network facilities, utilizing galvanized steel instead of wooden poles, using fire-resistant coatings on infrastructure such as poles or other equipment, or ensuring more than 72 hours of backup power is available to maintain service to a location. This narrative is required for locations to be considered served by resilient infrastructure.

Enter the response in the textbox (3,000-character limit). A response is required from applicants who optionally identified eligible locations to serve with resistant infrastructure and question 3.3Diii is greater than zero.

4.6B The total number of locations that will be served by resilient infrastructure will be automatically calculated.

1 point will be awarded for proposing a Project Area consisting of at least 10 percent of locations meeting the above criteria, with an additional 1 point awarded for every additional 10 percentage points (rounded down) meeting the above criteria, for a total of 10 points possible.

The application portal will automatically calculate a response to this question.

4.7* Speed of Network and Other Technical Capabilities: What speed and latency performance does the applicant commit to delivering to all eligible BSLs in the Project Area? For projects proposing to deploy multiple technologies to serve end-users, provide the speed of the technology used to serve the highest number of locations in the Project Area.

- **2 points if “200/50 Mbps or faster with maximum of 100 milliseconds in latency” is selected,**
- **1 point if “Less than 200/50 Mbps with maximum of 100 milliseconds in latency but greater than 100/20 Mbps” is selected**
- **0 points if “Equal to 100/20 Mbps” is selected.**

Select one of the following options: “200/50 Mbps or faster with maximum of 100 milliseconds in latency,” “Less than 200/50 Mbps with maximum of 100 milliseconds in latency but greater than 100/20 Mbps,” or “Equal to 100/20 Mbps.” A response is only required from applicants who responded “Non-Priority” or “Alternative Technology” to question 1.5.

“Less than or equal to 100/20 Mbps” yields no points.

4.7A* Describe the selection of technology and hardware configurations in both backbone and last-mile segments that support the applicant’s speed claim.

Enter the response in the textbox (1,200-character limit). A response is only required from applicants who responded “Non-Priority” or “Alternative Technology” to question 1.5.

4.7B* Describe the assumptions and/or calculations regarding capacity oversubscription, limitations imposed by terrain, and geographic constraints to definitively demonstrate that the connection speed and network capacity requirements can be met.

Enter the response in the textbox (3,000-character limit). A response is only required from applicants who responded “Non-Priority” or “Alternative Technology” to question 1.5.

4.7C* Is the useful life of the network and its components at least five years? (1 point)

Select “Yes” or “No.” A response is only required from applicants who responded “Non-Priority” or “Alternative Technology” to question 1.5.

4.7D* Will the proposed infrastructure include a cost-effective future upgrade and capital investment path, meaning the proposed network can meet future speed and performance needs? (1 point)

Select “Yes” or “No.” If “Yes,” proceed to question 4.7Di. Otherwise proceed to Section 5. A response is only required from applicants who responded “Non-Priority” or “Alternative Technology” to question 1.5.

4.7Di * Describe a cost-effective projected technical upgrade path, including a capital investment timeline and costs for equipment refresh and replacement cycles.

Upload a single file in PDF format. A response is only required from applicants who responded “Yes” to question 4.7D.

Section 5: Project Plan

Applicants are encouraged to review Section 5.3 of California’s Initial Proposal Volume 2 to ensure the project will satisfy program requirements and related scoring rubric elements.

5.1* Upload a technical narrative, in PDF format, detailing how the proposed infrastructure will deliver service that reliably meets or beats the required speeds and latency for all proposed BSLs and CAIs in the Project Area as outlined in the BEAD NOFO (pp. 64-65).

Upload a single file in PDF format.

Source: NOFO (pp. 64-65).

5.2* Enter in the textbox a narrative description of the geographic location, characteristics of the local community, anticipated labor requirements, and other related information to provide a complete picture of the community to be served.

Enter the response in the textbox (3,000-character limit).

Source: IPv2 5.12.3.5 (pp. 67-68).

5.3* Upload a zipped file folder containing shapefiles illustrating the applicant’s proposed network design. The design shall include:

- 1. All BSL and CAI locations to be served by the project,**
- 2. All proposed fiber infrastructure routes to be constructed by the project,**
- 3. Project Area boundary polygons encompassing all infrastructure routes, interconnection points, and required right-of-way usage,**
- 4. Any interconnection points or middle-mile infrastructure used to support the Project Area that are outside the polygon,**
- 5. Supporting infrastructure such as poles, conduit, manholes/handholes, towers, ground stations, and antennae, and,**
- 6. The location of electronics including routers, lasers, and power supplies.**

A legend must be supplied for all design elements.

Upload a single ZIP file containing the shapefiles required for the response.

Source: IPv2 5.12.3.5 (pp. 67-68).

5.3A* Does the applicant’s proposed project involve laying fiber-optic cables or conduit underground or along a roadway?

Select “Yes” or “No.” If “Yes,” proceed to question 5.3B. Otherwise proceed to question 5.3C.

Source: NOFO IV.C.2.b.ii (p. 66), “Conduit Access Points.”

5.3B* All proposed projects that involve laying fiber-optic cables or conduit underground or along a roadway must include interspersed conduit access points at regular and short intervals for interconnection by unaffiliated entities. Certify the applicant’s design proposal includes a reasonable amount of excess conduit capacity and conduit access points for the project. In certifying, you attest that your Professional Engineer (PE) has reviewed the excess conduit capacity and conduit access points for the project and deemed them to be reasonable and in compliance with the BEAD NOFO (IV.C.2.b.ii, p. 66, “Conduit Access Points”).

Select the checkbox. A response is required from applicants who responded “Yes” to question 5.3A.

5.3C* Does the design utilize backup power and redundant routes to be able to respond to damage from a wildfire?

Select “Yes” or “No.”

Source: IPv2 12.2.3 (pp. 180-184).

5.3D* Upload a logical network design drawing (Network Diagram) that illustrates the logical connectivity for the network and conveys the network’s capacity to provide each BSL and CAI to be served by the project with the required broadband speeds and latency. Ensure that all information is clearly legible. See the Logical Network Diagram Sample as an example.

Upload a single file in PDF format. In the application portal an example Logical Network Diagram is available to download.

5.4* Using the Technical Specifications Template provided, upload descriptions of the proposed project’s technical specifications and design. Include project elements such as the proposed miles of fiber, number of interconnection points, technology types to be deployed, number of passings, and anticipated speeds and latency of the services to be offered over the completed network.

Upload the “Technical Specification Template” in XLSX format.

Source: IPv2 5.12.3.5 (p. 67).

5.5* Using the Fixed Wireless Design Submission Template provided, describe the proposed project’s fixed wireless design.

Upload the “Fixed Wireless Design” template in XLSX format. This question is only required for applicants who responded “Non-Priority” or “Alternative Technology” to question 1.5 and “Licensed Fixed Wireless” to question 1.5A—or who responded “Unlicensed Fixed Wireless” to question 1.5B.

5.6* Using the Alternative Technology Design Submission Template provided, describe the proposed project’s Alternative Technology design.

Upload the “Alternative Technology Design” template in PDF format. This question is only required for applicants who responded “Alternative Technology” to question 1.5 and responded “LEO Satellite” to question 1.5B.

5.7* Using the Project Timeline Template provided, upload a detailed project timeline demonstrating deployment timelines and milestones that reflect a construction and installation process of no longer than four years, including planning, design, procurement, construction, installation, network turn-up and testing, and service initiation. The proposed deployment timelines and milestones must account for the need to obtain necessary permits and complete all compliance requirements under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as well as the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Applicants that demonstrate a faster speed to deployment will receive a higher score.

Upload the “Project Timeline” template in XLSX format.

Source: IPv2 5.12.3.5 (p. 70).

5.8* Using the Project Costs Template provided, upload documentation of project costs, operational costs, and budgets that connect these showings to other sections of the application to create a comprehensive description of the proposed project and a showing of technical and financial feasibility.

