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April 11, 2025

The Honorable Ken Weyler, Chairman
Fiscal Committee of the General Court and

Her Excellency, Governor Kelly A. Ayotte
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Pursuant to RSA 14:30-a VI, authorize the Department of Business and Economic Affairs (BEA) to accept and expend \$12,358,494 of Infrastructure, Investments, and Jobs Act, Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Funds to continue supporting the improvement of the State of New Hampshire's broadband infrastructure program, effective upon Fiscal Committee and Governor and Council approval through June 30, 2025. **100% Federal Funds**

Funds are to be budgeted in FY2025 as follows:

03-022-022-221510-36360000 – Broadband-IIJA BEAD

Class	Description	FY25 Current Adjusted Authorized	Requested Action	FY25 Revised Adjusted Authorized
000-400338-16	FEDERAL FUNDS	3,424,746	12,358,494	15,783,240
	Total Revenue	3,424,746	12,358,494	15,783,240
020 - 500200	CURRENT EXPENSES	4,041	21,000	25,041
022 - 500248	RENTS	14,010	103,000	117,010
027 - 582703	TRANSFERS TO DoIT	5,000	20,000	25,000
030 - 500301	EQUIPMENT NEW AND REPLACEMENT	4,000	-	4,000
037 - 500172	TECHNOLOGY-HARDWARE	3,524	7,000	10,524
038 - 500177	TECHNOLOGY-SOFTWARE	27,131	-	27,131

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039 - 500188	TELECOMMUNICATIONS	3,844	16,000	19,844
040 - 501587	INDIRECT COSTS	28,821	409,147	437,968
041 - 500801	AUDIT FUND SET ASIDE	3,426	12,358	15,784
042 - 500620	ADDITIONAL FRINGE BENEFITS	9,563	208,000	217,563
046 - 500464	CONSULTANTS	2,269,583	2,230,417	4,500,000
059 - 500117	TEMP FULL TIME	121,242	2,600,000	2,721,242
060 - 500601	BENEFITS	101,862	1,200,000	1,301,862
070 - 500704	IN STATE TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT	5,000	3,472	8,472
072 - 502683	GRANTS FEDERAL	-	5,512,100	5,512,100
080 - 500717	OUT OF STATE TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT	9,349	16,000	25,349
102 - 500731	CONTRACTS FOR PROGRAM SERVICE	814,350	-	814,350
	Total Expenditures	3,424,746	12,358,494	15,783,240

EXPLANATION

The Department of Business and Economic Affairs (BEA) respectfully requests authorization to accept and expend \$12,358,494 in federal funds awarded to the State of New Hampshire under the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program. This amount is part of a larger federal allocation of \$196,560,278.97 made available to the State through the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021.

These funds will support:

- Ongoing work under previously authorized contracts and awards, including consulting services;
- Continued administrative operations; and
- Future awards related to the State's broadband expansion initiatives.

Program Overview

The BEAD Program is a federally funded initiative intended to expand broadband infrastructure and increase access in underserved and unserved areas. New Hampshire's implementation goals include:

- Ensuring broadband service of at least 100/20 Mbps for all residents;
- Delivering speeds of at least 1 Gbps to Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs); and
- Prioritizing infrastructure development in areas lacking adequate service.

Reliable internet access is essential for economic competitiveness and quality of life, enabling remote work, telehealth, virtual education, and more.

Background and Prior Appropriations

New Hampshire was awarded a total of \$196.5 million through the BEAD Program, which includes:

- \$5 million in Planning Grant funds
- \$191.5 million in Program Implementation funding

To date, BEA has received approval to accept and expend the following BEAD Planning Grant funds:

- **\$80,000** (March 2023 – FIS 23-089 / G&C #53): Used to hire broadband staff to support initial program development. (Extended May 2023 – FIS 23-167 / G&C #161)
- **\$2,000,000** (April 2023 – FIS 23-122 / G&C #79): Used to engage Mission Broadband (via RFP DBEA 2023-16) for strategic planning and development of required federal submissions (Five-Year Action Plan, Initial Proposal, Final Proposal). (Extended May 2023 – FIS 23-167 / G&C #161)

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- **\$2,920,000** (February 2024 – FIS 24-065 / G&C #71): Used to procure Challenge Process software (Ready.net, Inc.) and engage Guidehouse, Inc. (via RFP DBEA 2024-11) for compliance and reporting support.

