



New Hampshire Department of
**BUSINESS AND
ECONOMIC AFFAIRS**



February 23, 2026

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 \$17,039,652 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, 2027.

100% Federal Funds

Funds are to be budgeted in FY2026 as follows:

03-22-022-221510-36360000 – Broadband-IIJA BEAD

Class	Description	FY26 Current Adjusted Authorized	Requested Action	FY26 Revised Adjusted Authorized
000-400338-16	FEDERAL FUNDS	14,331,731	17,039,652	31,371,383
	Total Revenue	14,331,731	17,039,652	31,371,383
020 - 500200	CURRENT EXPENSES	24,896	-	24,896
022 - 500248	RENTS	110,050	80,000	190,050
027 - 582703	TRANSFERS TO DoIT	22,400	20,000	42,400
030 - 500301	EQUIPMENT NEW AND REPLACEMENT	4,000	-	4,000
037 - 500172	TECHNOLOGY-HARDWARE	10,524	-	10,524
038 - 500177	TECHNOLOGY-SOFTWARE	27,131	-	27,131
039 - 500188	TELECOMMUNICATIONS	19,061	8,000	27,061
040 - 501587	INDIRECT COSTS	414,323	16,714	431,037
041 - 500801	AUDIT FUND SET ASIDE	14,331	17,039	31,370
042 - 500620	ADDITIONAL FRINGE BENEFITS	214,780	-	214,780
046 - 500464	CONSULTANTS	3,950,000	-	3,950,000
059 - 500117	TEMP FULL TIME	2,592,504	-	2,592,504

060 - 500601	BENEFITS	1,225,460	-	1,225,460
070 - 500704	IN STATE TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT	8,472	-	8,472
072 - 502683	GRANTS FEDERAL	5,512,100	16,891,899	22,403,999
080 - 500717	OUT OF STATE TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT	25,349	6,000	31,349
102 - 500731	CONTRACTS FOR PROGRAM SERVICE	156,350	-	156,350
	Total Expenditures	14,331,731	17,039,652	31,371,383

EXPLANATION

The Department of Business and Economic Affairs (BEA) respectfully requests authorization to accept and expend \$17,039,652 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.

Purpose of Current Request

This request seeks authorization to accept and expend an additional \$17,039,652 in BEAD funds to:

- Maintain support for previously approved essential broadband personnel.
- Continue administering existing contracts and obligations.
- Cover necessary administrative expenses; and
- Prepare for future BEAD-related contracts, awards, and activities.

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; 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 just over \$196.5 million through the BEAD Program, as follows:

- \$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 Grant funds:

- **\$80,000** (March 2023 – FIS 23-089 / G&C #53): Used to hire broadband staff to support initial program development.
- **\$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).

- **\$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.
- **\$12,358,493.92** (May 2025 – FIS 25-120 / G&C #58): Used to maintain support for essential broadband personnel, continue administering existing contracts and obligations, cover necessary administrative expenses, and prepare for future BEAD-related awards and activities.

In addition to the above approved items, 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.

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

Class 040 - Indirect Costs – additional funding to cover indirect costs.

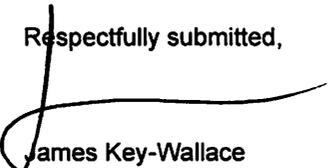
Class 041 - Audit Fund Set-Aside at a rate of 0.1 % - to comply with RSA 124:16, which requires all agencies which receive federal funds set aside a percentage (0.1%) of federal revenue amount received to pay for financial and compliance audits.

Class 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 – Out of State Travel Reimbursement – additional anticipated travel for Federal meetings.