Upload the “Project Costs” template in XLSX format.

Source: IPv2 5.12.3.5 (p. 70).

5.9* Using the Professional Engineer Certification Template provided, upload a PDF document signed by a currently licensed Professional Engineer that certifies that the engineer has reviewed all necessary elements of the proposed project, including descriptions and documentation of the network design, build-out timelines, business case, and budgets.

The engineer must certify that the proposed project meets all applicable program requirements and is designed to be successfully completed and capable of meeting all performance commitments and requirements to all locations served by the project within the proposed timeline.

The certifying engineer must hold all required professional licenses with a “clear” status from any state or other eligible entity. Signed original document must be retained in accordance with program rules.

Upload the “Professional Engineer Certification” template in PDF format. Both digital and wet signatures are acceptable.

Source: IPv2 5.12.3.6 (pp. 68-69).

5.10* Upload documentation of the Professional Engineer’s licenses as well as any written reports, letters, or analysis provided by the Professional Engineer regarding the proposed project.

Upload files in PDF format.

Source: IPv2 5.12.3.6 (pp. 68-69).

5.11* Upload a narrative description of the applicant’s business continuity plan, which includes its natural hazard risk mitigation strategy, which may include:

- Favoring underground or buried fiber compared to aerial
- Retrofitting and hardening existing network assets that are deemed critical to BEAD expansion projects
- Favoring redundancy in network designs to reduce single points of failure
- Considering average down time and emergency response time
- Encouraging the use of backup generator power systems where applicable

Upload files in PDF format.

Source: IPv2 12.4.2 (pp. 198-199).

5.12* Is the proposed Project Area located within a county or counties designated by FEMA as relatively high or very high risk (in accordance with FEMA’s Natural Hazard Risk Rating map provided in Section 12.1 of California’s Initial Proposal Volume 2)?

Select “Yes” or “No.” If “Yes,” proceed to question 5.12A. Otherwise proceed to question 5.13.

The counties designated by FEMA as relatively high or very high risk are: Alameda, Butte, Contra Costa, Fresno, Humboldt, Imperial, Kern, Los Angeles, Marin, Monterey, Napa,

Orange, Riverside, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Francisco, San Joaquin, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano, Sonoma, Stanislaus, Sutter, Tulare, Ventura, and Yolo.

The State Hazard Mitigation Plan (SHMP) will serve as the main source for evaluating and locating high risk areas, while local plans also provide local useful information. Subgrantees will also consult the local hazard mitigation plan of each of California’s 58 counties. The [SHMP, at Table 2-2](#), lists the high-risk natural hazards identified in each county’s local hazard mitigation plan as of April 23, 2023. The SHMP, at Figure 4-1, displays the FEMA composite risk scores for each county.

Source: IPv2 12.4.2 (pp. 198-199); SHMP (pp. 2-11 to 2-14).

5.12A* Provide a narrative description that explains how mitigation measures are incorporated into deployment planning.

Enter the response in the textbox (3,000-character limit). The list of hazards by county in Table 2-2 in the SHMP may be useful in developing this answer. A response is only required if the applicant responded “Yes” to question 5.12. Resource: [NTIA, Best Management Practices \(BMPs\) and Mitigation Measures](#).

Source: IPv2 12.4.2 (p. 198).

5.13* Does the proposed project include any locations on Tribal lands?

Select “Yes” or “No.” If “Yes,” proceed to questions 5.13A through 5.13E. Otherwise proceed to question 5.14.

Source: IPv2 5.9 (p. 52).

5.13A* On which Tribal lands does the proposed project include locations?

Enter the response in the textbox (1,200-character limit). A response is only required from applicants who responded “Yes” to question 5.13. Applicants should reference the Tribal lands layer in Section 2 of this application.

5.13B* Does the applicant have a written formal Resolution of Consent or other formal form of consent consistent with the applicable Tribe’s governing structure? If the applicant does not have the appropriate form of consent from the applicable Tribal government, the applicant will be required to provide such documents before preliminary award. A formal Resolution of Consent (or equivalent formal form of consent consistent with the Tribe’s governing structure) must be submitted to the CPUC before funds may be formally committed.

Select “Yes” or “No.” A response is only required from applicants who responded “Yes” to question 5.13. If “Yes,” proceed to question 5.13C. Otherwise proceed to question 5.13D.

Applicants who do not submit a formal Resolution of Consent during the application process will be required to respond to an additional revision request within the application portal before funds are formally committed. Resources: [Native American Heritage Commission \(NAHC\)](#), [Local Government Tribal Consultation List Request](#); [NAHC, Sacred Lands File & Native American Contacts List Request](#).

Source: IPv2 5.9 (p. 52).

5.13C* Upload a formal Resolution of Consent or other formal form of consent consistent with the applicable Tribe’s governing structure from the applicable Tribal government.

Upload files in PDF format. A response is only required from applicants who responded “Yes” to questions 5.13 and 5.13B.

Source: IPv2 5.9 (p. 52).

5.13D* Does the applicant have substantial evidence of meaningful and sustained consultation with the Tribal government?

Select “Yes” or “No.” If “Yes,” proceed to question 5.13E. Otherwise proceed to question 5.14.

Source: IPv2 5.9 (p. 52).

5.13E * Upload the substantial evidence of meaningful and sustained consultation with the Tribal government, which may include a fully executed Letter of Intent, as one file. Note that a formal Resolution of Consent (or equivalent formal form of consent consistent with the Tribe’s governing structure) is a required element of the review to be determined to be a presumptive awardee and must be submitted to the CPUC before funds may be formally committed.

Upload a single file in PDF format.

Source: IPv2 5.9 (p. 52).

5.14* Provide a brief project description (maximum of 1,000 characters). This project description will be included in the Final Proposal posted for public comment.

Enter the response in the textbox (1,000-character limit).

Source: Final Proposal Guidance Version 1.2 (p. 13).

5.15* Upload a zipped file folder containing a map of the Project Area (in KMZ or shapefile format) indicating all proposed project elements, including staging areas and access routes; existing infrastructure, buildings, and roads; locations and dimensions of ground disturbance; and Federal, State, and local jurisdictional lands.

Upload a single ZIP file containing the KMZ and/or shapefiles required for the response.
Resource: [NTIA, Permitting and Environmental Information Application](#).

Questions 5.15 through 5.29 are from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Questionnaire. Projects in California funded under BEAD Program are subject to both the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and CEQA. The NTIA is the NEPA lead agency, and the CPUC is the CEQA lead agency (collectively, “lead agencies”). As part of compliance with NEPA and CEQA, all BEAD funding applicants are required to complete the following Environmental Questionnaire (“Questionnaire”) for review and approval by the lead agencies; it is recommended that the applicant retain or plan to retain an environmental consultant to assist in completing this Questionnaire and to support with any additional environmental requirements found to be necessary. It is the responsibility of the lead agencies to determine whether a proposed project qualifies for an exclusion or exemption under NEPA and CEQA, respectively, based on the information provided. The applicant’s submittal of this Questionnaire is required to initiate and support environmental review under NEPA and CEQA but does not in itself satisfy the requirements of CEQA and NEPA. The CPUC must finalize their review of this Questionnaire for the project application to be deemed complete.

For the purposes of this Questionnaire, the project “area” or “site” shall include the footprint(s) of the proposed facilities and infrastructure as well as any staging areas, temporary access routes, and other areas which will be temporarily or permanently used or otherwise disturbed as a result of the project. Responses must take into account the whole of the action involved, including off-site and on-site elements and impacts from both project construction and operation. If there are still undecided design elements, the applicant shall submit information relevant to and reflective of all possible design options, to allow the lead agencies to evaluate the maximum project footprint and the full range of potential environmental effects.

Source: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Questionnaire.

5.15A* Provide a physical description of the project site and surrounding areas, including existing development such as roads, utilities, or buildings; existing terrain and land use; and Federal, State, and local jurisdictional lands.

