



Federal Broadband Stimulus

Round 2 Funding Analysis

February 5, 2010

Phillip K. Brown

Director of Government Affairs & Advocacy

Connected Nation

pbrown@connectednation.org

Tom Fritz

Executive Director

Connect Ohio

tfritz@connectohio.org



Key Dates

- Jan. 15, 2010 – NOFA Released
- Jan. 25 – Feb. 12, 2010 – Federal Workshops. Applicants must choose between BTOP or BIP sessions
- Feb. 16 – March 15, 2010 – Applications accepted
- June 2010 – NTIA plans award announcement on a rolling basis
- Sept. 30, 2010 – By statute, all awards must be announced



Workshops

- Workshop fact sheet available at:
<http://www.usda.gov/rus/telecom/arra/ARRABroadbandWorkshopFactSheet-2010.pdf>
- Registration information available at:
- <http://www.broadbandusa.gov/workshop.htm>



Summary of Round 2 Broadband Stimulus Components

Program	Amount	Notes
NTIA Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) Comprehensive Community Infrastructure (CCI) Grants	\$2.35 Billion	Federal funds capped at 80% of project costs = 20% non federal match requirement; focus on middle-mile projects and community anchor institutions
NTIA BTOP Sustainable Broadband Adoption Grant Program	\$100 Million	Intended to fund innovative programs that will increase demand for and adoption of broadband
NTIA BTOP Public Computing Center Capacity Grant Program	\$150 Million	Intended to increase availability of computers at sites like libraries and community colleges
USDA Rural Utilities Service Broadband Initiatives Program	\$2.2 Billion	Last mile projects, some middle mile projects, some satellite
Total:	\$4.8 Billion	



Major Changes

- RUS and NTIA infrastructure grant programs split
- BTOP sustainable adoption and public computing center applications split



Major Changes

- RUS infrastructure program intended to fund last mile projects
- BTOP infrastructure program repurposed to fund primarily middle mile projects



Major Changes

- First round saw 2200 applications = \$28 billion
- 2nd round easier for applicants
- 2nd round faster to process by agencies



RUS Broadband Initiatives Program (BIP)

- Total of \$2.2 billion in funding for this BIP NOFA, which includes “up to”:
 - \$1.7 billion for loans or loan/grant combinations for last-mile projects
 - \$300 million for loans or loan/grant combinations for middle-mile projects
 - \$100 million for satellite project grants (in addition to funds not obligated for last-mile and middle-mile projects)
 - \$5 million for grants for rural library broadband and technical assistance projects
 - \$95 million in reserve
 - RUS retains discretion to divert funds from one category to another



Other Key Points -- BIP

- Controversial definition of “remote area” eliminated
- RUS accepting unawarded applications first made to NTIA
- All middle-mile projects should be submitted by current RUS loan/grant recipients
- 30 day public notice opportunity to protest



Other Key Points -- BIP

- New funding for satellite broadband providers
 - Applicants must commit to:
 - broadband service;
 - CPE to subscribers at no cost;
 - No installation or activation costs or other “hidden fees”;
 - 25% reduction in rates for at least 12 months



Other Key Points -- BIP

- New funding for technical assistance or rural library broadband
 - New grant capped at \$200,000 for development of regional plan for rural bb
 - Reimbursement for connecting libraries



BIP Scoring Criteria

- RUS BIP:
 - Project purpose – 38 points:
 - Proportion of rural residents served (10 points)
 - Service area is more than 75% rural (10 points)
 - Distance from non-rural areas projects (5 points)
 - Title II REA borrower status (8 points)
 - Collaboration with other government programs (5 points)
 - Project benefits – 16 points:
 - Service performance, aka broadband speeds (10 points)
 - Affordability (6 points)



BIP Scoring Criteria (cont.)

- Project viability – 13 points:
 - Organization capabilities (10 points)
 - Disadvantaged small business involvement (3 points)
- Project budget and sustainability – 33 points:
 - Cost-effectiveness (8 points)
 - Leveraging of outside resources (10 points)
 - Extent of grant (vs. loan) funding (15 points)
- RUS Administrator's bonus points – 10 points:
 - May not raise an applicant's score to more than 100 points



BIP Additional Resources

- BIP NOFA available at:
<http://www.broadbandusa.gov/files/RUS%20Round%20Two%20NOFA%20Final.pdf>
- BIP Round 2 FAQ available at:
<http://www.broadbandusa.gov/files/BIP%20Round%202%20FAQs%20-%20Updated%20Jan%2019%202010.pdf>
- BIP Fact Sheet available at:
<http://www.usda.gov/rus/telecom/arra/BIP%20Fact%20Sheet2010.pdf>



NTIA Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP)

- \$2.6 billion total available across three programs:
 - \$2.35 billion for Comprehensive Community Infrastructure Projects (CCI)
 - \$100 million for Sustainable Broadband Adoption (SBA) projects
 - \$150 million for Public Computer Center (PCC) projects



BTOP Key Points

- NTIA streamlines application process
 - reducing the number of attachments needed for application
 - reducing the eligibility factors to three criteria:
 - Eligibility of applicant
 - Fully complete application
 - Status of matching funding
 - All other criteria (such as budget reasonableness and technical feasibility) will be sought in “due diligence” phase



