



BEAD SUBGRANTEE APPLICATION: GRANT APPLICATION PROCESS

SEPTEMBER 2024

INTRODUCTION



Chad Bolling

- Broadband Manager, Wyoming Business Council

Aimee Meacham

- Director of State Broadband Programs, CTC Technology & Energy

AGENDA

1. BEAD Overview
2. Application Components
3. Q&A



BEAD OVERVIEW

What is the BEAD Program?



- **The Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program** was created by the bipartisan **Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)**
- Allocates **\$42.45 billion of federal funding** to all 50 states, Washington D.C., and territories
- Administered by the **National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)**
- Goal of **expanding high-speed internet access** through infrastructure deployment and adoption programs
- Prioritizes funds for **unserved locations first** (those that cannot get internet service of 25/3 Mbps) and **underserved second** (those that can get internet service between 25/3 and 100/20 Mbps only)

THE WYOMING BEAD PROGRAM



Wyoming was allocated \$348 million to support the deployment of broadband infrastructure

- WBO has submitted to the federal government the first three of four required BEAD plans, including the second volume of the Initial Proposal, which describes the state's grant program design, proposed subgrantee selection process, grant application scoring criteria, plans for workforce development, and affordability strategies, among other relevant information
- These documents plus additional information can be found here: <https://wyomingbusiness.org/broadband/bead/>

