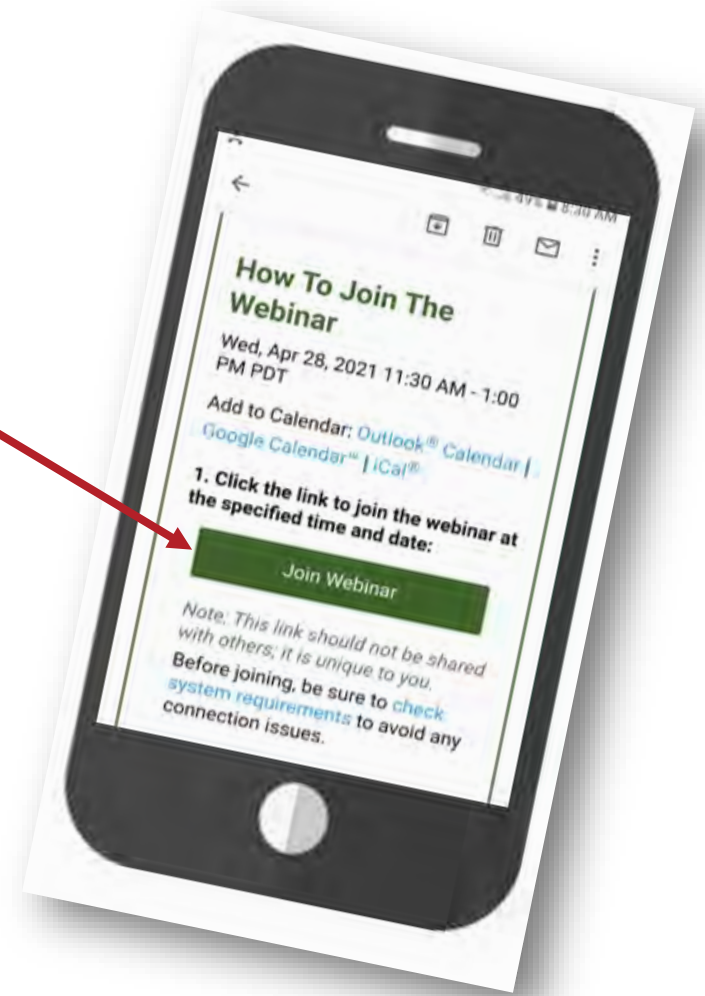


Phone Audio Option - Mobile Device

- ✓ Click on Join Webinar from your email confirmation.
 - ✓ Download the app as directed.
 - ✓ Webinar will launch automatically once the app is downloaded and opened
- *If the webinar does not launch, click “Join Webinar” again from your email confirmation.



The presentation along with a transcript and recording will be available on the BroadbandUSA website under Events/Past Event on or before August 5, 2021.



Connecting Minority Communities Pilot Program

July 2021



Questions

- Type questions in the Q&A box on the right-hand side of the screen. Questions and answers will be available on the FAQ section of our website.
- [Overview of Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 | BroadbandUSA \(doc.gov\)](#)

Presentation

- The presentation along with a transcript and recording will be available on the BroadbandUSA website under Events/Past Event on or before August 4, 2021.
- [BroadbandUSA Past Events](#)

Note: This presentation is for informational purposes only and is intended solely to assist potential applicants in better understanding the Connecting Minority Communities Pilot Program and the requirements set forth in the Final Rule for this program. The presentation does not and is not intended to supersede, modify, or otherwise alter applicable statutory or regulatory requirements, or the specific application requirements set forth in the Final Rule or forthcoming Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). In all cases, statutory and regulatory mandates, and the requirements set forth in the Final Rule and forthcoming NOFO, shall prevail over any inconsistencies contained in the presentation.

Presenters:

- Kevin Hughes, Broadband Program Specialist, NTIA
- Scott D. Woods, Senior Broadband Program Specialist, NTIA
- Yongming Qiu, Grants Officer, NIST
- Tim Moyer, Director, Data & Mapping, NTIA

Moderator:

- Gilbert Resendez, Broadband Program Specialist, NTIA

Agenda

Welcome

Gilbert Resendez

CMC Pilot Program Overview

Kevin Hughes

Introducing the CMC Program Team

Scott Woods

NIST Grants Office Update

Yongming Qiu

CMC Dashboard Update

Scott Woods

Indicators of Broadband Need Demonstration

Tim Moyer

Call for Merit Reviewers & Next Steps

Gilbert Resendez

Questions & Answers

All



Kevin Hughes
Broadband Program Specialist
NTIA

CMC Pilot Program Overview



Connecting Minority Communities Pilot Program

- NTIA published the [Connecting Minority Communities Pilot Program Final Rule](#) in the Federal Register on Tuesday, June 15.
- The Final Rule establishes the regulations for the program, as required by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, and lays out the programmatic scope, eligibility criteria, and general guidelines for the program.
- NTIA published [this press release on the Final Rule](#).
- NTIA will subsequently publish a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) on Grants.gov that will provide more details regarding the CMC eligibility guidelines, application instructions, and program requirements.

