Idaho BEAD Prequalification Application *07.11.25*

Section 1: Overview

Interested stakeholders that have NOT been previously prequalified MUST submit a fully and correctly completed Prequalification Application through this portal. While stakeholders are permitted to complete and submit a Prequalification Application and a BEAD Funding Application concurrently, the Idaho Office of Broadband strongly recommends submitting a Prequalification Application first and then immediately starting the BEAD Funding Application.

Applicants may submit BEAD Funding Applications only if they are: 1) already approved as prequalified by IOB; or 2) have submitted a Prequalification Application that is currently under review. For those in the latter group, the IOB will review each Prequalification Application according to BEAD program rules and will notify applicants once they have been approved and deemed qualified.

Program Background: The National Telecommunications and Information Administration's (NTIA) Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) Program released its BEAD Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) in May 2022, outlining clear rules and processes for the BEAD Program structure, sequencing, requirements, and the selection of subgrantees. The Idaho Broadband Advisory Board (IBAB) and IOB have been following the NOFO's highly detailed, federally mandated roadmap to successfully secure Idaho's \$583 million BEAD allocation to deliver broadband access to residents who lack fast, reliable, and affordable internet service.

As reported in the *IOB Update:* April 2025¹, the first of two phases in the subgrantee application process – the Prequalification Phase – had been completed. Forty applicants successfully demonstrated financial, managerial, operational, and technical capabilities in addition to compliance with the BEAD NOFO's required standards and laws. It was wisely decided at the May 2025 IBAB meeting to pause before proceeding to the Funding Application Phase of the subgrantee selection process, pending the anticipated BEAD policy update from NTIA. NTIA released the <u>BEAD Restructuring Policy Notice</u> (2025 Policy Notice) on June 6, 2025.

The 2025 Policy Notice provides important and detailed information; IOB encourages its partners to read the full document. The 2025 Policy Notice requires the IOB to reopen its Prequalification Phase to all interested stakeholders. The Prequalification Application will allow the IOB to evaluate an applicant's technical, financial, operational, and managerial capability to successfully complete a BEAD-funded project. Existing pre-qualified applicants do not need to resubmit pre-qualification documentation or take any further action to retain their pre-qualified status. The current list of prequalified applicants for the Idaho BEAD program is posted on LinkUp Idaho HERE.

The IOB reserves the right to request more information from applicants as necessary to ensure all participants have the capacity to participate in the program and meet all BEAD Program requirements and goals. Further, the IOB reserves the right to request updated or additional information at any time, including after the subgrantee selection process, to reassess the qualifications of subgrantees.

Section 2: Applicant Information

Question 1

¹ https://linkup.idaho.gov/idaho-office-of-broadband-update-june-2025/

Applicant organization's SAM.gov Unique Entity ID.

Text

Question 2

Legal business name and DBA, if applicable, of the applicant.

Text

Question 3

Federal EIN Number.

Text

Question 4

Contact name and title of the person to contact regarding the application.

Text

Question 5

Contact email address.

Text

Question 6

Does the applicant certify its commitment to adhere to all applicable BEAD program requirements, described in the IOB Initial Proposal and BEAD NOFO as updated by the 2025 Policy Notice and as further updated periodically?

Yes/No

Question 7

Does the applicant commit to completing all planned work that will be outlined in the proposed application project(s) and any awarded project, within four years of finalizing the grant agreement?

Yes/No

Question 8

Does the applicant acknowledge that failure to fulfill these plans or violate any certifications or commitments in this application may result in penalties and/or disqualification?

Yes/No

Question 9

Provide information related to any conflicts of interest, perceived or otherwise. 32,000 Character Limit

Text Box

Section 3: Financial Capability

Prequalification applicants are expected to demonstrate financial expertise, capabilities, and available resources to meet program requirements and successfully complete a BEAD-funded project.

Documents Requested:

- Audited financial statements from the previous two fiscal years OR unaudited financial statements from the prior fiscal year*
- Confirmation of the engagement letter from an independent accountant

*Applicants may submit unaudited financial statements with this application, but applicants are required to submit audited financial statements prior to grant award finalization. Business records and information provided to the Idaho Department of Commerce ("Commerce") are subject to public disclosure under the Idaho Public Records Law (Idaho Code sections 74-101 through 74-126), and Idaho Code Section 67-4708, unless specifically exempt from public disclosure. Commerce shall consider any records or information exempt from public disclosure as confidential ("Confidential Information"). Applicants must declare and identify each individual document considered confidential and exempt from public disclosure. Applicants must mark each page of all such documents as "confidential – proprietary information." Commerce will not accept a legend or statement on one (1) page that all, or substantially all, of a document is exempt from disclosure.

Question 10

Does the applicant certify access to sufficient funds to cover project and match costs for the intended bid area(s)?

Yes/No

Question 11

Upload financial statements from the previous two fiscal years audited by an independent certified public accountant.

