



State Broadband Leaders Network

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What is the State Broadband Leaders Network (SBLN)?

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration's BroadbandUSA program convenes and facilitates the State Broadband Leaders Network (SBLN), a community of practitioners who work on increasing broadband deployment and access at the state level.

SBLN participants meet virtually monthly and in person one to two times per year. They share priorities and best practices and discuss emerging telecommunications policy issues at the federal and state level. The SBLN provides a forum to strengthen policy and program connections among states, local jurisdictions and federal agencies, providing opportunities to improve funding coordination, align policies and address barriers to collaboration across states and agencies. BroadbandUSA works with SBLN participants to support technical assistance offerings for communities, businesses and organizations at the state, regional and local level.

Who participates?

The SBLN has experienced tremendous growth over the last three years, with all fifty states, the District of Columbia and a three territories actively participating in the group. Since each state and territory approaches broadband access and deployment differently, a variety of state level offices participate in the SBLN. Participants are usually part of a dedicated broadband office in their state or territory or have broadband identified as a specific responsibility within their agency or department. The positions generally reside in the governor's Office, Economic Development or Commerce Office, the CIO's office or the Public Utility/Public Service Commission. If you are interested in contacting your state leader, the [Broadband USA website](#) has each state and territory contact listed.

What broadband activities happen in the states?

The BroadbandUSA website lists [broadband programs in each state and territory](#). While most programs focus on broadband infrastructure, some address digital inclusion, equity, and workforce skills. Other topic areas include broadband mapping, loans and grants, technical assistance, policy improvements (e.g., rights-of-way, including "dig once" and "one-touch make ready"), matching E-rate contributions or tax credits. Click on a state in the map to learn more.

For more information, contact BroadbandUSA@ntia.doc.gov.