Who Can Apply? – Eligible Recipients

- Historically Black Colleges or Universities (HBCUs)
- Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs)
- Minority-Serving Institutions (MSIs)
 - ✓ Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs)
 - ✓ Native American Non-Tribal Institutions (NANTI)
 - ✓ Alaska Native or Native Hawaiian Serving Institutions (ANNH)
 - ✓ Asian American Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institutions (AANAPISI)
 - ✓ Predominantly Black Institutions (PBI)
- Consortiums led by HBCUs, TCUs, or MSIs that include a Minority Business Enterprise or Tax-Exempt 501(c)(3) Organization

How Much is Available? – \$268 Million

- Program eligibility: CMC eligibility criteria & greatest unmet financial need
- Purpose: to purchase broadband Internet access service or any eligible equipment, or to hire and train information technology personnel:
 - 1) for the educational institution to facilitate educational instruction and learning, including through remote instruction; or
 - 2) to operate the Minority Business Enterprise; or
 - 3) to operate the Tax-Exempt 501(c)(3) Organization.
- Additional program information and application instructions will be provided in the NOFO.

Funding Purpose

Grant funds awarded may only be used for the following purposes:

- The purchase of broadband Internet access service, including the installation or upgrade of broadband facilities on a one-time, capital improvement basis to increase or expand broadband capacity and/or connectivity at the eligible institution;
- The purchase or lease of eligible equipment and devices for student or patron use, subject to program restrictions and prohibited uses; and
- To hire and train information technology personnel who are a part of the eligible institution, MBE or Tax-Exempt 501(c)(3) Organization.

Funding Priorities



- Funding allocation: At least 40% of grants funds awarded must be made to HBCUs
- At least 20% of all grants funds awarded to eligible recipients must be used to provide broadband access and/or devices and equipment to students.
- Eligible recipients that receive a grant to provide broadband Internet access service or eligible equipment to students must prioritize students who are in need (per the needs criteria factors)
- Lending of Equipment - Eligible recipients must prioritize students and/or patrons who do not have access to such equipment

No Match Required!

No Matching Requirement & 2-Year
Period of Performance



Program Evaluation and Data Collection
Requirements





Scott D. Woods

Senior Broadband Program Specialist

NTIA

Introducing the CMC Program Team



CMC Program Team

Scott D. Woods

Senior Broadband Program Specialist & CMC Team Lead, NTIA

Francine Alkisswani

Senior Policy Analyst & CMC Federal Program Officer, NTIA

Emy Tseng

Senior Broadband Program Specialist & CMC Federal Program Officer, NTIA

Kevin Hughes

Broadband Program Specialist & CMC Federal Program Officer, NTIA

CMC Program Team (Cont.)

Karen Archer Perry

Senior Policy Analyst & CMC Federal Program Officer, NTIA

Janice Wilkins

Management Analyst & CMC Federal Program Officer, NTIA

Pandora Beasley-Simpson

Management Analyst & CMC Federal Program Officer, NTIA

Michell Morton

Broadband Program Specialist & CMC Federal Program Officer, NTIA

Cameron Lewis

Broadband Program Specialist, NTIA

Yongming Qiu
Grants Officer
NIST

NIST Grants Office Updates

NIST **National Institute of Standards and Technology** U.S. Department of Commerce

Grants Management Division

Agency Roles & Responsibilities

NIST Grants Office

Oversees the business management and administrative aspects of awards

NTIA Program Office

Oversees programmatic and technical aspects of projects

Helpful Resources

The System for Award Management
(SAM.gov)

<https://sam.gov/>

Grants.gov

<https://www.grants.gov/> /
<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants.html>

2 CFR Part 200, Uniform
Administrative Requirements, Cost
Principles, and Audit Requirements
for Federal Awards

https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title02/2cfr200_main_02.tpl