Upload

Question 12

If audited financial statements are unavailable, provide unaudited statements here. NOTE: By uploading, the applicant certifies that a financial audit by an independent accountant will be provided no later than 66 days after Idaho's BEAD Funding Application window opens.

Upload

Question 13

If audited financial statements are unavailable, upload a confirmation of engagement letter by an independent accountant.

Upload

Question 14

Does the applicant confirm that as part of the Funding Application, it will submit business plans and analyses to substantiate the sustainability of the proposed project(s)?

Yes/No

Section 4: Letter of Credit

As part of the Funding Application, prospective subgrantees will be required to submit a letter from an eligible bank or credit union committing to issue an irrevocable standby letter of credit or a certified surety on federal bonds committing to issue the prospective subgrantee a performance bond. Prior to the final Idaho BEAD Grant Agreement, in compliance with IOB deadlines set forth in the Funding Application Guide, subgrantees will be required to submit an irrevocable standby letter of credit or a certified surety bond in the committed amount. Submissions must meet the eligibility requirements consistent with those set forth in 47 C.F.R. § 54.804(c) (https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-47/chapter-l/subchapter-B/part-54) and NTIA LOC Waiver Program Notice (https://www.ntia.gov/funding-programs/internet-all/broadband-equity-access-and-deployment-bead-program/program-documentation/letter-credit-waiver).

Question 15

Does the applicant certify it is aware of and understands the letter of credit obligations and processes for the Idaho BEAD Program?

Yes/No

Section 5: Managerial Capability

Applicants are expected to show comprehensive and robust managerial capabilities and a commitment to the long-term success of the project through stable leadership, continued process improvements, and ongoing commitment of resources. Applicants who are deemed to fail any of the requirements mentioned in this section may be asked to resubmit the required documentation within the deadline provided by the IOB in its request for the resubmitted information. If applicants ultimately fail to provide documentation that meets the standards outlined below, the applicant will be ineligible to receive any funding from the Idaho BEAD program. Be aware that at the project level, IOB may ask for additional project resumes.

Documents Requested:

 Resumes for key management personnel

- Organizational Chart
- Idaho Managerial Capability spreadsheet
 (https://linkup.idaho.gov/wp- content/uploads/2025/01/Idaho-BEAD-Managerial-Capability.xlsx)

Question 16

Upload current resumes for key management personnel and a narrative description of who may be involved in the proposed BEAD-funded project(s) in Idaho.

Upload

Question 17

Upload an organizational chart and a narrative that details the applicant's processes and structure for managing large projects.

Upload

Question 18

Complete and upload the Managerial Capability spreadsheet.

Upload

Section 6: Technical Capability

Subgrantee applicants must certify that they are technically qualified to complete and operate the proposed project and that the applicants can implement the funded activities in a competent manner, including that they will use an appropriately skilled and credentialed workforce.

Documents Requested:

- Applicant's Business Entity Registration from Idaho's Secretary of State
- <u>Idaho Past Performance & Experience spreadsheet</u>
 (https://linkup.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Idaho-BEAD-Past-Performance-Experience.xlsx)

Question 19

Provide a preliminary list of Application Project Areas contemplated for the Funding Application submission. NOTE: This list can be modified in the Funding Application submission. 32,000 Character Limit

Text Box

Question 20

Does the applicant certify that it is technically qualified to complete, implement, and operate its proposed

project(s) and that it will use an appropriately skilled and credentialed workforce to do so?

Yes/No

Question 21

Does the applicant certify that it has processes and resources in place to employ an appropriately skilled and credentialed workforce, and key members are current on credential renewals?

Yes/No

Question 22

Does the applicant certify that if using contracted services, each contracted resource will have the relevant and necessary skills?

Yes/No

Question 23

Upload proof that the applicant is currently licensed to do business in the State of Idaho or provide a written document indicating the applicant is an Idaho City, County, or Tribe, and an Idaho Business License is not needed.

File Upload

Question 24

Provide a list of business and technical certifications and licenses relevant to BEAD funding participation that the applicant holds nationally and in Idaho. 32,000 Character Limit

Text Box

Question 25

Complete and upload the <u>Past Performance spreadsheet</u>.

File Upload

Section 7: Operational Capability

Operational Capability

Documents Requested:

- <u>Idaho Operational Capability spreadsheet (https://linkup.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Idaho-BEAD-Operational-Capability.xlsx)</u> (if applicant has conducted voice and broadband service operations in Idaho and other states)
- Qualified operating or financial reports, filed with the relevant financial institution for the relevant time period (If the applicant has not provided broadband service and has operated only an electric transmission or distribution service)

Question 26

Does the applicant certify that it has provided voice, broadband, or electric transmission/distribution services for at least two consecutive years, or is a wholly owned subsidiary of such an entity?

Yes/No

Question 27

If certified yes in the previous question, provide the number of years of operation.

Text Box

Question 28

If the applicant has conducted voice and broadband service operations in Idaho and other states, complete and upload the Operational Capability spreadsheet.

