**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](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**

- Planning (e.g., feasibility)
- Broadband Infrastructure (e.g., construction)
- Broadband Adoption
- Digital Skills Training
- Public Computer Access
- Smart Cities
- Evaluation
- Research
- Broadband Financing
- Other:

**Eligible Recipients**

- Libraries
- K-12 Schools
- Higher Education Institutions
- Hospitals
- Public Safety Entities
- State and Local Governments
- Tribal Entities
- Commercial/Internet Service Providers
- Non-Profit Organizations
- Small Businesses
- Rural Recipients
- Electric Utilities/Co-ops
- Financial Institutions
- Other:

**Agency Contact**

Various by state. See agency website.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Type</th>
<th>Grant and Loan</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>FY2019 Funding Amount</td>
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