BEAD PLANNING

2023

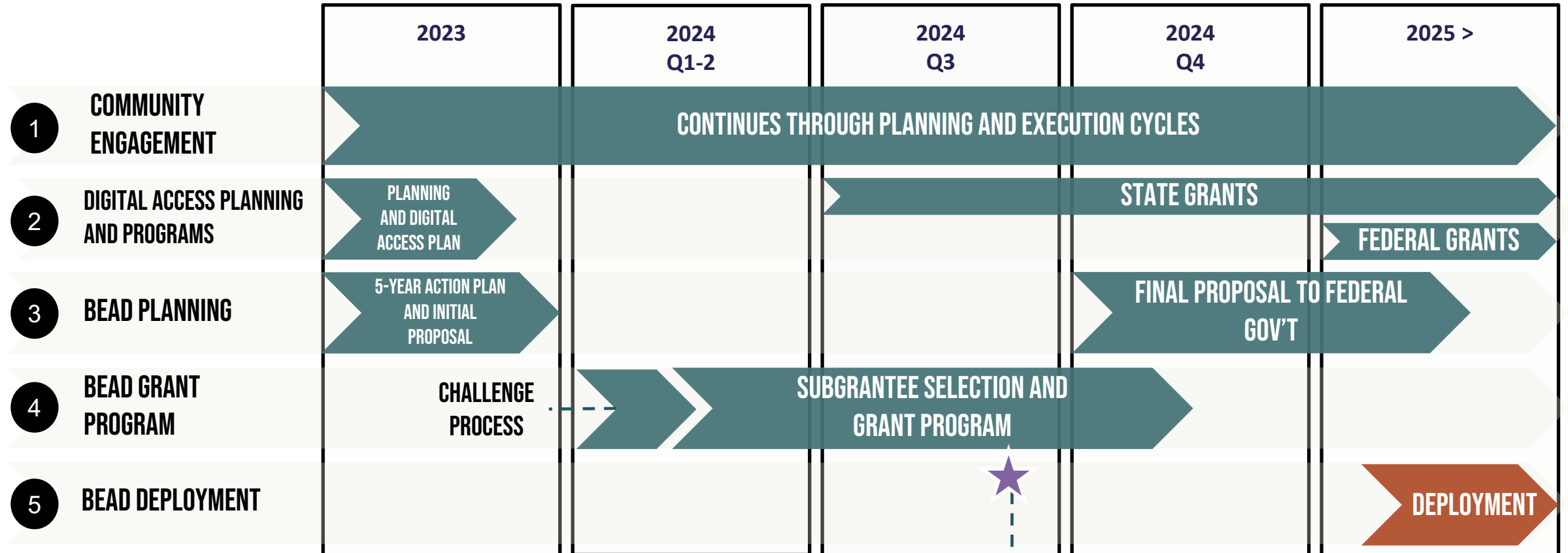
**PREQUALIFICATION PROCESS,
FOLLOWED BY GRANT PROGRAM**

2024

DEPLOYMENT

2025

OVERALL BEAD STATUS AND TIMELINE



WE ARE HERE:
SUBGRANTEE SELECTION

BEAD GRANT APPLICATION PROCESS TIMELINE



Prequalification Phase

Prequalification materials released



Prequalification workshop/webinar



Prequalification applications accepted by WBO



Announcement of prequalification determinations

Scoring Phase

BEAD grant application materials released



BEAD grant application workshop/webinar



BEAD applications accepted by WBO



WBO review of BEAD grant application submissions, including curing as necessary

Negotiation Phase

Negotiation process and/or second phase grant window open



Review of BEAD grant application materials, including curing as necessary

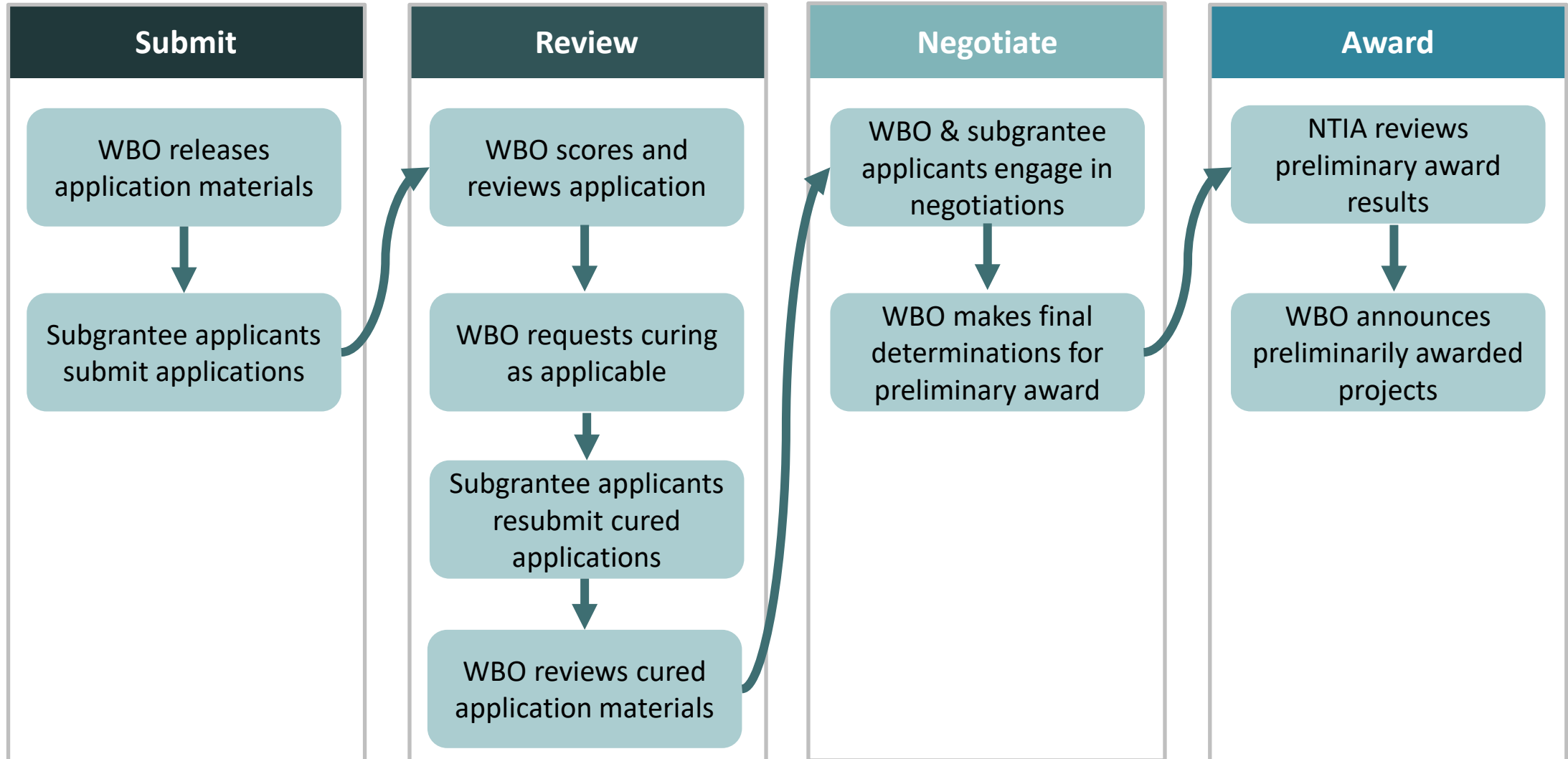
Final Submission

Public comment period and announcement of provisional BEAD grant awards



Submission of the BEAD Final Proposal to NTIA (within 365 days of approval of Initial Proposal Volume II)

SUBGRANTEE APPLICATION PROCESS



APPLICATION COMPONENTS

APPLICATION COMPONENTS



The Subgrantee Application consists of 9 sections:

