



ELIGIBLE AND INELIGIBLE PROGRAM COSTS

This document details the eligible and ineligible program costs for the ConnectMT BEAD Program.

Eligible Program Costs

- Construction, improvement, or acquisition of facilities and telecommunications equipment required to provide qualifying broadband service, including infrastructure for backhaul, middle- and last-mile networks, and multi-tenant buildings
 - Existing inventory may be used for an approved project but will be subject to review and approval by ConnectMT; Awardees must submit sufficient documentation to justify costs
- Long-term leases (for terms greater than one year) of facilities required to provide qualifying broadband service, including indefeasible right-of-use (IRU) agreements; IRU costs will be limited to the upfront cost for the IRU and three years of the annual maintenance costs
- Deployment of internet and Wi-Fi infrastructure within an eligible multifamily residential building
- Engineering design, permitting, and work related to environmental, historical, and cultural reviews
- Personnel costs, including salaries and fringe benefits for staff (note exceptions per MT DOA's Pre-Award Policy Memo) and consultants, providing services directly connected with the execution and deployment of the BEAD subgrant
- Network software upgrades, including, but not limited to, cybersecurity solutions
- Training for cybersecurity professionals who will be working on BEAD-funded networks

Ineligible Program Costs

- Any costs incurred prior to issuance of NTIA's NOFO
- Profit, fee, or other incremental charge above actual cost incurred by a subgrantee
- Telecommunication equipment from foreign companies as specified under the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019
- Interim or bridge financing costs
- Any activities supporting or opposing collective bargaining

- Personal expenses of employees, executives, board members, and contractors, and family members thereof, or any other individuals affiliated with the subgrantee, including but not limited to personal expenses for housing, such as rent or mortgages, vehicles for personal use and personal travel, including transportation, lodging, and meals
- Gifts to employees; housing allowances or other forms of mortgage or rent assistance for employees except that a reasonable amount of assistance shall be allowed for work-related temporary or seasonal lodging; cafeterias and dining facilities; food and beverage except that a reasonable amount shall be allowed for work-related travel; entertainment
- Expenses associated with: tangible property not logically related or necessary to the broadband infrastructure project or authorized non-deployment use; corporate aircraft, watercraft, and other motor vehicles designed for off-road use except insofar as necessary or reasonable to access portions of the project area not readily accessible by motor vehicles travelling on roads; tangible property used for entertainment purposes; consumer electronics used for personal use; kitchen appliances except as part of work-related temporary or seasonal lodging assistance; artwork and other objects which possess aesthetic value
- Political contributions; charitable donations; scholarships; membership fees and dues in clubs and organizations; sponsorships or conferences not logically related or necessary for the intended use of the subgrant; nonproduct-related corporate image advertising
- Penalties or fines for statutory or regulatory violations; penalties or fees for any late payments on debt, loans, or other payments