



Federal Funding for Broadband

Investing in Internet for All in Pennsylvania

Overview

The [Pennsylvania Broadband Development Authority \(PBDA\)](#) is responsible for creating a statewide broadband plan and distributing federal and state monies for broadband expansion in unserved and underserved areas of Pennsylvania. PBDA's primary goal is to bridge the digital divide in the Commonwealth and ensure that all Pennsylvania residents have access to affordable and reliable high-speed internet, whether at home, work, or while traveling.

The following is the federal funding that the PBDA has received and administers on behalf of the Commonwealth. Additional information about these programs and more is available on PBDA's website at broadband.pa.gov.

Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD)

The [Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment program \(BEAD\)](#) is a \$42.45 billion federal funding program established by the 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). The BEAD program aims to help everyone in America get affordable, reliable, high-speed internet by funding infrastructure deployment programs.

In June 2023, Pennsylvania received \$1.16 billion in BEAD funding from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) to assist in the expansion of high-speed broadband infrastructure across the state. PBDA's [Five-Year Action Plan](#) was approved in October 2023 and outlines how the BEAD funds will be used.

Digital Equity Act (DEA)

The [Digital Equity Act \(DEA\)](#) is a \$2.75 billion federal funding program established by the 2021 IIJA. The DEA aims to promote digital inclusion and advance equity for all through three planning and implementation grant programs. These programs are designed to ensure all communities have access to affordable, reliable, high-speed internet to meet their needs and improve their lives.

PBDA is eligible to receive up to \$25 million from the NTIA under the first tranche of the Digital Equity Capacity Program.

Contact

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Capital Projects Fund (CPF)

The [Capital Projects Fund \(CPF\)](#) is a \$10 billion federal funding program established by the 2021 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). The CPF aims to support critical capital projects directly enabling work, education, and health monitoring, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The U.S. Department of Treasury awarded \$279 million to Pennsylvania for critical capital projects. PBDA is administering grant programs to fund a variety of broadband-related projects. These programs include:

- CPF: Broadband Infrastructure Program (BIP)
- CPF: Multi-Purpose Community Facilities (Facilities) Program
- CPF: Digital Connectivity Technology (Technology) Program