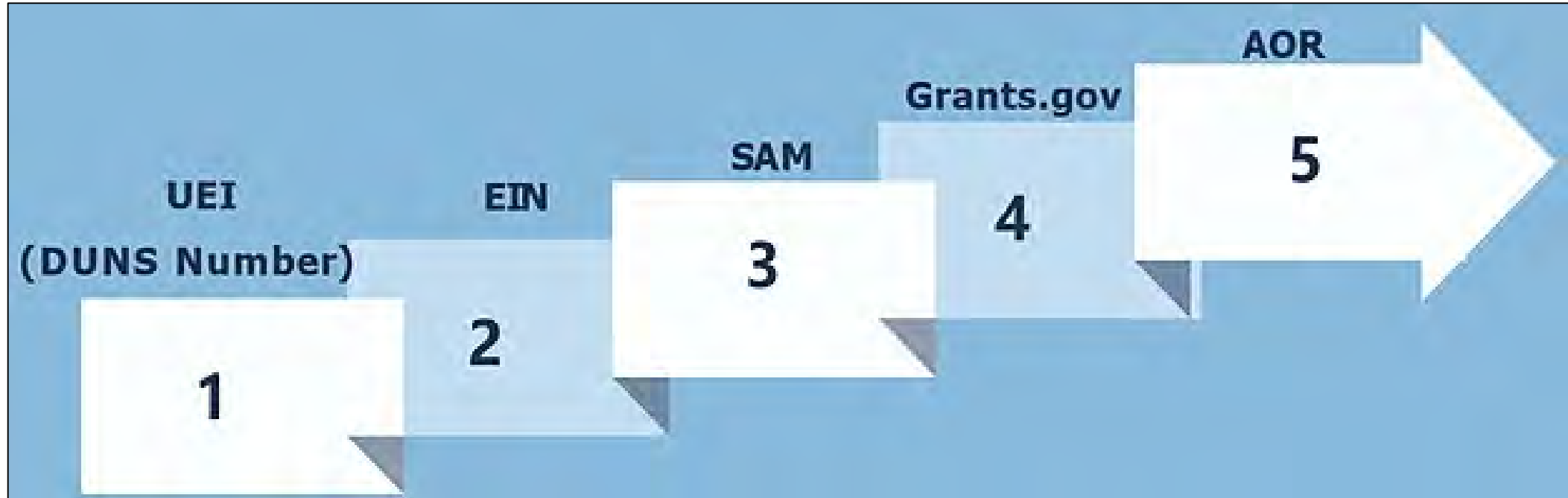
Department of Commerce Financial
Assistance Policy

<https://www.commerce.gov/oam/policy/financial-assistance-policy>

Federal Audit Clearinghouse

<https://facdissem.census.gov/>

Application Systems



Administrative Requirements

- **Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements – 2 CFR Part 200**
 - Subpart A – Acronyms and Definitions
 - Subpart B – General Provisions
 - Subpart C – Pre-Federal Award Requirements and Contents of Federal Award
 - Subpart D – Post Federal Award Requirements
 - Subpart E – Cost Principles
 - Subpart F – Audit Requirements
- **Department of Commerce Financial Assistance Standard Terms and Conditions – dated November 12, 2020**
- **Specific Award Conditions (SACs)**

General Principles for Cost Allowability

All costs must be necessary for the performance of the award. Costs must not be prohibited by statute, the cost principles in 2 CFR Part 200 Subpart E, another regulation, program guidance, or the terms of the award.

All costs must be:

- **Reasonable:** does not exceed that which would be incurred by a prudent person as the time that the cost was incurred (see 2 CFR 200.404)
- **Allocable:** Incurred either directly or indirectly to carry out the scope of work (see 2 CFR 200.405)
- **Allowable:** meets the criteria for authorized expenditures in the Federal Cost Principles; that is necessary and reasonable for performance of the award and not otherwise specifically prohibited.

Financial Management Standards

- Maintain an adequate financial management system (2 CFR 200.302)
- Source documentation
- Internal controls (2 CFR 200.303)
- Comparison of actual expenditures vs. approved budget
- Written procedures
- Procurement policies (2 CFR 200.317-326)
- Adequate monitoring of sub-recipient activities
- Compliance with terms and conditions of the award



Scott D. Woods

Senior Broadband Program Specialist

NTIA

CMC Dashboard Update



CMC Dashboard Update

We have identified the following minor flaws/limitations:

1. Except for Puerto Rico, the CMC Dashboard does not contain American Community Survey Data (census tract-based median household income and household size) for U.S. Territories and independent nations in a compact of free association with the U.S.
 - U.S. Territory examples – USVI, Guam, American Samoa, Northern Mariana Islands
 - Independent Nations/Free Compact examples – Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, and Palau
2. MSI-designations with 4R or 5R Eligibility Matrix status - 4R and 5R designated schools would be eligible for grant funding if it had a non-religious/vocational curriculum. These schools are reflected visually in the CMC Dashboard, but do not have a corresponding anchor community boundary analysis and are not eligible for CMC funding.
3. Data Entry Limitation under the “School Name” drop down on CMC tool bar - this only impacts certain schools in states that have MSI-designated schools in one category that exceed the current data entry limit of 100.