In addition, BEAD funds have supported two key positions within the BEA Office of Broadband Initiatives—both vital to fulfilling the program's operational and compliance obligations. These staff members report to the Broadband Program Manager and play a central role in program implementation, stakeholder coordination, and federal reporting.

Purpose of Current Request

This request seeks authorization to accept and expend an additional \$12,358,494 in BEAD funds to:

- Maintain support for essential broadband personnel as prior funding sources are depleted;
- Continue administering existing contracts and obligations;
- Cover necessary administrative expenses; and
- Prepare for future BEAD-related awards and activities.

This funding is important to sustaining the momentum of New Hampshire's successful broadband expansion efforts while ensuring full compliance with federal guidelines. BEA remains committed to the prudent and transparent use of public funds to close the digital divide and expand broadband access throughout the State.

Funds are budgeted in the expense classes listed as follows:

Class 020 – Current Expenses - Leases - office supplies, paper and printer toner for previously approved positions.

Class 022 – Additional Rents-Leases other than State for previously approved positions.

Class 027 – Additional Transfers to DoIT – standard expenses to cover IT software and hardware support for previously approved positions.

Class 037 – Additional Technology – Hardware – laptops, monitors and docking stations for previously approved positions.

Class 039 – Additional Telecommunications – phones and phone lines for previously approved positions.

Class 040 - Indirect Costs - BEA will withdraw funds at the rate of 10% of modified total direct costs; this is the de minimis rate elected to be used pursuant to 2 CFR 200.414(f).

Class 041 - Audit Fund Set-Aside at a rate of 0.1 %- to comply with RSA 124:16, which requires all agencies which receive federal funds set aside a percentage (0.1%) of federal revenue amount received to pay for financial and compliance audits.

Class 042 – Additional Fringe Benefits – post retirement expenses for previously approved positions.

Class 046 – Additional Consultants – Consultant to work with the state on reporting, auditing, and regulatory requirements.

Class 059 – Additional Temp Full Time - salaries for the following previously approved positions: 9T3298 Business Administrator II (13-2090 MISC FINAN SPECS-5) and 9T3299 Business Administrator II (13-2090 MISC FINAN SPECS-5), positions previously approved by the Fiscal Committee (FIS23-089 on March 24, 2023) and the Governor and Executive Council (#53 on March 22, 2023) through the end of FY2024 and

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subsequently approved by the Fiscal Committee (FIS23-167 on May 19, 2023) and the Governor and Executive Council (#161 on May 31, 2023) through the end of FY2025.

Class 060 – Additional Benefits- benefits for previously approved positions.

Class 070 – Additional In State Travel Reimbursement – mileage incurred for work related activities with regards to inspections, meetings with stakeholders and other in state travel requirements.

Class 072 – Grants Federal – for subgrants to internet service providers and other eligible subgrantees to carry out BEAD eligible projects, with the goal of bringing internet service to all unserved and underserved Granite Staters.

Class 080 – Additional Out of State Travel Reimbursement – For anticipated Federal meetings.

If Federal Funds become no longer available. General Funds will not be requested to support this program.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "T. Caswell", with a stylized initial "T" and "C".