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

Respectfully submitted,



James Key-Wallace
Interim Commissioner

Fiscal Situation
FY 2026
03-22-22-221510-36360000, BROADBAND-IIJA BEAD

Total Federal Authorization			196,560,279
Less Expenditures thru 6/30/25	A		3,026,764
Remaining Authorization to Budget			193,533,515
Less Current FY26 Budget Authorization	B		14,331,730
Total Available for Budgeting			179,201,785
Available to Budget at a Later Date			162,162,133
REQUESTED ACTION	C		17,039,652

Grant Award Number	Award Amount	Expenses to 6/30/25	Balance
33-20-B063	\$ 196,560,279	\$ 3,026,764	193,533,515

Note:

3,026,764	A
14,331,730	B
17,039,652	C
34,398,146	

See page 4 section 5 of award notice (Max Draw this round)



RECIPIENT INFORMATION

- 1. **Recipient Name**
Business and Economic Affairs, New Hampshire Department of
100 N Main St STE 100
Concord, NH 03301-5054
- 2. **Congressional District of Recipient**
NH-2
- 3. **Employer Identification Number (EIN)**
[REDACTED]
- 4. **Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)**
[REDACTED]
- 5. **ASAP ID**
[REDACTED]
- 6. **Recipient Point of Contact**
Matthew Conserva
matthew.e.conserva1@livefree.nh.gov
- 7. **Authorized Official**
Matthew Conserva
matthew.e.conserva1@livefree.nh.gov

FEDERAL AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

- 8. **Program Officer**
Clay Purvis
clpurvis@ntia.gov
- 9. **Grants Specialist**
Maxwell Cassity
maxwell.cassity@nist.gov
- 10. **Grants Officer**
Yongming Qiu
yongming.qiu@nist.gov

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

- 11. Section 60102 of Public Law 117-58

FEDERAL AWARD INFORMATION

- 12. **Federal Award Identification Number (FAIN) - Amendment #**
33-20-B063-4
- 13. **Award Type**
Grant
- 14. **Period of Performance Start Date & End Date**
12/01/2022 - 12/31/2040
- 15. **Budget Period Start Date & End Date**
See Specific Award Conditions (SACs)
- 16. **Federal Funds Obligated by this Action**
\$0.00
- 17. **Total Amount of Federal Funds Obligated**
\$196,560,278.97
- 18. **Total Approved Cost Share**
\$25,168,184.03
- 19. **Total Federal Award including approved Cost Share**
\$221,728,463.00
- 20. **Opportunity Number**
NTIA-BEAD-2022
- 21. **Project Title**
New Hampshire BEAD Planning Funds Proposal
- 22. **Assistance Listing Number and Name**
11.035-Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program
- 23. **Award Action Type**
Amendment
- 24. **Multiyear Award?**
Yes
- 25. **R&D Award?**
No
- 26. **Grants Officer – Signature and Date**
Yongming Qiu -  Date: 2025.12.03
17:30:57 -05'00'
- 27. **Authorized Official – Signature and Date***

*The Notice of Award (NoA) must be signed by an authorized representative of the Recipient and returned to the Grants Officer within 30 days, unless otherwise instructed in the "Reason for Amendment" section. The Grants Officer may unilaterally withdraw the Award if a signature is required and not returned within this timeframe. The Recipient agrees to comply with the terms and conditions of the Award.

SECTION I – FEDERAL AWARD DESCRIPTION

The BEAD Program provides federal funding for grants to States and Territories for broadband deployment activities. The Program's principal focus is deploying broadband infrastructure to unserved locations and underserved locations. The proposed project includes the following activities: 1) Last-mile broadband deployment projects; 2) programmatic activities associated with BEAD (e.g., Challenge and Subgrantee Selection Processes), 3) Funds set aside for future broadband-related activities, and 4) administration of the grant.

The intended beneficiaries are the State of New Hampshire and principally broadband unserved and underserved communities in the State.

The recipient does intend to subaward funds.

SECTION II - BUDGET INFORMATION

See the attached approved budget

Authorized

	Previous	Change	Cumulative
Federal	\$196,560,278.97	\$0.00	\$196,560,278.97
Non-Federal	\$0.00	\$25,168,184.03	\$25,168,184.03
Total	\$196,560,278.97	\$25,168,184.03	\$221,728,463.00

Authorized Fund Codes

Bureau	FCFY	Project-Task	Org Code	Object Class	Obligation Amount
61	2024	4700001-000	06-00-0000-00-00-00-00	41-19-00-00	\$0.00

SECTION III – GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

* SPECIFIC AWARD CONDITIONS

* 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, NOVEMBER 2025 (SEE ATTACHED).