Enter the response in the textbox (3,000-character limit).

Source: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Questionnaire.

5.15B* Provide a description of construction methods to be employed and where, particularly for excavation or ground-disturbing activities (e.g., directional boring, plowing, horizontal directional drilling, trenching, tunneling, grading, etc.).

Enter the response in the textbox (3,000-character limit).

Source: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Questionnaire.

5.15C* Provide dimensions of both aboveground and belowground components associated with the project, included a detailed description (depth, length, etc.) of areas where there will be excavation or ground-disturbing activities, including grading or soil compaction.

Enter the response in the textbox (3,000-character limit).

Source: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Questionnaire.

5.16* Provide ground level and aerial photos of the Project Area and Key Observation Points (KOPs).

Upload files in an image format: JPG, JPEG, PNG, GIF, or BMP.

Source: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Questionnaire.

5.17* Is the Project Area located within a designated State Scenic Highway?

Select “Yes” or “No.” If “Yes,” proceed to question 5.17A. Otherwise proceed to question 5.18. Resource: [California Department of Transportation, State Scenic Highway Program](#).

Source: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Questionnaire.

5.17A* Describe what segments of which designated Scenic Highway(s) are located within the Project Area.

Enter the response in the textbox (3,000-character limit). A response is only required from applicants who responded “Yes” to question 5.17.

Source: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Questionnaire.

5.18* List the best management practices (BMPs) that the applicant intends to implement to minimize or avoid potential environmental effects from the project.

Enter the response in the textbox (3,000-character limit).

Source: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Questionnaire.

5.19* Are there historic properties, as defined in the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), within or immediately adjacent to the Project Area?

Select “Yes” or “No.” If “Yes,” proceed to questions 5.19A. Otherwise proceed to question 5.19B. Resource: [California Office of Historic Preservation, California Historical Resources Information System \(CHRIS\)](#).

Source: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Questionnaire.

5.19A* Describe how the applicant plans to evaluate and/or avoid effects to historic properties in accordance with applicable Federal and State regulations, including Section 106 of the NHPA and CEQA.

Enter the response in the textbox (3,000-character limit). A response is only required from applicants who responded “Yes” to question 5.19.

Source: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Questionnaire.

5.19B* Describe the efforts the applicant has taken to substantiate the indicated response (e.g., environmental studies, field surveys, consultation with agencies, literature review or desktop research, etc.). List the agencies, parties, or databases consulted.

Enter the response in the textbox (3,000-character limit). A response is only required from applicants who responded “No” to question 5.19.

Source: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Questionnaire.

5.20* Is the Project Area located within or adjacent to a wetland, waterway, or coastal zone?

Select “Yes” or “No.” If “Yes,” proceed to question 5.20A. Otherwise proceed to question 5.20B. Resources: [California Coastal Commission, Coastal Zone Boundary Maps](#); [USFWS, National Wetlands Inventory Wetlands Mapper](#); [State Water Resources Control Board, GeoTracker](#).

Source: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Questionnaire.

5.20A* Describe how the applicant plans to evaluate and/or avoid effects to waterways or wetlands in accordance with applicable Federal and State regulations, including the Clean Water Act (CWA), Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, and California Coastal Act.

Enter the response in the textbox (3,000-character limit). A response is only required from applicants who responded “Yes” to question 5.20.

Source: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Questionnaire.

5.20B * Describe the efforts the applicant has taken to substantiate the indicated response (e.g., environmental studies, field surveys, consultation with agencies, literature review or desktop research, etc.). List the agencies, parties, or databases consulted.

Enter the response in the textbox (3,000-character limit). A response is only required from applicants who responded “No” to question 5.20.

Source: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Questionnaire.

5.20C * Upload a wetlands map from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) National Wetlands Inventory with the Project Area overlain (to show if and where the project falls within a wetland or waterway).

Upload a single file in PDF format. Resource: [U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service \(USFWS\), Information for Planning and Consultation \(IPaC\)](#).

Source: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Questionnaire.

5.21* Is there a potential for threatened or endangered species listed as sensitive, special status, threatened, or endangered, or for their critical habitat, as identified by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), USFWS, or National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries, within or adjacent to the Project Area?

Select “Yes” or “No.” If “Yes,” proceed to question 5.21A. Otherwise proceed to question 5.21B. Resources: [California Department of Fish and Wildlife, California Natural Diversity Database \(CNDDB\)](#); [National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration \(NOAA\) Fisheries, Species Directory](#).

Source: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Questionnaire.

5.21A* Describe how the applicant plans to evaluate and/or avoid effects to listed species and habitats in accordance with applicable Federal and State regulations, including the Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA) and California Endangered Species Act (CESA).

Enter the response in the textbox (3,000-character limit). A response is only required from applicants who responded “Yes” to question 5.21. Resources: [Endangered Species Act | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service](#); [Threatened and Endangered Species](#).

Source: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Questionnaire.

5.21B* Describe the efforts the applicant has taken to substantiate the indicated response (e.g., environmental studies, field surveys, consultation with agencies,

literature review or desktop research, etc.). List the agencies, parties, or databases consulted.

Enter the response in the textbox (3,000-character limit). A response is only required from applicants who responded “No” to question 5.21.

Source: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Questionnaire.

5.21C* Upload a Federal Threatened and Endangered Species List for the Project Area from the USFWS’ Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) tool.

Upload files in any format. Resource: [IPaC: Getting Started - Draw on Map](#).

Source: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Questionnaire.

5.21D* Upload a records search from the CDFW’s California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB).

Upload files in any format. Resource: [California Natural Diversity Database](#).

Source: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Questionnaire.

5.22* Does the project have the potential to directly or indirectly affect migratory birds, including their nests, eggs, or habitat, such as from vegetation removal, tree trimming, or noise and vibration?

Select “Yes” or “No.” If “Yes,” proceed to question 5.22A. Otherwise proceed to question 5.22B.

Source: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Questionnaire.

5.22A* Describe how the applicant plans to comply with applicable Federal and State regulations, including the Federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the California Fish and Game Code.

Enter the response in the textbox (3,000-character limit). A response is only required from applicants who responded “Yes” to question 5.22. Resources: [Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service](#); [California Codes: Codes Tree - Fish and Game Code - FGC](#).

Source: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Questionnaire.

5.22B* Describe the applicant’s justification for the indicated response.

Enter the response in the textbox (3,000-character limit). A response is only required from applicants who responded “No” to question 5.22.

Source: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Questionnaire.

5.23* Identify any Federal, State, or local environmental permits, agreements, or approvals required for the project.

Select one or more of the following options:

1. Section 106 Consultation/Report, State Historic Preservation Office
2. Tribal notification/consultation
3. Section 404 Permit, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
4. Section 401 Water Quality Certification, Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB)
5. National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit, RWQCB
6. Coastal Development Permit, California Coastal Commission
7. Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement, CDFW
8. Incidental Take Permit, CDFW
9. Section 7 Consultation/Biological Opinion, USFWS
10. Encroachment Permit, California Department of Transportation
11. Coordination with federal agency or jurisdictional authority (Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, etc.)
12. Other
13. None

Source: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Questionnaire.

5.23A* Specify the federal agency or jurisdictional authority (e.g., Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs) with which the applicant is coordinating.

Enter the response in the textbox (300-character limit). A response is only required from applicants who selected “Coordination with federal agency or jurisdictional authority (Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, etc.)” in question 5.23.

Source: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Questionnaire.

5.23B* If an applicable permit, agreement, or approval is not listed in question 5.21, indicate them in this response.

Enter the response in the textbox (300-character limit). A response is only required from applicants who selected “Other” in question 5.23.

Source: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Questionnaire.

5.24* Upload a floodplain map from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Map Service Center with the Project Area overlain (to show if and where the project falls within a floodplain).

Upload files in any format. Resource: [Federal Emergency Management Agency, Flood Map Service Center](#).

