

Broadband Equity, Access & Deployment (BEAD) Program

- Program established in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act
- Grants to states to “bridge the digital divide”
- VT will receive at least \$100M
 - Will also have competitive grant opportunities
- Funds are to “supplement not supplant”
- Matching requirement of 25% (except in high-cost areas)
 - Sources include in-kind contributions; prior pandemic funding for broadband



Sources of Match for BEAD

- May include in-kind match
- May include funds from prior pandemic relief including:
 - Families First Coronavirus Response Act (Public Law 116-127;134 Stat. 178)
 - CARES Act (Public Law 116-136; 134 Stat.281)
 - Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Public Law 116-260; 134 Stat.1182)
 - American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Public Law 117-2; 135 Stat.4)



Excerpt from IIJA pertaining to BEAD proposals

3) Non-federal share of broadband infrastructure deployment costs.--

(A) In general.--

(i) **Matching requirement.**--In allocating grant funds received under this section for deployment of broadband networks, an eligible entity shall provide, or require a subgrantee to provide, a contribution, derived from non-Federal funds (or funds from a Federal regional commission or authority), **except in high-cost areas** or as otherwise provided by this Act, of **not less than 25 percent of project costs**.

(ii) **Waiver.**--Upon request by an eligible entity or a subgrantee, the Assistant Secretary may reduce or waive the required matching contribution under clause (i).

(B) **Source of match.**--A matching contribution under subparagraph (A)--

(i) may be provided by an eligible entity, a unit of local government, a utility company, a cooperative, a nonprofit organization, a for-profit company, regional planning or governmental organization, a Federal regional commission or authority, or any combination thereof;

(ii) may include in-kind contributions; and

(iii) **may include funds that were provided to an eligible entity or a subgrantee--**

(I) **under--**

(aa) the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (Public Law 116-127; 134 Stat. 178);

(bb) the CARES Act (Public Law 116-136; 134 Stat. 281);

(cc) the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Public Law 116-260; 134 Stat. 1182);

(dd) the **American Rescue Plan Act of 2021**

(Public Law 117-2; 135 Stat. 4); or

(ee) any amendment made by an Act described in any of items (aa) through (dd); and

(II) for the purpose of deployment of broadband service, as described in the applicable provision of law described in subclause (I).