REASON FOR AMENDMENT

This award agreement is hereby amended to: (1) release funding associated with the approval of the Final Proposal and the Final Proposal Funding Request; (2) update the Specific Award Conditions and the General Terms and Conditions associated with the award; and (3) extend the period of performance to December 31, 2040 in accordance with SAC #18.

ALL PRIOR TERMS AND CONDITIONS, APPLICABLE LAWS AND REGULATIONS, AND PROGRAMMATIC POLICIES REMAIN IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT UNLESS EXPLICITLY MODIFIED BY THIS AMENDMENT.

NIST Financial Assistance Award Number: 33-20-B063
Amendment: 4
Grantee: Business and Economic Affairs, New Hampshire department of

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY
BROADBAND EQUITY, ACCESS, AND DEPLOYMENT PROGRAM
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
SPECIFIC AWARD CONDITIONS**

1. REVISED - Introduction:

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), servicing for the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), hereby amends this Grant number 33-20-B063 with Business and Economic Affairs, New Hampshire department of to support the work described in the proposal, to include the final approved versions of the Letter of Intent, Initial Proposal, Initial Proposal Funding Request, Final Proposal, and Final Proposal Funding Request, including any revisions entitled “New Hampshire BEAD Planning Funds Proposal” dated September 3, 2025, October 8, 2025 and any revisions received during the application review, which are hereby incorporated into this award by reference. Where the terms of this award and the proposal differ, the terms of this award shall prevail.

2. Recipient Contact Information:

Administrative:

Matthew Conserva
Broadband Program Manager
Division of Economic Development
100 N Main Street, Suite 100
Concord, New Hampshire, 03301-5054
Telephone: (603) 271-4963
Email: matthew.e.conserva@livefree.nh.gov

3. REVISED - NTIA Contact Information:

Federal Program Officer:

Clay Purvis
National Telecommunications and Information Administration
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20230
Email: clpurvis@ntia.gov

4. REVISED - NIST Award Contact Information:

Grants Officer:

Yongming Qiu
National Institute of Standards and Technology
100 Bureau Drive, Mail Stop 1650
Gaithersburg, MD 20899-1650

NIST Financial Assistance Award Number: 33-20-B063
Amendment: 4
Grantee: Business and Economic Affairs, New Hampshire department of
Email: yongming.qiu@nist.gov

Grants Specialist:

Maxwell Cassity
National Institute of Standards and Technology
100 Bureau Drive, Mail Stop 1650
Gaithersburg, MD 20899-1650
Email: maxwell.cassity@nist.gov

5. REVISED - Award Payments:

This award is hereby funded through advanced payments using the Department of the Treasury’s Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP) system. Payments will be issued in accordance with 2 CFR § 200.305 and the Department of Commerce Financial Assistance General Terms and Conditions, B.02, (dated September 22, 2025).

Payments for allowable costs may be drawn down as needed by the Grantee enrolled in ASAP. Funds may be requested through ASAP by the authorized *Payment Requestor* who is the individual designated by the Grantee to access Federal funds.

This award has the following control or withdrawal limits set in ASAP:

- None
- Agency Review required for all withdrawals (see explanation below)
- Agency Review required for all withdrawal requests over \$ _____ (see explanation below)
- Maximum Draw Amount controls (see explanation below)
 - \$ _____ each month
 - \$ _____ each quarter
 - \$ 34,398,146.23 Max drawdown amount

Explanation:

The Grantee has requested \$162,162,132.74 in funding for item(s) identified in the other cost category. The Grantee may not begin work, incur costs or draw-down funds associated with this work until the requirements outlined in Specific Award Condition #38 titled “Consolidated Budget Form” have been satisfied.

6. Return Payments for Funds Withdrawn through ASAP:

Funds that have been withdrawn through ASAP may be returned to ASAP via the Automated Clearing House (ACH) or via FEDWIRE. The ACH or FEDWIRE transaction may only be completed by the Recipient’s financial institution. Full or partial amounts of payments received by a Payment Requestor/Recipient Organization may be returned to ASAP. All funds returned to the ASAP system will be credited to the ASAP Suspense Account. The Suspense Account allows the Regional Financial Center to monitor returned items and ensure that funds are properly credited to the correct ASAP