Source: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Questionnaire.

5.25* Upload a GeoTracker map from the State Water Resources Control Board with the Project Area overlain (to show if and where the project falls within or near sites that require cleanup, such as Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) sites, Military sites, or Cleanup Program Sites).

Upload files in any format. Resource: [GeoTracker](#).

Source: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Questionnaire.

5.26* The applicant understands that if there is a change to the project scope such that the submitted responses are no longer accurate, it is their responsibility to notify the CPUC to determine whether additional or updated environmental review is required.

Select the checkbox.

Source: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Questionnaire.

5.27* The applicant understands that submittal of this project plan does not in itself satisfy the requirements of CEQA and NEPA and that the CPUC must finalize their review of this Questionnaire for the project application to be deemed complete.

Select the checkbox.

Source: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Questionnaire.

5.28* Does the applicant believe that the project qualifies for a Categorical Exemption (CE) under CEQA?

Select “Yes” or “No.” If “Yes,” proceed to question 5.28A. Otherwise proceed to question 5.28B.

Source: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Questionnaire.

5.28A* Provide citations to the applicable CEQA section(s)/exemption(s) and explain why the cited CE(s) is appropriate (note that only the CPUC can determine whether a proposed project qualifies for a CE).

Enter the response in the textbox (3,000-character limit). A response is only required from applicants who responded “Yes” to question 5.28.

Source: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Questionnaire.

5.28B* Explain why the project does not qualify for a CE.

Enter the response in the textbox (3,000-character limit). A response is only required from applicants who responded “No” to question 5.28.

Source: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Questionnaire.

5.29* Does the applicant believe that the project qualifies for a Categorical Exclusion (CX) under NEPA?

Select “Yes” or “No.” If “Yes,” proceed to question 5.29A. Otherwise proceed to question 5.29B. Resource: [NTIA, NEPA Resources](#); [NTIA, NEPA for BEAD: Milestone Schedule & NEPA Timeline](#).

Source: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Questionnaire.

5.29A* Provide citations to the applicable NEPA CX(s) and explain why the cited CX(s) is appropriate. (Note that only the NTIA can determine whether a proposed project qualifies for a CX.)

Enter the response in the textbox (3,000-character limit). A response is only required from applicants who responded “Yes” to question 5.29.

Source: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Questionnaire.

5.29B * Explain why the project does not qualify for a CX.

Enter the response in the textbox (3,000-character limit). A response is only required from applicants who responded “No” to question 5.29.

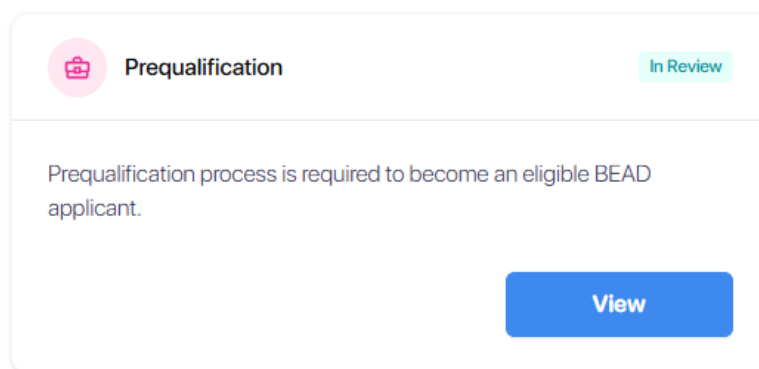
Source: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Questionnaire.

Section 6: Organizational and Managerial Capacity

6.1* Does the applicant have any updates to the organizational and managerial materials or responses submitted as part of its prequalification application? This includes:

- Key Personnel
- Management Organizational Charts
- Experience designing and constructing broadband infrastructure projects
- Broadband deployment projects that have received or are expected to receive public funding
- Supply chain or cybersecurity risk management plans
- Organizational and managerial materials previously submitted should not be resubmitted if there are no updates.

To view information submitted in the prequalification application, select “Save Application” at the bottom of the page then select “Home” on the left side menu pane. Select “View” in the Prequalification box on the home page. Review the information submitted in Section 3 of the prequalification application, “Management and Organizational Capability.”



Select “Yes” or “No.” If “Yes,” proceed to question 6.1A. Otherwise proceed to question 6.2. Applicants should not resubmit the same information if the organization and contact information has not changed since the prequalification was submitted.

6.1A* Upload the updated organizational and managerial materials, using the appropriate templates, if applicable. Submit all updates as one PDF file with responses clearly labeled with the appropriate section number.

Upload a single file in PDF format. A response is only required from applicants who responded “Yes” to question 6.1.

6.2* Provide additional data and descriptions of the applicant’s management capabilities to specifically address any unique needs of the proposed project. This project-specific management showing should reflect and correspond to other application elements including financial capability, network design, budgeting, and planning.

For example, if a proposed project will primarily serve a rural area, applicants should include specific references to key management personnel, organizational teams, and the entity’s general experience with projects in rural areas. Similarly, if an applicant proposes a project that will serve significant numbers of multi-dwelling-unit buildings or utilize an innovative construction technique, applicants should highlight the experience of the entity or its management personnel in those areas.

Upload files in PDF format.

Source: IPv2 5.12.2.4 (p. 65).

6.3* Will the applicant retain any independent contractors, consultants, and/or subcontractors to supplement its managerial capabilities?

Select “Yes” or “No.” If “Yes,” proceed to question 6.3A. Otherwise proceed to Section 7.

Source: IPv2 5.12.2.3 (pp. 64-65).

6.3A* Provide a description of any independent contractors, consultants, and subcontractors the applicant plans to retain to supplement its managerial capabilities. This description should include the scope of the third party’s role and the expected term of the engagement.

Enter the response in the textbox (3,000-character limit). A response is only required from applicants who responded “Yes” to question 6.3.

Source: IPv2 5.12.2.3 (pp. 64-65).

Section 7: Financial Capability

7.1* Does the applicant have any updates to the financial information files uploaded as part of its prequalification application? Financial materials previously submitted should not be resubmitted if there are no updates.

Select “Yes” or “No.” If “Yes,” proceed to question 7.1A. Otherwise proceed to question 7.2. Applicants should not resubmit the same information if the organization and contact information has not changed since the prequalification was submitted.

7.1A* Upload the updated financial information. Submit all updates as one PDF file with responses clearly labeled with the appropriate section number.

Upload a single file in PDF format. A response is only required from applicants who responded “Yes” to question 7.1.

7.2* Will the applicant supply a letter of credit (LOC) or a performance bond to fulfill the requirements in California’s Initial Proposal Volume 2?

Select one of the following options: “Letter of Credit” or “Performance Bond.” If “Letter of Credit” proceed to questions 7.2A and 7.2B. If “Performance Bond,” proceed to question 7.2C.

Source: IPv2 5.12.1.2 (pp. 57-61).

7.2A* Using the Letter of Commitment Template, provide a letter from a qualified financial institution that confirms the commitment to issue an irrevocable standby letter of credit (LOC). This letter of commitment must describe the type of financial institution that is making the commitment using the categories in 47 C.F.R. § 54.804(c)(2) or confirm that the institution is a qualifying credit union that is (a) is insured by the National Credit Union Administration; and (b) has a credit union safety rating issued by Weiss of B– or better. The letter of commitment must also state that the financial institution stands ready to issue an irrevocable standby LOC for the proposed project in the required amount and must specify the expected amount. The financial institution must also state that it has reviewed the model LOC and is prepared to comply with all terms and conditions for the LOC under this program. Upon completion of the Application Phase, successful subgrantees with

awarded projects will be required to obtain their irrevocable standby LOCs from the previously committed financial institutions.

Upload the “Letter of Commitment” template in PDF format. A response is only required from applicants who responded “Letter of Credit” to question 7.2.

Source: IPv2 5.12.1.2 (pp. 57-61).

