NTIA will administer ~$48B through four programs that drive high-speed Internet access, affordability, and adoption

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Broadband Equity, Access &amp; Deployment Program</td>
<td>$42.45B</td>
<td>A program to get all Americans online by funding partnerships between states or territories, communities, and stakeholders to build infrastructure where we need it to and increase adoption of high-speed Internet.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digital Equity Act</td>
<td>$2.75B</td>
<td>Three programs that provide funding to promote digital inclusion and advance equity for all. They aim to ensure that all communities can access and use affordable, reliable high-speed Internet to meet their needs and improve their lives.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tribal Connectivity Technical Amendments</td>
<td>$2.00B</td>
<td>A program to help tribal communities expand high-speed Internet access and adoption on tribal lands.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enabling Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure</td>
<td>$1.00B</td>
<td>A program to expand middle mile infrastructure, to reduce the cost of connecting unserved and underserved areas.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FCC to administer $14.2B

For Affordable Connectivity Program, which replaced the EBB program

USDA to administer $2.0B

Via the Rural Utilities Service

Private Activity Bonds $0.6B

Authorizes State and local governments to use private activity bonds for rural broadband
Digital Equity Act created three programs to promote digital equity and inclusion

**Funding pool**
$2.75B

Three programs that provide funding to promote digital inclusion and advance equity for all. They aim to ensure that all communities can access and use affordable, reliable high-speed Internet to meet their needs and improve their lives.

**Programs Highlights**

The Digital Equity Act created three programs:
- **State Planning**
  - $60M formula funding program to develop digital equity plans
- **State Capacity**
  - $1.44B formula funding program to implement plans & promote digital inclusion
- **Competitive**
  - $1.25B to implement digital equity and inclusion activities

**Example eligible uses of funds across three programs include:**
- Developing digital equity plans; states must develop a plan to be eligible for state capacity grants
- Implementing digital equity plans and related activities
- Making awards to other entities to help make digital equity plans
- Providing digital literacy and digital skills education
- Improving accessibility and inclusivity of public resources
- Facilitating the adoption of high-speed Internet

**Estimated Timeline**

Timeline approximate unless exact date specified

- **2022**
  - NOFO live 5/13
  - Due 7/12
  - Planning app

- **2023**
  - 1-year state planning

- **2024**
  - State cap. app
  - Competitive Program launches within 1 month of first Capacity awards

- **2025**
  - Comp. app
  - 5-year state capacity implementation

- **2026+**
  - 4-year competitive implement.
Planning funds will be used to develop State Digital Equity Plans, which must contain several components.

**Vision**
- Stated vision for digital equity

**Objectives**
- Measurable objectives
- Assessment of how those objectives will impact the State's plans and outcomes

**Barriers to Digital Equity**
- Identify barriers to digital equity
- Include a digital needs assessment

**Outreach and Engagement**
- Description of plan to collaborate with key stakeholders to achieve its digital equity goals
- List of organizations that collaborated on and contributed to digital equity plans
- Coordination and outreach strategy

**Integration**
- Asset inventory of current strategies
- Description of incorporation of local plans
- Description of coordination of use of capacity grant funds with BEAD funds

**Implementation**
- Implementation strategy
- Timeline
Every stakeholder plays a role in the Digital Equity programs

**Telecom provider**
- Provide States, other territories, and Tribal / Native entities with background data on their baseline and digital equity needs

**Tribal government**
- Submit a letter of intent to participate in the Planning Grant Program
- Coordinate with relevant State(s) to develop state-wide Plans

**Community anchor institution**
- Partner with States, other territories, and Tribal / Native entities to develop State Digital Equity Plans
- Advocate for community interests and needs

**Local government**
- Collaborate with States, other territories, and Tribal / Native to develop State Digital Equity Plans

**Community orgs**
- Serve as a thought partner as States, other territories, and Tribal / Native entities design their outreach strategies
- Advocate for community interests and needs

**Individual**
- Participate in the planning process of your local jurisdiction

Illustrative, non-exhaustive
Eligible entities are required to engage with key stakeholders as a part of developing digital equity plans

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key stakeholder groups may include:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community anchor institutions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County and municipal governments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local educational agencies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian Tribes, Alaska Native entities, or Native Hawaiian organizations, where applicable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonprofit organizations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organizations that represent covered populations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil rights organizations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entities that carry out workforce development programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State agencies that administer or supervise adult education or literacy activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public housing authorities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Digital Equity Act focuses on addressing the needs of "covered populations" as defined by the statute.

**Covered Populations**

*Identity groups and communities disproportionally impacted by digital inequity*

- Low-income households
- Aging populations
- Incarcerated individuals
- Veterans
- People with disabilities
- People with language barriers
- Racial and ethnic minorities
- Rural inhabitants
REQUEST FOR COMMENT
NTIA’s Request for Comment on the Digital Equity Act programs is currently open.

The Notice and RFC is available here. Comments can be submitted at regulations.gov under Docket #NTIA-2023-0002.

The deadline for all comments is: May 1st, 2023 at 5:00 PM EST
Additional resources about the Digital Equity Programs

1. Visit the InternetForAll.gov for additional information on federal funding programs

2. Engage with your State or territory regarding their plans to improve high-speed Internet access and achieve digital equity

3. Submit questions to digitalequity@ntia.gov

4. Attend future NTIA webinars, including program-specific application guidance webinars for applicants