Taylor Caswell
Commissioner

Fiscal Situation
FY 2025
03-22-22-221510-36360000, BROADBAND-IIJA BEAD

Total Federal Authorization	\$	196,560,278.97
Less Expenditures thru 6/30/24	\$	1,575,253.63
Remaining Authorization to Budget	\$	<u>194,985,025.34</u>
Less Current FY25 Budget Authorization	\$	3,424,746.37
Total Available for Budgeting	\$	<u>191,560,278.97</u>
Available to Budget at a Later Date	\$	<u>179,201,785.05</u>
REQUESTED ACTION	\$	<u>12,358,493.92</u>

Grant Award Number	Award Amount	Expenses to 6/30/24	Balance
33-20-B063	\$ 196,560,278.97	\$ 1,575,253.63	\$ 194,985,025.34

FORM CD-451
(REV. 11/18)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

GRANT COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT

AMENDMENT TO FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AWARD

AWARD NUMBER
33-20-8063

CFDA NO. AND NAME

11.035 - Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program

PROJECT TITLE

New Hampshire BEAD Planning Funds Proposal

RECIPIENT NAME

Business and Economic Affairs, New Hampshire Department of

AMENDMENT NUMBER

2

STREET ADDRESS

100-N Main St STE 100

EFFECTIVE DATE

6/18/2024

CITY, STATE ZIP

Concord, NH 03301-5054

**EXTEND PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE TO
(IF APPLICABLE)**

6/30/2032

COSTS ARE REVISED AS FOLLOWS:	PREVIOUS ESTIMATED COST	ADD	DEDUCT	TOTAL ESTIMATED COST
FEDERAL SHARE OF COST	\$5,000,000.00	\$191,560,278.97	\$0.00	\$196,560,278.97
RECIPIENT SHARE OF COST	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL ESTIMATED COST	\$5,000,000.00	\$191,560,278.97	\$0.00	\$196,560,278.97

REASON(S) FOR AMENDMENT

This award agreement is hereby amended to add funding associated with the approval of the Initial Proposal and the Initial Proposal Funding Request; to extend the Period of Performance to 06/30/2032; and to update the Specific Award Conditions and the General Terms and Conditions associated with the award.

ALL SPECIFIC AWARD CONDITIONS FROM THE ORIGINAL AWARD DOCUMENT REMAIN IN EFFECT UNLESS NOTED AS "REVISED".

This Amendment Document (Form CD-451) signed by the Grants Officer constitutes an Amendment of the above-referenced Award, which may include an obligation of Federal funding. By signing this Form CD-451, the Recipient agrees to comply with the Amendment provisions checked below and attached, as well as previous provisions incorporated into the Award. If not signed and returned without modification by the Recipient within 30 days of receipt, the Grants Officer may unilaterally withdraw this Amendment offer and de-obligate any associated funds.

SPECIFIC AWARD CONDITION(S)

LINE ITEM BUDGET

OTHER(S) Refer to REVISED Specific Award Condition #18 (Period of Performance and Funding Limitations) for the Multi-Year Specific Award Condition.

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS for the NTIA BROADBAND, EQUITY, ACCESS & DEPLOYMENT PROGRAM (BEAD) PROGRAM FUNDS, April 2024 (see attached).

SIGNATURE OF DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE GRANTS OFFICER

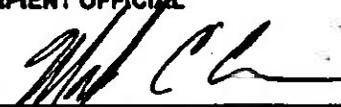
Melissa Abdullah

MELISSA ABDULLAH

Digitally signed by MELISSA ABDULLAH
Date: 2024.06.18 09:19:15 -04'00'

DATE

TYPED NAME, TYPED TITLE, AND SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED RECIPIENT OFFICIAL

Math Conserve, Broadband Program Manager 

DATE

7/12/2024

Award Number: 33-20-B063, Amendment Number 2

Federal Program Officer: Clay Purvis

Requisition Number: BEA83A

Employer Identification Number: [REDACTED]

UEI Number: [REDACTED]

Recipient ID: [REDACTED]

Requestor ID [REDACTED]

Award ACCS Information

Bureau Code	FCFY	Project-Task	Org Code	Obj Class	Obligation Amount
81	2024	4700001-000	06-00-0000-00-00-00-00	41-19-00-00	\$191,660,276.97

Award Contact Information

Contact Name	Contact Type	Email	Phone
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