7.2B* Submit a signed bankruptcy opinion letter from legal counsel licensed in California that states the letter of credit (LOC) is drafted in such a way that under a Title 11 bankruptcy proceeding the bankruptcy court will not treat the LOC or proceeds from the LOC as “property” of the subgrantee’s bankruptcy estate under Section 541 of the United States Bankruptcy Code.

Upload a single file in PDF format. A response is only required from applicants who responded “Letter of Credit” to question 7.2.

Source: IPv2 5.12.1.2 (pp. 57-61).

7.2C* Using the Surety Bond Template, submit 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. The surety’s letter must commit to issuing a performance bond to the applicant and shall, at a minimum, provide the dollar amount of the performance bond. Upon completion of the Application Phase, successful subgrantees with awarded projects will be required to obtain the performance bond from the previously committed companies providing sureties.

Upload the “Surety Bond” template in PDF format. A response is only required from applicants who responded “Performance Bond” to question 7.2.

Source: IPv2 5.12.1.2 (pp. 57-61).

7.3* Using the Pro Forma Template, provide a pro forma business case analysis for a 10-year period, including assumptions regarding take-rates, churn, revenue-per-user, operating expenses, cash flow, and capital expenditures over the course of the construction and start-up operations, in accordance with the applicable administrative requirements and cost principles in 2 C.F.R. Part 200. The template requests a proposed project budget with standard categories that correspond with the cost categories in the Budget Narrative Template below.

Upload the “Pro Forma” template in XLSX format.

Source: IPv2 5.12.1.4 (pp. 62-63).

7.3A* Using the Budget Narrative Template, provide a detailed breakdown of the expected budget for the pro forma cost categories.

Upload the “Budget Narrative” template in XLSX format.

Source: IPv2 5.12.1.4 (pp. 62-63).

7.3B* Provide documentation on the expected growth of the project and ongoing benefits to the community beyond completion of the build and disbursement of grant funding.

Upload a single file in PDF format.

Source: IPv2 5.12.1.4 (pp. 62-63).

7.3C Upload any additional documentation that the applicant believes will complement the template information and will present a fuller picture of the applicant’s financial capabilities and the proposed project’s financial sustainability. If no additional documentation is necessary, upload a file stating, “No additional documentation is necessary.”

This response is optional. Upload files in PDF format.

Source: IPv2 5.12.1.4 (pp. 62-63).

7.4* Has the applicant or one of its affiliates ever been involved in bankruptcy or a creditor(s) rights or receivership proceeding, or sought protection from creditors?

Select “Yes” or “No.”

Section 8: Project Staffing and Labor Requirements

8.1* Provide a list of the employment categories, job titles, and job descriptions that will be necessary to successfully complete the proposed project.

Upload a single file in PDF format.

Source: IPv2 5.12.3.4 (p. 67).

8.2* Using the Certification and Licenses Template provided, upload a list of any additional certifications, licenses, or other qualifications that are unique and specific to the proposed project, which will supplement the information provided as part of the prequalification application.

Upload the “Certification and Licenses” template in XLSX format.

Source: IPv2 5.12.3.4 (p. 67).

8.2A* Provide supporting documentation to demonstrate that the applicant has completed, or is in the process of completing, any additional requirements to become fully and properly qualified to successfully complete the proposed project.

Upload files in PDF format.

Source: IPv2 5.12.3.4 (p. 67).

8.3* Provide a description of the processes that are or will be in place to track and maintain required certifications, licenses, and training programs for construction and post-construction activities to ensure that the organization will maintain a highly skilled workforce throughout the federal interest period of the project.

Enter the response in the textbox (3,000-character limit). Applicants are encouraged to review guidance on how to describe their highly skilled workforce plan from the NOFO, page 58.

Source: IPv2 5.12.3.4 (p. 67).

8.4* Will the applicant’s workforce be directly employed, subcontracted, or a combination of both approaches?

Select one of the following options: “Directly employed,” “Subcontracted,” or “Combination of both.” If “Subcontracted” or “Combination of both,” proceed to question 8.4A. Otherwise proceed to question 8.5.

Source: IPv2 5.3.1 (pp. 34-39), 8.1 (pp. 77-79), 9.5 (pp. 141-143).

8.4A* Provide a narrative identifying the entities the proposed subgrantee plans to contract or subcontract to carry out the proposed work, historical use of contracting and subcontracting arrangements, including staffing plans, and at least one example of each contractor and subcontractor’s past performance in the context of a similar project.

Upload files in PDF format. A response is only required from applicants who responded “Subcontracted” or “Combination of both” to question 8.4.

Source: IPv2 9.5 (pp. 141-143); NOFO (p. 56).

8.5* Is all of the project workforce of the subgrantee and/or any contractors and/or subcontractors unionized?

Select “Yes” or “No.” If “No,” proceed to question 8.5A. Otherwise proceed to question 8.6.

Source: IPv2 9.5 (pp. 141-143).

8.5A* With respect to the non-union workforce, provide the job titles and size of the workforce (full-time-equivalent (FTE) positions, including contractors and subcontractors) required to carry out the proposed work over the course of the project and the entity that will employ each portion of the workforce.

For each job title required to carry out the proposed work (including contractors and subcontractors), provide a description of:

- Safety training, certification, and/or licensure requirements (e.g., OSHA 10, OSHA 30, confined space, traffic control, or other training as relevant depending on title and work), including whether there is a robust in-house training program with established requirements tied to certifications and titles, and
- Information on the professional certifications and/or in-house training in place to ensure that deployment is done at a high standard.

Upload a single file in PDF format. A response is only required from applicants who responded “No” to question 8.5.

Source: IPv2 9.5 (pp. 141-143).

8.6* Enter in the textbox a description of the actions the applicant has taken or plans to take specific to recruiting a diverse workforce and/or its plans to conduct outreach to diverse groups. This answer may include a description of specific

outreach or materials intended to be welcoming to women, people of color, or other groups not typically represented in most telecommunications construction workforces.

Enter the response in the textbox (3,000-character limit).

Source: IPv2 9.5 (pp. 141-143).

8.7* Provide documentation of communications with workers and worker representative organizations regarding the applicable labor laws and fair labor standards, as well as the ability to form and willingness to meet with worker-led health and safety committees. Documentation of an applicant’s outreach to workers on these topics may include sample emails, copies of posters, worker surveys, worker meetings, phone call and social media scripts, as well as organizing activities by worker-led organizations.

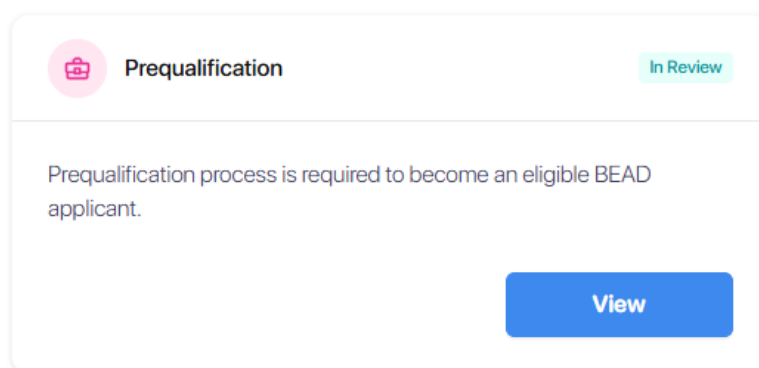
Upload a single file in PDF format.

Source: IPv2 5.12.4 (pp. 69-70).

Section 9: Ownership Information

9.1* Does the applicant have any updates to the ownership information submitted as part of its prequalification application using the **Ownership Information Template**? **Ownership information materials previously submitted should not be resubmitted if there are no updates.**

To view information submitted in the prequalification application, select “Save Application” at the bottom of the page then select “Home” on the left-side menu pane. Select “View” under the Prequalification menu. Review the information submitted in Section 4, “Compliance with Applicable Laws,” question 4.6.



