

Broadband Funding Opportunities



Opportunity	Brief Description	Application Timeline
Community Development Block Grant Planning Grant http://www.dhcd.virginia.gov/index.php/community-partnerships-dhcd/79-community-development-block-grant-cdbg-planning-grant.html	Funds available for 3 areas: planning grants, local innovation grants, implementation and economic development, and large scale local level projects ~ 700K.	January - September
Virginia Telecommunication Initiative http://www.dhcd.virginia.gov/ Eligible applicants: Towns, cities, Counties, EDA/IDA, Broadband/wireless authorities, PDC, etc.)	To provide financial assistance to supplement construction costs by private sector providers to extend services to areas that are presently unserved by any broadband provider. Definition of unserved; speeds <= 10 Mbps/1 Mbps	Fall
The Vibrant Community Initiative (VCI) http://www.dhcd.virginia.gov/index.php/community-partnerships-dhcd/vibrant-community-initiative.html	The Vibrant Community Initiative (VCI) will combine multiple funding sources from the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) to support local or regional comprehensive community-based projects including affordable housing and community and/or economic development components.	Fall
Indian Community Development Block Grant http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/public_indian_housing/ih/grants/icdbg	Provides funds to eligible grantees for housing rehabilitation, land acquisition, community facilities, infrastructure construction, and economic development activities. Eligible applicants for assistance include any Indian tribe, band, group, or nation.	Winter
Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) program http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/public_indian_housing/ih/grants/ihbg	The provision of broadband is eligible under this program. Eligible IHBG recipients are Federally recognized Indian tribes or their tribally designated housing entity (TDHE), and a limited number of state recognized tribes who were funded under the Indian Housing Program authorized by the United States Housing Act of 1937 (USHA).	Winter
Native American Library Services	Basic Grants are available to support existing	Spring

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https://www.ims.gov/nofo/native-american-library-services-basic-grants-fy16-notice-funding-opportunity	library operations and to maintain core library services. Indian tribes, Alaska native villages, regional corporations, and village corporations are eligible to apply for funding under the Native American Library Services grant program. The Education/Assessment Option is supplemental to the Basic Grants.	
Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) -Area Development http://www.arc.gov/funding/ARCProjectGrants.asp	ARC funds are made available under the Appalachian Area Development Program.	Summer-Fall
USDA Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program (DLT) http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/UTP_DLT.html Tribal eligibility	The Distance Learning and Telemedicine program helps rural communities use the unique capabilities of telecommunications to connect to each other and to the world, overcoming the effects of remoteness and low population density. 15% match required.	Winter
e-Rate Funding for Schools & Libraries http://www.fcc.gov/encyclopedia/e-rate-schools-libraries-usf-program	The schools and libraries universal service support program, commonly known as the E-rate program, helps schools and libraries to obtain affordable broadband.	Winter-Spring
US Department of Education - Promise Neighborhoods Competition. http://www2.ed.gov/programs/promiseneighborhoods/index.html	Promise Neighborhoods, established under the legislative authority of the Fund for the Improvement of Education Program (FIE), provides funding to support eligible entities, including (1) nonprofit organizations, which may include faith-based nonprofit organizations, (2) institutions of higher education, and (3) Indian tribes.	Fall
Rural Health Care http://www.usac.org/rhc/healthcare-connect/funding-information/default.aspx	Healthcare Connect Fund to reform, expands, and modernizes the Rural Health Care Program. The Healthcare Connect Fund provides support for high-capacity broadband connectivity to eligible health care providers (HCPs) and encourages the	Summer

