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VIBO extends proposal deadline for massive grant opportunity

U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS- The Virgin Islands Broadband Office (VIBO), a division within the Virgin Islands Office of Management and Budget (OMB) announces today that it is extending the deadline for interested parties to submit applications for the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) grant until May 23rd, 2025. Earlier this month VIBO opened the application window for BEAD grant proposals that could garner as much as \$500,000 in grant funds for eligible nonprofit organizations, private sector businesses, and public agencies.

The BEAD Grant program is a critical initiative focused on closing the digital divide across the territory. The funding on offer will empower BEAD grantees to support a huge range of internet literacy, and broadband access programs and initiatives that align with the three Notice(s) of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) VIBO released earlier in April. Those NOFOs, entitled: Workforce Development Trainings and Explorations for Broadband, the Community Digital Competency Initiative, and the Economic Transformation Initiative can be viewed online at omb.vi.gov

VIBO encourages all potential applicants to take advantage of the deadline extension. Together with the support of public and private sector digital literacy and innovation champions VIBO looks forward to facilitating workforce development initiatives that will provide Virgin Islanders with marketable 21st Century skills. The grant is also designed to empower community organizations to revamp their existing facilities with new hardware and technologies. As well as providing the flexibility for innovative collaborations that will ensure that the Virgin Islands keeps pace with advances as they emerge.

For additional inquiries, please contact the Office of Management and Budget at (340) 774-0750 or via email at bead@omb.vi.gov.

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