Select “Yes” or “No.” If “Yes,” proceed to question 9.1A. Otherwise proceed to Section 10. Applicants should not resubmit the same information if the organization and contact information has not changed since the prequalification was submitted.

9.1A* Using the **Ownership Information Template**, provide updated ownership information.

Upload the “Ownership Information” template in PDF format. A response is only required from applications who responded “Yes” to question 9.1.

Section 10: Compliance

10.1* The applicant certifies that it is eligible to apply for this subgrant under federal, State, and local law.

Select the checkbox.

10.2* The applicant certifies that it understands the BEAD NOFO requirement to begin providing broadband service to each customer that desires broadband service not later than 48 months after the date on which the applicant receives the subgrant for the applicable network.

Select the checkbox.

Source: "Speed to Deployment," NOFO, IV.B.7.b.i (p. 43).

10.3* The applicant certifies its willingness to operate its BEAD-funded middle mile elements on an open access basis as consistent with the requirements of California Senate Bill 156 (SB 156).

Select the checkbox.

Source: IPv2 5.1.3 (p. 31).

10.4* The applicant certifies that the proposed project will rely entirely on fiber-optic technology to reach end-user premises and will ensure that the network built by the project can easily scale speeds over time to meet the evolving connectivity needs of households and businesses.

Select the checkbox. A response is required only if the applicant responded "Priority" to question 1.5.

Source: NOFO, I.C.(r) (p. 14).

10.5* The applicant certifies that the proposed project will deliver Reliable Broadband Service (i.e., fiber, HFC, DSL, licensed fixed wireless) and will not rely on any network segment that is not compliant with reliable broadband technology.

Select the checkbox. A response is required only if the applicant responded "Non-Priority" to question 1.5.

Source: NOFO I.C.(u) (p. 15).

10.6* The applicant certifies that the proposed project will deliver at least 5 Mbps of capacity (or 2 TB of usage per month) to each BSL in the Project Area where a subscriber requests and is provisioned service.

Select the checkbox. A response is required only if the applicant responded “Alternative Technology” to question 1.5.

Source: NTLA Final BEAD Alternative Broadband Technology Policy Notice, Appendix B (pp. 14-15).

10.7* The applicant certifies that, at the time of project closeout, all proposed BSLs shall be capable of receiving Reliable Broadband Service with speeds of not less than 100 Mbps for downloads and 20 Mbps for uploads with 95% of latency measurements during testing windows falling at or below 100 milliseconds round-trip time.

Select the checkbox. A response is required only if the applicant responded “Priority” or “Non-Priority” to question 1.5.

Source: NOFO IV.C.2.a.i (pp. 64-65).

10.8* The applicant certifies that, at time of project closeout, all proposed BSLs shall be capable of receiving speeds of not less than 100 Mbps for downloads and 20 Mbps for uploads with 95% of latency measurements during testing windows falling at or below 100 milliseconds round-trip time.

Select the checkbox. A response is required only if the applicant responded “Alternative Technology” to question 1.5.

Source: NOFO IV.C.2.a.i (pp. 64-65).

10.9* If BEAD funds are available to serve Eligible Community Anchor Institutions (CAI) across the State, the applicant certifies that during the BEAD Period of Performance, BEAD grant-funded connections to proposed Eligible CAIs shall be capable of delivering service at speeds not less than 1 Gigabit per second for downloads and 1 Gigabit per second for uploads with 95% of latency measurements during testing windows falling at or below 100 milliseconds round-trip time. Additionally, the applicant certifies that these grant-funded connections can be used to provide business data services, which refers to the dedicated point-to-point transmission of data at certain guaranteed speeds and service levels using high-capacity connections. See BEAD NOFO, p. 65.

Select the checkbox.

Source: NOFO IV.C.2.a.i (p. 65).

10.10* Certify, to the best of the applicant’s knowledge and belief, that the applicant understands the BEAD NOFO requirement that outages should not exceed, on average, 48 hours over any 365-day period except in the case of natural disasters or other force majeure occurrence.

Select the checkbox.

Source: NOFO IV.C.2.a.ii (p. 65).

10.11* The applicant certifies that its submitted project cost estimate is accurate and encompasses all costs to be incurred by the applicant as part of the proposed project.

Select the checkbox.

10.12* The applicant certifies that its submitted project timeline is accurate and that it will be capable of providing broadband service to each proposed BSL and CAI that desires service within the committed timeframe.

Select the checkbox.

10.13* The applicant certifies that it will obtain all necessary federal, state, and local/Tribal governmental permits and required approvals necessary for the proposed work to be completed.

Select the checkbox.

Source: NOFO VII.D (p. 86).

10.14* The applicant certifies that it possesses the operational capability to complete and operate the project within the timeline and terms set by the subgrant and in compliance with all applicable federal, state, Tribal, and local laws.

Select the checkbox.

Source: IPv2 5.12.3.1 (pp. 65-66), 5.12.4 (pp. 69-70).

10.15* The applicant certifies that it will have sufficient financial resources to successfully complete its proposed project.

Select the checkbox.

Source: IPv2 5.12.1.1 (p. 57).

10.16* The applicant certifies that it understands that BEAD funding will use a reimbursement model, requiring subgrantees to commit resources to construct the network and begin service prior to receiving grant award funding as reimbursement

for eligible expenses. The applicant certifies that it has and will continue to have sufficient financial resources to cover its eligible costs for the project until such time as the CPUC authorizes additional disbursements.

Select the checkbox. It is the applicant's responsibility to provide invoices to obtain reimbursement for project costs. Please reference IPv2 17.2.4 (pp. 218-220), "Distribution of funds on a reimbursement basis," and the NOFO page 81, "Eligible Uses of BEAD Program Funds."

Source: IPv2 5.12.1.1 (p. 57).

10.17* The applicant certifies that it will have sufficient financial resources to provide the pledged matching funding as required by the BEAD Program rules.

Source: IPv2 5.12.1.1 (p. 57).

10.18* The applicant certifies that it will have the financial resources to support all project costs necessary to complete the project, even if those costs exceed the amount of grant award and pledged matching funds.

Select the checkbox.

Source: IPv2 5.12.1.1 (p. 57).

10.19* The applicant certifies that it will comply with Davis-Bacon prevailing wages, and that it will comply with relevant aspects of California Labor Code § 1770 et seq., "Prevailing wage determination," and California Labor Code, Section 1720. For projects located on Tribal lands, this requirement will not apply, but applicants must comply with any related Tribal or federal labor law.

Select the checkbox.

Source: IPv2 8.2 (pp. 79-81), 9.2 (pp. 127-131), 9.5 (pp. 141-143).

10.20* The applicant certifies that it will comply with Parts II and III of Executive Order 11246, Equal Employment Opportunity (30 Fed. Reg. 12319), which requires that federally assisted construction contracts incorporate and fulfill the nondiscrimination provisions of §§ 202 and 203 of E.O. 11246 and Department of Labor regulations implementing E.O. 11246 (41 C.F.R. § 60-1.4(b)).

Select the checkbox.

Source: IPv2 9.3, Table 29 (pp. 131-135).

10.21* The applicant certifies that it will participate in the Affordable Connectivity Program or any successor program as identified by NTIA.

Select the checkbox.

Source: IPv2 13.2 (p. 207); NOFO IV.C.2.c.i (p. 68).

10.22* The applicant certifies that it will carry out public awareness campaigns in its service areas that are designed to highlight the value and benefits of broadband service in order to increase the adoption of broadband service by consumers. Awareness campaigns must include information about low-cost service plans and any federal subsidies for low-income households such as the Lifeline Program, the Affordable Connectivity Program, and any successor programs. Further, awareness campaigns must be conducted in an equitable and nondiscriminatory manner. Subgrantees must utilize a variety of communications media (e.g., online, print, radio) and provide information in languages other than English when warranted based on the demographics of the community.