CMC Anchor Community Eligibility Dashboard

Connecting Minority Communities - Anchor Community Eligibility Dashboard

 School Eligibility Type: AANAPISI
 State: None
 School Name: None

About

The CMC Anchor Community Dashboard is for informational purposes only and is intended solely to assist potential applicants in better understanding the CMC Pilot Program and the requirements set forth in the Final Rule for this program. The Dashboard does not and is not intended to supersede, modify, or otherwise alter applicable statutory or regulatory requirements, or the specific requirements set forth in the Final Rule and Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). In all cases, statutory and regulatory mandates, and the requirements set forth in the Final Rule and NOFO, shall prevail over any inconsistencies contained in the Dashboard.

To identify those “anchor community” areas surrounding a qualifying institution in which the “estimated median annual household income is not more than 250 percent of the poverty line,” NTIA uses the median household income estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau’s American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year data (current period 2015-2019) for each census tract falling wholly or partially within the applicable area. To ensure the comparison of similar datasets, NTIA also uses corresponding poverty threshold data for the same time period. For each relevant census tract, NTIA has compared the median household income estimate with the most recent poverty thresholds published by the Census Bureau (so long as corresponding household income data is also available for the same time period, as discussed above). Currently, the most recent available data is from 2019.

Accordingly, NTIA uses the weighted average poverty threshold that corresponds to the mean household size in each census tract. If the mean household size is between two whole numbers, NTIA will round up to the next whole number household size to determine the applicable weighted average poverty threshold. This will help to ensure that the CMC program’s eligibility standards include as many communities in need as possible. If the median household income of a census tract does not exceed 2.5 times the applicable weighted average poverty threshold, that tract will be considered part of the anchor community and is identified accordingly. The following table provides an overview of NTIA’s poverty threshold calculations:

250% Poverty Threshold	Census 2019 Poverty Threshold	Average Household Size
\$32,528	\$13,011	1 or less
\$41,303	\$16,521	>1 and <=2
\$50,838	\$20,335	>2 and <=3
\$65,430	\$26,172	>3 and <=4
\$77,553	\$31,021	>4 and <=5
\$87,823	\$35,129	>5 and <=6
\$100,040	\$40,016	>6 and <=7
\$111,153	\$44,461	>7 and <=8
\$122,100	\$48,975	More than 8

Esri, USGS | Esri, HERE, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, EPA | Sources: Esri, TomTom, U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau
Powered by Esri