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	formation of state and regional broadband HCP networks.	
<p>USDA Farm Bill Broadband Loan Program https://agriculture.house.gov/bill/agricultural-act-2014</p> <p>Falls under Substantially Underserved Trust Areas (SUTA) Provisions - These provisions allow the RUS Administrator to provide special consideration—including but not limited to lower interest rates and extended loan terms—to projects serving tribal lands.</p>	<p>To be eligible for a broadband loan, an applicant may be either a non-profit or for-profit organization, and must take one of the following forms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corporation; • Limited liability company (LLC); • Cooperative or mutual organization; • A state or local unit of government • Indian tribe or tribal organization <p>Individuals and Partnerships are not Eligible.</p>	Spring-Summer
<p>USDA Telecommunications Infrastructure Loans & Loan Guarantees http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/farm-bill-broadband-loans-loan-guarantees</p> <p>Falls under Substantially Underserved Trust Areas (SUTA) Provisions - These provisions allow the RUS Administrator to provide special consideration—including but not limited to lower interest rates and extended loan terms—to projects serving tribal lands.</p>	<p>The Rural Broadband Access Loan and Loan Guarantee Program (Broadband Program) furnishes loans and loan guarantees to provide funds for the costs of construction, improvement, or acquisition of facilities and equipment needed to provide service at the broadband lending speed in eligible rural areas. These loans are for local incumbent providers.</p>	Spring-Summer
<p>USDA Community Connect Grant program http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/community-connect-grants</p> <p>Eligible applicants include: Most State and local governments Federally-recognized Tribes Non-profits For-profit corporations</p>	<p>This program helps fund broadband deployment into rural communities where it is not yet economically viable for private sector providers to deliver service. Eligible area include rural areas that lack any existing broadband speed of at least 4 Mbps downstream and 1 Mbps upstream is eligible.</p>	Annual NOFA or NOSA announcement, no specific time of year. Best to sign up for email alerts at: http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/community-connect-grants
<p>Virginia Resources Authority http://www.virginiaresources.org/page/virginia-</p>	<p>VRA provides financing to local governments for essential projects. All VRA's authorized project</p>	Summer-Fall

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pooled-financing-program/	areas are eligible for financing in the Virginia Pooled Financing Program (VPFP). Since inception in 2003, over 100 local governments in Virginia have utilized this program to finance or refinance over \$2 billion in infrastructure projects.	
FCC Connect America Fund (High Cost Areas) https://www.fcc.gov/general/connect-america-fund-caf	Provider funding for FCC eligible areas only. Eligible areas map: https://www.fcc.gov/reports-research/maps/connect-america-phase-ii-initial-eligible-areas-map/	NA
Department of Commerce’s Economic Development Administration (EDA) PLANNING PROGRAM AND LOCAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM - FY 2016 – FY 2019 https://www.eda.gov/funding-opportunities/	The Planning program helps support organizations, including District Organizations, Indian Tribes, and other eligible recipients, with Short Term and State Planning investments designed to guide the eventual creation and retention of high-quality jobs, particularly for the unemployed and underemployed in the Nation’s most economically distressed regions.	Applications are accepted on a continuing basis and processed as received.
Department of Commerce’s Economic Development Administration (EDA) Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance programs. http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=279842	Multiple programs. Grants made under these programs will leverage regional assets to support the implementation of regional economic development strategies designed to create jobs, leverage private capital, encourage economic development, and strengthen America's ability to compete in the global marketplace. Through the EDAP FFO, EDA solicits applications from rural and urban communities to develop initiatives that advance new ideas and creative approaches to address rapidly evolving economic conditions.	There are no submission deadlines under this opportunity. Proposals and applications will be accepted on an ongoing basis.
Virginia Tobacco Indemnification and Community Revitalization Commission http://www.tic.virginia.gov/overview.shtml	Broadband project eligible for 2 different categories: Southside or Southwest Economic Development funds. The Commission staff reviews applications for feasibility and the potential to positively impact the regional economic base, then	Grant application cycles are announced annually.

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	<p>provides recommendations to the Commissioners serving on the respective program Committee. Committee recommendations are determined in public meetings and are then forwarded to the full Commission for final action at one of its quarterly meetings.</p>	
<p>FCC Mobility Fund Phase II https://www.fcc.gov/mobility-fund-phase-2</p>	<p>The Mobility Fund is the wireless component of the Connect America Fund. It provides support for the expansion of mobile broadband networks in areas that might otherwise not be served. The Mobility Fund consists of two phases. Phase I provides immediate one-time support to accelerate the deployment of mobile broadband and voice service to unserved areas. A nationwide reverse auction held in September 2012 awarded \$300 million of Phase I funds to over 30 service providers. A separate auction, called the Tribal Mobility Auction, will award up to \$50 million to providers that serve Tribal lands. Phase II provides ongoing support to deploy and maintain mobile broadband and voice service in high-cost areas. Up to \$500 million will be available every year; however, the FCC is studying the exact amount to be allocated for services on Tribal lands in future years.</p>	<p>Not yet active.</p>

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<p>Lifeline Support http://www.lifelinesupport.org/lis/changes-to-lifeline.aspx</p>	<p>After December 2, 2016, you will be able to apply your monthly Lifeline discount towards internet service. If you would like to switch to an internet plan, ask your telephone company or internet provider if a Lifeline Program cell phone data plan or home internet service is available in your area. For a list of companies in Virginia: http://www.lifelinesupport.org/lis/companies/CompanyListing.aspx?state=VA&stateName=Virginia</p>	<p>This program is open year-round.</p>