

State Broadband Leaders Network Fact Sheet

What is the State Broadband Leaders Network (SBLN)?

The State Broadband Leaders Network (SBLN) is a community of practitioners who work on state broadband initiatives. The National Telecommunications and Information Administration's (NTIA) BroadbandUSA program coordinates the group and convenes participants to share priorities and best practices; discuss emerging telecommunications policy issues; link states and local jurisdictions to federal agencies and funding sources; and address barriers to collaboration across states and agencies. BroadbandUSA also works with SBLN to support technical assistance offerings for communities, businesses and organizations at the local level.

Who participates in the SBLN?

Because of the diversity of entities that are involved in state broadband efforts, SBLN participants represent a variety of state level offices. SBLN participants are senior managers or directors from State Broadband Offices, Geographic Information Services (GIS) offices, Offices of Information Technology (IT), Public Utility Commissions (PUCs), Commerce Departments, Economic Development Agencies, Universities, State Extension Services, Public Safety offices and state-designated third party entities.

Participants should be employed by a dedicated broadband office in a state or territory. They may also be government or university employees that have broadband responsibilities as part of their official duties but do not work in a dedicated broadband office. Contact BroadbandUSA at BroadbandUSA@ntia.doc.gov to learn more about participating in SBLN. States that are currently participating in SBLN include:

Connecticut	Kansas	Minnesota	Nebraska	Ohio	Utah	Wisconsin
Illinois	Maine	Missouri	Nevada	Tennessee	Virginia	West Virginia
Iowa	Michigan	Montana	North Carolina	Texas	Washington	

About BroadbandUSA

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration's (NTIA) BroadbandUSA program promotes innovation and economic growth by supporting efforts to expand broadband access and meaningful use across America. BroadbandUSA serves communities, industry and nonprofits that want to expand broadband infrastructure and promote digital inclusion. BroadbandUSA's services are driven by the needs and interests of state and local broadband leaders, and focus on supporting planning efforts, helping to identify funding, and implementing local broadband programs.

BroadbandUSA also holds regional workshops that bring local stakeholders together and provides solution-neutral guides and tools. These efforts equip state and local leaders with information to make key decisions, guidance on how to use broadband to meet their community's needs, and connections to federal, state and industry stakeholders to advance their overarching goals such as economic development, job creation, educational outcomes, healthcare delivery and public safety.