Select the checkbox.

Source: NOFO IV.C.2.c.iv (p. 68).

10.23* The applicant certifies that once a Funded Network has been deployed, it shall provide public notice, online and through other means, of that fact to individuals residing in the locations to which broadband service has been provided.

Select the checkbox.

Source: NOFO IV.C.2.c.iv (pp. 68-69).

10.24* Provide an explanation that details how the applicant intends to notify relevant populations of the new or newly upgraded offerings available in each area. The explanation should include information that reflects any unique needs of the specific demographics of the area. That may include information in different languages or communicated through particular mechanisms (e.g., online, print, radio).

Enter the response in the textbox (3,000-character limit).

Source: NOFO IV.C.2.c.iv (p. 69).

10.25* The applicant certifies that it agrees to abide by the civil rights and non-discrimination requirements set forth in the BEAD NOFO, to the extent applicable, including but not limited to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. §§

2000d et seq.) and the Department of Commerce’s implementing regulations at 15 C.F.R. Part 8; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. §§ 1681 et seq.) and the Department of Commerce’s implementing regulations at 15 C.F.R. Part 8a; the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 et seq.); Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. § 794) and the Department of Commerce’s implementing regulations at 15 C.F.R. Part 8b; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§ 6101 et seq.) and the Department of Commerce’s implementing regulations at 15 C.F.R. Part 20; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000e et seq.; and any other applicable non-discrimination law(s) and executive orders. The applicant acknowledges that failure to comply with relevant civil rights and non-discrimination requirements may result in cancellation of any award and/or recoupment of funds already disbursed.

Select the checkbox.

Source: IPv2 17.3 (p. 220); NOFO IV.C.1.g (pp. 60-61).

10.26* The applicant certifies that it will comply with the prohibition set forth in the BEAD NOFO and federal law on subgrantees using BEAD funding to purchase or support fiber optic cable and optical transmission equipment manufactured in the People’s Republic of China, subject to any applicable NTIA waivers of such prohibitions, as well as the prohibition on the use of certain telecommunications and video surveillance equipment or services set forth in 2 C.F.R. § 200.216.

Select the checkbox.

Source: NOFO VII.D.6 (p. 88).

10.27* The applicant certifies that it will comply with all program requirements, including service milestones.

Select the checkbox.

Source: NOFO IV.D.2.a.i (p. 72).

10.28* The applicant certifies that it will comply with all reporting requirements for subgrantees set forth in the BEAD NOFO. The applicant should review all reporting requirements for subgrantees for the BEAD Program.

Select the checkbox.

Source: NOFO VII.E.2 (pp. 90-92).

10.29* The applicant certifies that it will comply with the laws and regulations listed in the BEAD NOFO.

Select the checkbox.

10.30* The applicant certifies that it will comply with the requirements listed in the General Terms and Conditions for the BEAD Program Funds issued by NTIA, as applicable.

Select the checkbox.

Source: NOFO (p. 95).

10.31* The applicant certifies that it will comply with the requirements listed in the Department of Commerce Financial Assistance General Terms and Conditions, as applicable.

Select the checkbox.

Source: NOFO IX.B (p. 95).

10.32* The applicant certifies that it will follow all Instructions for Lower Tier Participant Certification and will comply with the Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion - Lower Tier Covered Transactions detailed in the BEAD NOFO, V.D.3-4, p. 78-80.

If the applicant can certify, select “I certify” and proceed to question 10.34. Otherwise select “I do not certify” and proceed to question 10.33.

Source: NOFO V.D.3-4 (pp. 78-80).

10.33* If the applicant is unable to certify any of the statements in the certification in question 10.32, provide an explanation.

Applicants unable to certify 10.32 are requested to enter a response in the textbox (3,000 character limit).

Source: NOFO V.D.3-4 (pp. 78-80).

10.34* The applicant certifies that it will not impose data usage caps on any plans offered over a Funded Network or impose unjust or unreasonable network management practices and shall certify through the semiannual reporting

requirements described in the BEAD NOFO that the plans offered over Funded Networks do not contain data usage caps for subscribers.

Select the checkbox.

Source: NOFO IV.C.2.c.ii (p. 68).

10.35* The applicant certifies that it will provide access to broadband service to each customer served by the project that desires broadband service on terms and conditions that are reasonable and non-discriminatory in accordance with the BEAD NOFO.

Select the checkbox.

Source: NOFO IV.C.2.c.iii (p. 68).

10.36* The applicant certifies that it will promptly disclose whenever, in connection with the federal award (including any activities or subawards thereunder), it has credible evidence of the commission of a violation of federal criminal law involving fraud, conflict of interest, bribery, or gratuity violations found in Title 18 of the United States Code or a violation of the civil False Claims Act (31 U.S.C. §§ 3729–3733). The disclosure must be made in writing to the federal agency, the agency’s Office of Inspector General, and the CPUC (if applicable) in accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.113. The applicant further certifies that it will comply with all applicable provisions of 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Appendix XII, should it receive a BEAD subgrant.

Select the checkbox.

Source: NOFO VII.F (p. 92) and VII.G.1 (pp. 95-96).

10.37* The applicant certifies that it will comply with all applicable provisions of 2 C.F.R. Part 25, including the award term set forth in Appendix A to 2 C.F.R. Part 25, should it receive a BEAD subgrant.

Select the checkbox.

Source: NOFO IV.E (p. 80).

10.38* The applicant certifies that it will comply with all applicable provisions of 2 C.F.R. Part 170, including the award term set forth in Appendix A to 2 C.F.R. Part 170, should it receive a BEAD subgrant.

Select the checkbox.

Source: NOFO VII.H (p. 93).

10.39* The applicant certifies that its organization understands that, in addition to complying with the requirements of CEQA (see section 11.7), applicants seeking California BEAD funding may need to provide additional information during the review process for NTIA to fulfill the necessary National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) requirements. Additional NEPA guidance is forthcoming from NTIA. The CPUC will follow up for additional information or clarification, as needed, to complete the NEPA and NHPA reviews. Please refer to NTIA’s BEAD NEPA Resource page for general information about these requirements (<https://broadbandusa.ntia.gov/technical-assistance/NEPA-EHP-Compliance>).

Select the checkbox.

Source: NOFO VII.D.4 (pp. 86-87).

10.40* The applicant certifies that it understands that Deployment projects and activities funded as administrative expenses cannot include Human Subjects Research and that BEAD award grantees must comply with Department of Commerce (DOC) regulations relating to the protection of human subjects for all research conducted or supported pursuant to an NTIA award. The DOC regulations related to the protection of human subjects are found in 15 C.F.R. Part 27.

Select the checkbox.

Source: NTLA Guidance for Human Subjects Research Protection.

10.41* Does the applicant plan to employ contractors or subcontractors for the proposed project?

Select “Yes” or “No.” If “Yes,” proceed to question 10.41A. Otherwise proceed to question 10.42.

10.41A* The applicant certifies that as it relates to its contractors or subcontractors, it will take these affirmative steps to include qualified MBEs, WBEs, and Labor Surplus Area Firms whenever possible: (1) Place qualified small and minority businesses and women’s business enterprises on solicitation lists; (2) Assure that small and minority businesses, and women’s business enterprises are solicited whenever they are potential sources; (3) Divide total requirements, when economically feasible, into smaller tasks or quantities to permit maximum participation by small and minority businesses, and women’s business enterprises; (4) Establish delivery schedules, where the requirements permit, which encourages participation by small and minority businesses, and women’s business enterprises;

(5) Use 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.

Select the checkbox. A response is only required from applicants who responded “Yes” to question 10.41.

Source: NOFO VII.D.7 (pp. 88-89), IPv2 10.1.6 (pp. 149-150).