Section 1: Administrative

Section 2: Project Snapshot

Section 3: Scoring Criteria

Section 4: Project Plan Information

Section 5: Organizational and Managerial Capacity

Section 6: Financial Capability

Section 7: Project Staffing and Labor Requirements

Section 8: Ownership Information

Section 9: Compliance

PROJECT SNAPSHOT

The Project Snapshot section aims to quickly capture project information to allow for interim reporting. Requested information and materials include:

1

Estimated number of aerial
and buried fiber miles

2

Match amounts and sources

SCORING CRITERIA: PRIORITY



Primary criteria	Value
Minimal BEAD program outlay Higher points awarded to proposals that fall within a certain percentage of the cost model benchmark	50
Affordability Commitment to provide most affordable total price to consumer for 1G/1G service	15
Fair labor practices Higher points awarded to applicants with no labor/employment violations and commitment to labor practices	10
TOTAL	75

Secondary criteria	Value
Speed to deployment Commitment to provide service earlier than four-year deadline	9
Unserved BSLs Ratio of unserved to underserved BSLs included in a proposed project	9
Natural hazard risk mitigation Score across risk mitigation dimensions identified by NTIA as part of the natural hazard assessment	3
Local and tribal coordination Number of local/tribal governments that have provided letters of support for the subgrantee's proposal	4
TOTAL	25

SCORING CRITERIA: NON-PRIORITY



Primary criteria	Value
Minimal BEAD program outlay Higher points awarded to proposals that fall within a certain percentage of the cost model benchmark	50
Affordability Commitment to provide most affordable total price to consumer for 100MB/20MB service	15
Fair labor practices Higher points awarded to applicants with no labor/employment violations and commitment to labor practices	10
TOTAL	75

Secondary criteria	Value
Speed to deployment Commitment to provide service earlier than four-year deadline	7
Speed of network and other technical capabilities Assessment of the suitability of the proposed network design	6
Unserved BSLs Ratio of unserved to underserved BSLs included in a proposed project	6
Natural hazard risk mitigation Score across risk mitigation dimensions identified by NTIA as part of the natural hazard assessment	3
Local and tribal coordination Number of local/tribal governments that have provided letters of support for the subgrantee's proposal	3
TOTAL	25

PROJECT PLAN



The Project Plan section will require materials to capture the technical components of the proposed project.

- Technical narrative
- Network design
- Logical network diagram
- Project cost
- Project timeline
- PE certification
- Additional certifications for program compliance
- Fixed wireless design (*Non-priority only*)

ORGANIZATIONAL & MANAGERIAL CAPACITY



The Organizational & Managerial Capacity section allows subgrantee applicants to update materials submitted during Prequalification. New information requested will include:

1

Legal opinion demonstrating the subgrantee applicant's capability to carry out funded activities

2

Additional certifications for program compliance

FINANCIAL CAPABILITY

The Financial Capability section will capture project-specific financial information.



LOC or waiver



Pro forma



**Certifications for
program compliance**

PROJECT STAFFING & LABOR

The Project Staffing & Labor Requirements section will capture additional information on the subgrantee applicant's workforce plans and structure.



Narratives on staffing, contract/subcontract plans, and licenses/certifications relevant to broadband deployment



Project-specific resumes



Certifications for program compliance

OWNERSHIP INFORMATION



The Ownership Information section will allow subgrantee applicants to update ownership information previously submitted during Prequalification, if applicable.

- If applicable, subgrantee applicants may submit revised ownership information materials

COMPLIANCE



The Compliance section allows subgrantee applicants to demonstrate awareness and understanding of program requirements. Certifications may include:

1

Commitment to providing a low-cost plan

2

Commitment to participating in any ACP-successor program as identified by NTIA

3

Commitment to provide a binding Resolution of Consent (if constructing on Tribal lands)

4

Understanding of various federal and state program requirements

QUESTIONS



<https://wyomingbusiness.org/broadband/>

broadbandoffice@wyo.gov

WEBINAR DATES



BEAD Grant Application Process

September 13, 2024

1:00 – 2:00 PM MT

BEAD Grant Project Plan (Technical Requirements)

September 19, 2024

1:00 – 2:00 PM MT

BEAD Grant Project Areas & Selection

September 23, 2024

1:00 – 2:00 PM MT

BEAD Application Scoring Criteria

September 30, 2024

1:00 – 2:00 PM MT

BEAD Application Financial Capability

October 7, 2024

1:00 – 2:00 PM MT

BEAD Application Portal Deep Dive

October 14, 2024

1:00 – 2:00 PM MT

BEAD Grant Application Q&A

November 4, 2024

1:00 – 2:00 PM MT