



Pennsylvania
Broadband Development Authority

Broadband Programs & Resources

Investing in Internet for All



Herndon, PA



Pennsylvania Broadband Development Authority
Honorable, Uri Monson, Chairman
Brandon Carson, Executive Director
broadband.pa.gov





PA Broadband Development Authority (PBDA)

The Pennsylvania Broadband Development Authority (PBDA), signed into law on December 22, 2021, is an independent agency under the PA Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED).

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

Board of Directors

The PBDA is governed by an 11-member board. Representation from each legislative caucus, five Secretaries across five commonwealth agencies, the Chair of the PUC, and the Executive Director of the Center for Rural PA.

- **Uri Monson**, PBDA Chairman, Secretary of the Budget
- **Kristin Phillips-Hill**, PBDA Board Secretary, PA Senate, District 28
- **John Kane**, PBDA Board Assistant Secretary, PA Senate, District 9
- **Robert F. Matzie**, PA House of Representatives, District 16
- **Carl Metzgar**, PA House of Representatives, District 69
- **Stephan DeFrank**, Chairman, PA Public Utility Commission
- **Dr. Kyle Kopko**, Executive Director, The Center for Rural Pennsylvania
- **Reggie McNeil**, Secretary, Department of General Services
- **Dr. Carrie Rowe**, Acting Secretary, Department of Education
- **Russell Redding**, Secretary, Department of Agriculture
- **Rick Siger**, Secretary, Department of Community and Economic Development



Federal & State Programs

Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program

The [Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment \(BEAD\)](#) 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 to assist in the expansion of high-speed broadband infrastructure across the state.

- **BEAD Challenge Process**

As a recipient of BEAD funds, Pennsylvania conducted a challenge process to validate and finalize the Broadband Serviceable Locations (BSLs) and Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs) eligible to be served by BEAD funded networks. Any changes made to BSL data during this challenge process will be based on evidence submitted by qualified participants.

Broadband Ready Communities (BBRC)

The [Broadband Ready Communities \(BBRC\)](#) program is intended to increase investment and opportunity for broadband infrastructure investment in Pennsylvania. This program aims to reduce procedural, policy, and permitting barriers to broadband deployment at the municipal level and to encourage broadband infrastructure investment within participating communities.

Digital Equity Act (DEA)

The [Digital Equity Act \(DEA\)](#) aims to promote digital inclusion and advance equity for all through planning and implementation 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 under the first tranche of the Digital Equity Capacity Program.*

Capital Projects Fund (CPF)

The U.S. Department of Treasury awarded \$279 million to Pennsylvania for critical capital projects. In June 2022, the Pennsylvania General Assembly appropriated this funding to the Pennsylvania Broadband Development Authority (PBDA), which is using the [Capital Projects Fund \(CPF\)](#) to establish grant programs that identify eligible projects that meet program guidelines and federal requirements.

- **CPF: Broadband Infrastructure Program (BIP)**

Through the [Broadband Infrastructure Program \(BIP\)](#), \$205 million in federal funding was made available for businesses, non-profits, local governments, and economic development organizations. This funding will help to facilitate the deployment of high-speed internet service infrastructure in unserved and underserved areas of the Commonwealth. *Applications for BIP funding closed in 2023.*

- **CPF: Multi-Purpose Community Facilities (Facilities)**

The [Multi-Purpose Community Facilities Program \(Facilities\)](#), \$45 million in federal funding was made available for community anchor institutions and units of local government for projects to construct, acquire, or improve facilities that are, or will be open to the public and will directly enable work, education, and health monitoring at the respective facility. *Applications for Facilities funding closed in April 2024.*

- **CPF: Digital Connectivity Technology (Technology)**

The [Digital Connectivity Technology Program \(Technology\)](#), \$20 million in federal funding to increase access to technology devices where affordability has been identified as a barrier to broadband adoption and use. *PBDA posted guidelines and anticipates opening the program in late June/early July 2024*

PBDA Milestones

The following timeline shows key milestones for PBDA activities from May 2022 to April 2025.

May 2022

- BEAD Notice of Funding Opportunity Released
- Digital Equity Program Notice of Funding Opportunity Released

July 2022

- BEAD Letter of Intent, Submitted
- Digital Equity Planning Funds Application, Submitted

August 2022

- BEAD Planning Funds Application, Submitted

November 2022

- Digital Equity Planning Funds Application, Approved
- BEAD Planning Funds Application, Approved

November 2022 – August 2023

- BEAD 5-year Action Plan Design

May 2023

- CPF-Broadband Infrastructure Program (BIP), Opened

August 2023

- CPF-BIP Program Application Window, Closed
- BEAD 5-year Action Plan, Submitted

October 2023

- BEAD 5-year Action Plan, Approved
- BEAD Initial Proposal Vol. I, Submitted

December 2023

- BEAD Initial Proposal Vol. II, Submitted
- Statewide Digital Equity Plan Design

January 2024

- CPF-Multi-Purpose Community Facilities (Facilities) Program, Opened

February 2024

- BEAD Initial Proposal Vol. I, Approved
- Statewide Digital Equity Plan, Submitted

March 2024

- Statewide Digital Equity Plan, Approved

April 2024

- BEAD Challenge Submission Process Begins and Portal Rollout
- Broadband Ready Communities (BBRC) Program Launch
- CPF-BIF Award Announcements
- CPF-Facilities Program Closed

May 2024

- BEAD Initial Proposal Vol. II, Approved

June 2024

- CPF-Digital Connectivity Technology (Technology) Program, Opened

July 2024

- BEAD Challenge Submission Process Ends
- CPF-Facilities Award Announcements

August 2024

- CPF Technology Program Closed

November 2024

- BEAD Program Application Round One Opens
- CPF-Technology Program Award Announcements

February 2025

- BEAD Program Application Period One Closed

March 2025

- BEAD Application Period One Review Complete

April 2025

- CPF-Digital Connectivity Technology Program Round Two Opens

Contact Us

Get the latest on grant programs, challenge and map updates, and community engagement events by visiting the PBDA website and signing up for the Broadband Newsletter.



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