



>>> NEWSLETTER <<<

VIRGIN ISLANDS BROADBAND OFFICE

The Office of Management and Budget



TOP NEWS OF THE MONTH

INITIAL PROPOSAL VOLUME I & II

>>> READ MORE

Both Volume I and Volume II of our BEAD grant proposal have been completed and successfully approved by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). This approval marks an important step in our ongoing efforts to improve broadband infrastructure throughout the Virgin Islands.

READ MORE

Our five-year plan for broadband expansion was submitted and has also been approved by NTIA. This plan outlines a comprehensive approach to ensure equitable access to reliable and high-speed broadband for all Virgin Islanders.

TERRITORY 5 YEAR PLAN

CHALLENGE PROCESS

>>> UPDATE ON THE BEAD GRANT STATUS

Dear Virgin Islands Community,

We are excited to bring you the latest update regarding the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) grant. Our office continues to make significant progress as we work toward enhancing broadband access across the Virgin Islands.

CHALLENGE PROCESS

We have completed the challenge process, a critical part of verifying the Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs) eligibility . This ensures that the funding is allocated in the most efficient way to areas that need it most.

>>> INITIAL PROPOSAL VOLUME II CORRECTIONS

The VIBO made corrections to the Initial Proposal to ensure that we can execute the grant without any difficulties and to add information that makes the sub grantee evaluation process easier for readers. We are awaiting NTIA's approval of the corrections to Volume II. Once these corrections are finalized, we can move forward with the release of the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). This will allow us to solicit sub grantees who will help carry out key broadband projects and distribute the necessary funding.



SUBGRANTEES

▶▶▶ APPLYING FOR FUNDING

To apply as a subgrantee for BEAD funding, interested organizations must meet specific eligibility criteria set by the Virgin Islands Broadband Office in alignment with NTIA guidelines. Applicants should demonstrate the capability to implement broadband infrastructure projects, particularly in underserved or unserved areas. This includes having the technical expertise, experience, and financial stability to manage large-scale broadband initiatives. Additionally, applicants must submit detailed project proposals outlining their plans for broadband deployment, including timelines, cost estimates, and expected outcomes. They will also need to provide documentation of their ability to comply with federal regulations and reporting requirements. Once the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) is released, eligible entities will be invited to apply and compete for subgrant awards based on the merit and impact of their proposals.

▶▶▶ SUBGRANTEE REVIEW

The evaluation and certification for BEAD funding involves a thorough review to ensure that applicants meet all the necessary qualifications and requirements to receive federal funds. The Virgin Islands Broadband Office will assess each subgrantee's technical capacity, financial stability, and experience in executing broadband infrastructure projects. Applicants will be evaluated based on their proposed project's alignment with the goals of the BEAD program. Subgrantees must certify their compliance with federal regulations, including environmental and labor standards, as well as their ability to meet reporting and performance metrics. Only those who successfully meet these criteria will be certified and eligible to receive BEAD funding for their projects.

EXPERT ADVICE

All potential sub grantees are required to have an active SAM.GOV registration and a GVI vendor number. Potential sub grantees should be in good standing with the GVI.

▶▶▶ STAY CONNECTED, STAY INFORMED!

We remain committed to working with our partners and the community to ensure that every resident of the Virgin Islands has access to the broadband services they need to thrive in today's digital world. We will continue to keep you updated on the progress of the BEAD grant and its impact.