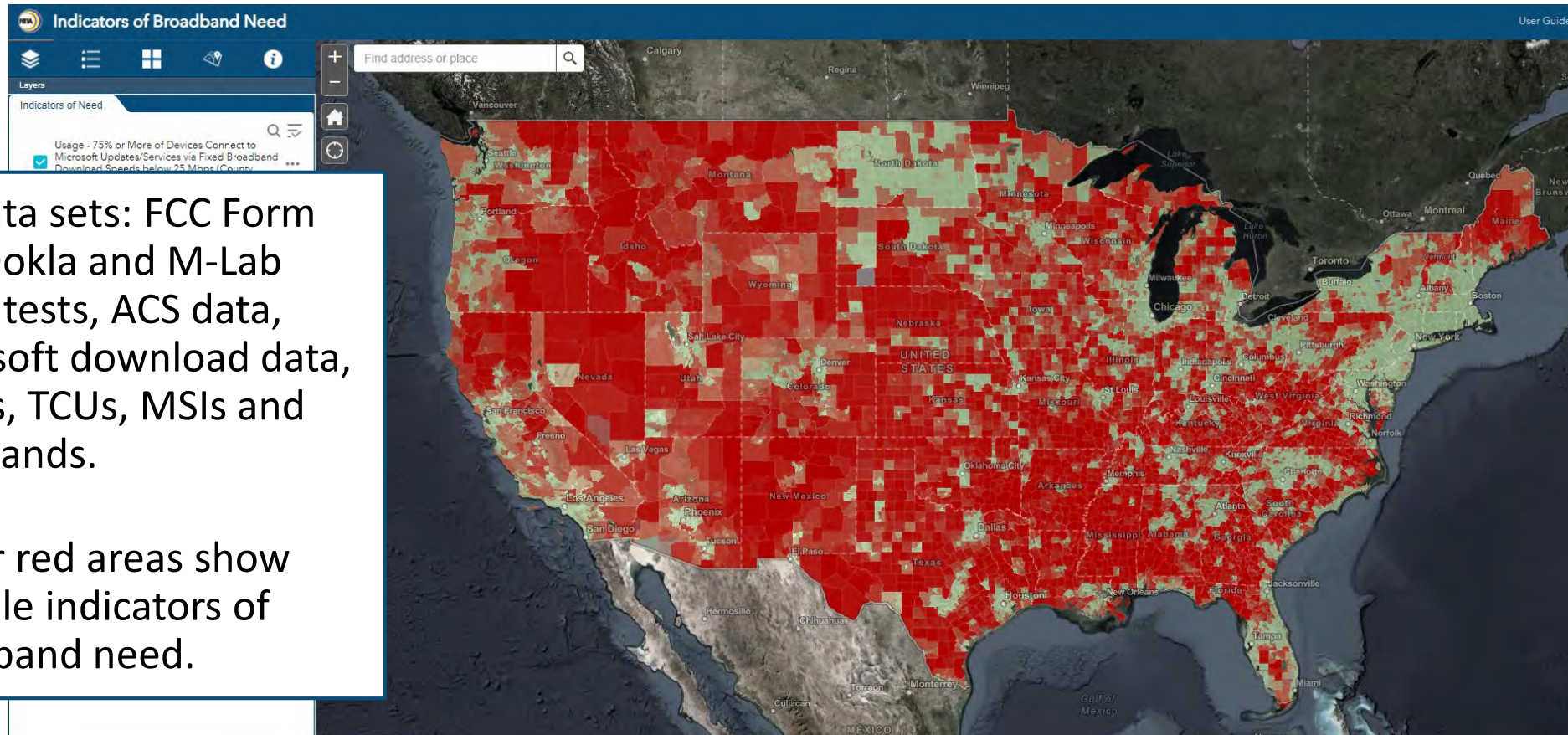
Tim Moyer

Director, Data & Mapping

NTIA

Indicators of Broadband Need Demonstration

Indicators of Broadband Need Demonstration



<https://broadbandusa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=ba2dcd585f5e43cba41b7c1ebf2a43d0>

Gilbert Resendez
Broadband Program Specialist
NTIA

Call for Merit Reviewers & Next Steps

Call for Merit Reviewers – All Grant Programs

Merit reviews will start in August and extend into October. We are committed to ensuring that reviewers come from diverse backgrounds and areas of the United States.

To volunteer as a reviewer, please email a resume containing the information below to grantreviewer@ntia.gov:

- Name
- Residence (city and state)
- Email/phone number
- Employer(s) including states you were employed in
- Position/Title
- Years and types of experience and positions in fields related to broadband activities

Although you will not be compensated for your time and expertise, you will be making a significant contribution to enhancing broadband services and utilization throughout the United States. We appreciate the valuable contribution you will be making to the success of the programs and look forward to working with you as a reviewer. Further information is available [here](#).

Next Steps

- ✓ **Federal Register Publication of CMC Final Rule – June 15th**
 - ✓ **Stakeholder Outreach & Pre-Application Technical Assistance**
 - ✓ **Formal Call For Merit Reviewers**
- Approval & Publication of the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)
 - *Anticipate NOFO publication and opening of application window by mid-August*
- Applications Due
- Conduct Merit & Program Reviews
- Official Notification of Approval/Acceptance & Grants Documentation, Assignment of CMC Federal Program Officer & NIST Grants Officer
- Project Launch

Q & A

Thank you for attending

The slides, transcript, and a recording will be posted on the BroadbandUSA website by August 5th.

CMC Website: [Connecting Minority Communities Pilot Program | BroadbandUSA \(doc.gov\)](#)



broadbandusa@ntia.doc.gov
swoods@ntia.gov
falkisswani@ntia.gov

Helpful Links: [CMC Anchor Community Eligibility Dashboard](#)
[Indicators of Broadband Need Map](#)

Join again for the grants webinar series!

	Broadband Infrastructure Program	Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program	Connecting Minority Communities Pilot Program
Past Events:	April 28 & 29 June 9 & 10 July 14 & 15	April 21 & 22 June 16 & 17 July 21 & 22	May 5 & 6 June 23 & 24
Upcoming Events:	August 4 & 5	August 11 & 12 August 23 & 24	July 28 & 29 August 18 & 19 September 22 & 23 October 20 & 21

Webinars start at 2:30 pm ET

Registration is required for each webinar and is limited to 1,000

[BroadbandUSA Latest Events](#)