10.42* The applicant certifies that it understands and will comply with the BEAD NOFO Audit Requirements, which state: 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Subpart F, adopted by the Department of Commerce through 2 C.F.R. § 1327.101 requires any non-federal entity that expends federal awards of \$750,000 or more in the recipient’s fiscal year to conduct a single or program-specific audit in accordance with the requirements set out in the Subpart. Additionally, unless otherwise specified in the terms and conditions of the award, entities that are not subject to Subpart F of 2 C.F.R. Part 200 (e.g., commercial entities) that expend \$750,000 or more in grant funds during their fiscal year must submit to the Grants Officer either: (i) a financial related audit of each DOC award or subaward in accordance with Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards; or (ii) a program specific audit for each award or subaward in accordance with the requirements contained in 2 C.F.R. § 200.507. Eligible Entities and its subgrantees are reminded that NTIA, the Department of Commerce Office of Inspector General, or another authorized federal agency may conduct an audit of an award at any time.

Select the checkbox.

Source: NOFO VII.G (p. 93).

10.43* The applicant certifies that it understands that the CPUC shall require that if a subgrantee, at any time, is no longer able to provide broadband service to the end user locations covered by the subgrant at any time on a retail basis remedial action be taken to ensure continuity of service. In consultation with NTIA, the CPUC shall require the subgrantee to sell the network capacity at a reasonable, wholesale rate on a nondiscriminatory basis to one or more other broadband service providers or public-sector entities or sell the network in its entirety to a new provider who commits to providing services under the terms of the BEAD Program.

Select the checkbox.

Source: NOFO IV.C.2.c.v (p. 69).

Section 11: Confidentiality and Certification

Confidentiality

Confidentiality 1: Does your application contain information for which you are requesting confidentiality protection pursuant to [CPUC General Order 66-D](#)?*

Select “Yes,” or “No.” If Yes, proceed to the confidentiality declarations. If “No,” proceed to the application certification questions.

Confidentiality 2: Any person or entity wishing to submit or file materials with a claim of confidentiality should follow the procedures set forth in CPUC General Order 66-D. Casual claims of confidentiality are not accepted. The CPUC looks with disfavor on claims of confidentiality for entire documents. When a claim of confidentiality is made, a public, redacted version of the document must also be submitted or filed.

Applicants cannot claim confidentiality for information required in the NTIA Final Proposal (see Application Confidentiality template).

Using the provided template, upload your General Order 66-D confidentiality declarations and other documents supporting your confidentiality claims.*

A response to this question is required only from applicants who answered “Yes” to Confidentiality 1. To request confidentiality on specific questions, download the “Application Confidentiality” template and check off the corresponding checkbox in the “Request for Confidentiality” column or enter “TRUE.” Provide a clear and concise reason for the confidentiality request in the next column. If attaching supporting evidence, include the file name in the “Relevant Attachment” column.

Confidentiality 3: Unredacted files must be uploaded in response to the relevant question in the application. Redacted versions of the same file may optionally be uploaded in response to this question. The redacted file name should begin with “redacted_”, followed by the same file name as the original upload.

A response to this question is required only from applicants who answered “Yes” to Confidentiality 1. Upload any relevant files, making sure the file name contains “redacted_”.

Confidentiality 4: Applicants may optionally download a copy of their application, redact relevant answers or portions of answers in the copy, and upload the redacted copy in response to this question.

A response to this question is required only from applicants who answered “Yes” to Confidentiality 1. Upload the redacted copy in PDF format, making sure the file name contains “redacted_”.

Certification

Certification 1: Do you attest, under penalty of perjury, that to the best of your knowledge all the information submitted, and statements and representations made in the application are true and correct?*

A response to this question is required from all applicants. Select the checkbox.

Certification 2: Is the applicant a telephone corporation or non-telephone corporation as defined by the California Public Utilities code?*

A response to this question is required from all applicants. Choose “Telephone Corporation” or “Non-Telephone Corporation.” If you selected “Telephone Corporation,” proceed to Certification 3. If you selected “Non-Telephone Corporation,” proceed to Certification 4.

Certification 3: The affidavit must be signed and notarized. Using the provided template, complete the telephone corporation affidavit and upload with your application.*

A response to this question is required only from applicants who responded “Telephone Corporation.” Upload the signed and notarized “CPUC Application Notarized Affidavit for Telephone Corporation” document PDF format.

Certification 4: The affidavit must be signed and notarized. Using the provided template, complete the non-telephone corporation affidavit and upload with your application.*

A response to this question is required only from applicants who answered “Non-Telephone Corporation.” Upload the signed and notarized “CPUC Application Notarized Affidavit for Non-Telephone Corporation” document PDF format.

Certification 5: The applicant understands there may not be an opportunity to correct or revise this application as initially submitted, and if the opportunity is provided, the applicant must respond promptly within the timeframe afforded, without extension. The applicant acknowledges that failure to provide an application that is complete

and responsive (e.g., placeholder language, partially completed templates) upon submission may result in this application being disqualified from further review.*

A response to this question is required from all applicants. Select the checkbox.

Section 12: Review and Submit

Applicants can review and download a copy of their responses before submitting to the CPUC.

Appendix A: Resource Links

Resource Name	URL
CPUC Decision Approving Volume II of the BEAD Program Rules	https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Published/G000/M542/K040/542040659.PDF
California BEAD Initial Proposal Volume I and Volume II	https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/beadprogram
BEAD NOFO	https://broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov/sites/default/files/2022-05/BEAD%20NOFO.pdf
2 C.F.R §25.300	https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-2/subtitle-A/chapter-I/part-25/subpart-C/section-25.300
47 C.F.R. § 1.2105	https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-47/chapter-I/subchapter-A/part-1/subpart-Q
Final BEAD Alternative Broadband Technology Policy Notice	https://broadbandusa.ntia.gov/policies-waivers/BEAD_Alternative_Broadband_Technology_Policy_Notice
BEAD Letter of Credit Waiver	https://broadbandusa.ntia.gov/funding-programs/policies-waivers/BEAD-Letter-of-Credit-Waiver
2024 BEAD Program General Terms and Conditions	https://broadbandusa.ntia.gov/funding-programs/policies-waivers/BEAD_IPFR_GTC_April_2024
Final BABA Waiver	https://www.commerce.gov/sites/default/files/2024-02/BABA%20Waiver%20Signed.pdf
Guidance for Human Subjects Research Protection	https://broadbandusa.ntia.gov/sites/default/files/2022-08/BEAD-Planning-Grant-HSR-Guidance-Final-9-29-2022.pdf
Secure Networks Act, List of Equipment & Services	https://www.fcc.gov/supplychain/coveredlist
California Department of General Services (DGS) Office of Small Business and Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Services (OSDS)	https://www.dgs.ca.gov/PD-OSDS

Resource Name	URL
Supplier Clearinghouse Database	https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/about-cpuc/divisions/news-and-public-information-office/business-and-community-outreach/supplier-diversity-program/supplier-database
Guidance on NTIA National Environmental Policy Act Compliance	https://broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov/sites/default/files/2024-04/Guidance on NTIA NEPA Compliance April 2024.pdf
California Statewide Middle-Mile Network Map	https://middle-mile-broadband-initiative.cdt.ca.gov/pages/statewide-middle-mile-network-map
NTIA Permitting and Environmental Information Application	https://nbam.maps.arcgis.com/apps/instant/portfolio/index.html?appid=c7906b72e14045bf9fa6fe9add469a0

Project Application Guide Version History

Version One

First version published March 20, 2025.

Version Two

Second version published April 1, 2025. Notable changes:

- Section 2 fully updated with detailed instructions and screenshots from the interactive map. Information on Project Area Units and valid Project Areas moved to this section.
- Questions 3.3D (Location List Template) and 3.3Bii (90 Percent Proposal Locations Template) field titles and instructions updated.
- Calculation for question 4.3 (Minimum BEAD Outlay) modified and additional instructions added.
- Additional resources added to Section 5, Environmental Questionnaire.
- Added additional certification question (Certification 5).