



Broadband Funding Guide

Department of Agriculture

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| Federal Agency | Rural Utilities Service |
| Agency Overview | USDA Rural Development is committed to helping improve the economy and quality of life in rural America. The agency offers loans, grants and loan guarantees to help create jobs and support economic development and essential services such as housing, health care, first responder services and equipment, and water, electric and communications infrastructure. |
| Program Name | Business and Industry (B&I) Guaranteed Loan Program |
| Program Website | https://www.usda.gov/reconnect/program-overview |
| Program Overview | This new program offers three types of funding options for broadband infrastructure to connect rural families, businesses, farms, ranches, schools, libraries, and public safety facilities to modern, high-speed internet. A rural area is eligible if it currently does not have sufficient access to broadband. The ReConnect grants, grant and loan combinations, and low-interest loans can be used to construct, improve, and acquire facilities that provide internet services to customers' premises, with reliable technologies that are suitable for the type of rural community and the type of high-speed internet use. |
| Program Purpose | <input type="checkbox"/> Planning (e.g., feasibility) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Broadband Infrastructure (e.g., construction) <input type="checkbox"/> Broadband Adoption <input type="checkbox"/> Digital Skills Training <input type="checkbox"/> Public Computer Access <input type="checkbox"/> Smart Cities <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> Research <input type="checkbox"/> Broadband Financing <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |
| Eligible Recipients | <input type="checkbox"/> Libraries <input type="checkbox"/> K-12 Schools <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education Institutions <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitals <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety Entities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State and Local Governments <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tribal Entities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial/Internet Service Providers <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Profit Organizations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Small Businesses <input type="checkbox"/> Rural Recipients <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Electric Utilities/Co-ops <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Financial Institutions <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |
| Agency Contact | Various by state. See agency website. |

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| Funding Type | Grant and Loan |
| FY2018 Funding Amount | \$600,000,000 |
| FY2019 Funding Amount | \$500,000,000 |
| Additional Information | See Toolkit: https://www.rd.usda.gov/files/508_RDeConnectivityToolkit121918.pdf |