File Upload

Question 29

If applicable, does the applicant certify filing FCC Form 477 and Broadband DATA Act submissions as required during the current reporting period and that it has complied with FCC requirements?

Yes/No

Question 30

If the applicant has only provided electric transmission/distribution and not broadband service, upload qualified operating and financial reports filed with the relevant institution.

• File Upload

Question 31

Does the applicant certify that the submission of the qualified operating and financial reports in the previous question is a true and accurate copy of the reports?

Yes/No

Question 32

Provide a written narrative of any penalties the applicant or a subsidiary, affiliate or holding company has incurred in the past five (5) years related to deployment projects funded by State or federal grants.

Text Box

Question 33

Provide the name and details of any instances in the last five (5) years in which the applicant has been found liable in federal or state criminal proceedings or civil litigation related to federally or state funded broadband programs. [32,000 Characters]

Text Box

Section 8: Information on Ownership

Documents Requested:

- A detailed disclosure of ownership and related companies.
 - The disclosure shall include a detailed ownership chart showcasing direct and indirect stakeholders, a list of associated FCC-regulated entities, and clear explanations of relationships between entities.

Question 34

Provide a detailed ownership disclosure as per CFR Title 47 § 1.2112(a)(1)-(7), including an ownership chart of direct/indirect stakeholders, a list of FCC-regulated entities, and explanations of entity relationships.

• File Upload

Section 9: Information on Other Public Funding

Prospective applicants are required to fully disclose all applications submitted or plans to submit applications for publicly funded projects and every one of applicant's broadband deployment project funded by public sources. This includes details such as sources of public funding, service speed, coverage area, commitment to serve unserved/underserved areas, the amount of public funding used, consumer service costs, and any matching commitments.

Documents Requested:

- The <u>Idaho Public Funding spreadsheet</u>
 (https://linkup.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Idaho-BEAD-Public-Funding.xlsx)
- A list of all federally or State-funded broadband deployment projects your company is or has been engaged in, along with their funding sources and completion or noncompletion timelines.

Question 35

Complete and upload the Idaho Public Funding spreadsheet.

File Upload

Section 10: EHP and BABA

Environmental and Historical Preservation and Build America, Buy America

Question 36

Does the applicant certify its understanding and intention to comply with all applicable state and federal environmental and historical preservation laws and requirements, and that the applicant does not have a history of failure to comply?

Yes/No

Question 37

Does the applicant commit to abide by any agreed-upon resolutions to mitigate the effects of proposed projects on Idaho Historical and Heritage sites, should the applicant's project plan trigger NHPA Section 106 review?

Yes/No

Question 38

Does the applicant certify that project designs and deployment will minimize potential and adverse environmental impacts?

Yes/No

Question 39

Does the applicant certify its understanding and intention to comply with all BEAD Build America, Buy America Act requirements?

Yes/No

Section 11: Labor Standards and Protection

Question 40

Does the applicant certify compliance with relevant federal labor and employment laws, including those of contractors or subcontractors?

Question 41

If applicable, provide information disclosing any violations to Idaho or federal labor and employment laws. 32,000

Question 42

Does the applicant certify that it has existing labor and employment practices and plans in place to be in compliance with all applicable federal labor and employment laws?

Question 43

Does the applicant certify it will take steps to ensure minority businesses, women's business enterprises, and labor surplus area firms are considered for subcontracts under any awarded BEAD grant, as outlined in

2 CFR Section 200.231 of federal grant regulations?

Yes/No

Section 13: Cybersecurity and Supply Chain Risk Management

Question 44

Does applicant certify it will take steps to ensure minority and women's business enterprises, and labor surplus area firms are considered for subcontracts under awarded BEAD grants, as outlined in 2 CFR Section 200.231 of federal grant regulations?

Yes/No

Question 45

Does the applicant certify that its cybersecurity plan will be reevaluated and updated on an annual basis?

Yes/No

Question 46

Does the applicant certify that it will submit its cybersecurity plan to the IOB prior to allocation of funds if awarded and will submit updated versions to the IOB within 30 days of any changes?

Yes/No

Question 47

Does the applicant certify that it has a supply chain risk management plan in line with the requirements outlined in the BEAD NOFO (page 70) and will provide a plan if selected for a subgrant award?

Yes/No

Section 14: Final Attestation

Documents Requested:

• Notarized Final Attestation Document

Question 48

Complete, notarize, and upload the Final Attestation document.

Upload File

Section 15: Signature

Your identity has been authenticated through the login process with a unique email address and password available only to you. You agree that by typing your name, title, and date below, you are electronically signing the application. By electronically signing the application, you acknowledge and

represent that you understand and accept all the terms and conditions stated within the application and declare that the information provided is accurate and that the documents you are submitting in support of your application are genuine and have not been altered in any way.

Question 49

Type Full Name

Text Box

Question 50

Type Title

Text Box

Question 51

Type Date

Text Box