BTOP Key Points

- Project Size/Range:
 - CCI: \$5 million -- \$150 million
 - PCC: \$500K -- \$15 million
 - SBA: \$500K -- \$15 million
 - Note: NTIA reserves the right to shift unused funds into other programs



BTOP CCI Program

- BTOP infrastructure repurposed to fund middle-mile projects
- Particular focus on projects serving community anchor institutions and/or at-risk populations



BTOP CCI Program

- Coverage areas no longer defined by census blocks, but by census block groups or census tracts
- Project mapping tool is eliminated
- Challengers will have 15-day window



BTOP CCI Program

- Priority list given in order:
 1. Middle-mile serving community anchor institutions
 2. Middle-mile incorporating a public-private partnership
 3. Middle-mile that will bolster growth in economically distressed areas
 4. Middle-mile committed to serving community colleges
 5. Middle-mile committed to serving public safety agencies
 6. Middle-mile that includes a last-mile component (that can be no more than 20% of the total project)
 7. Middle-mile that will contribute 30% or greater matching funds
 - Note: Projects incorporating more than one of the above elements will score higher than projects only satisfying one of the above goals



Role of States

- State consultation role somewhat different
- NTIA will invite governors to provide input on priority geographic areas
- States may comment on specific BTOP applications
- States must request additional information from project applicants directly
- States have 20 days to provide input
 - all input will be posted on NTIA website
 - States are advised not to provide any feedback that they wish to remain confidential or that they consider proprietary



BTOP Scoring Criteria -- CCI

- BTOP CCI:
 - Project Purpose – 20 points:
 - Fit BTOP priorities
 - Fit statutory purposes (unchanged from first NOFA)
 - Collaborates with other government projects (application makes it easier to link to others to show collaboration)
 - Potential for job creation (especially direct jobs)
 - Partnership with Indian tribes and/or economically disadvantaged businesses
 - Project Benefits – 20 points:
 - Level of need of proposed funded service area
 - Impact on proposed funded service area
 - Network capacity
 - Affordability and whether project gives more than one choice of provider



BTOP Scoring Criteria -- CCI

- BTOP CCI (continued):
 - Project viability – 30 points:
 - Technical feasibility
 - Organization capabilities
 - Community Involvement
 - Project budget and sustainability – 30 points:
 - Reasonableness of budget and project sustainability
 - Leveraging of outside resources



BTOP Scoring Criteria -- PCC

- BTOP PCC:
 - Project Purpose – 20 points:
 - Fit statutory purposes (unchanged from first NOFA)
 - Collaborates with other government projects (application makes it easier to link to others to show collaboration)
 - Potential for job creation (especially direct jobs)
 - Partnership with Indian tribes and/or economically disadvantaged businesses
 - Project Benefits – 20 points:
 - Availability to the public
 - Training and educational programs offered
 - Availability and qualifications of consulting and teaching staff
 - Projects in community colleges



BTOP Scoring Criteria -- PCC

- BTOP PCC (continued):
 - Project viability – 30 points:
 - Technical feasibility
 - Organization capabilities
 - Community involvement
 - Project budget and sustainability – 30 points:
 - Reasonableness of budget
 - Project sustainability
 - Leveraging of outside resources



BTOP Scoring Criteria -- SBA

- BTOP SBA:
 - Project purpose – 20 points:
 - Fit statutory purposes (unchanged from first NOFA)
 - Collaborates with other government projects (application makes it easier to link to others to show collaboration)
 - Potential for job creation (especially direct jobs)
 - Partnership with Indian tribes and/or economically disadvantaged businesses
 - Project benefits – 20 points:
 - Number of new subscribers
 - Cost per new user
 - Innovation
 - Support for vulnerable populations



BTOP Scoring Criteria -- SBA

- BTOP SBA (continued):
 - Project viability – 30 points:
 - Technical feasibility
 - Organization capabilities
 - Community involvement
 - Project budget and sustainability – 30 points:
 - Reasonableness of budget
 - Project sustainability
 - Leveraging of outside resources



BTOP Additional Resources

- BTOP NOFA available at:
- <http://www.broadbandusa.gov/files/BTOP%20NOFA%201-15-10%20with%20disclaimer.pdf>
- BTOP Fact Sheets available at:
- <http://www.broadbandusa.gov/files/BTOP%20NOFA%20II%20key%20changes%20011410.pdf>
- http://www.ntia.doc.gov/broadbandgrants/factsheets/BTOPNOFA2_factsheet_012910.pdf



Questions?

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Connect Ohio

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Upcoming Webinar

Free Ohio Broadband Provider Business Opportunity Webinar

Friday, February 12, 2010

Northern Ohio – 9:30 a.m. to noon

Southern Ohio – 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Free registration! <https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/840988506>



Ohio Broadband Mapping

Funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the State Broadband Data and Development Grant program will increase broadband access and adoption through better data collection and broadband planning. Connect Ohio is updating Ohio's broadband maps for the Ohio Office of Information Technology.

Ohio consumers will soon be able to access a comprehensive, interactive map that will list all participating broadband providers that offer high-speed Internet service to their address.

There is no cost to the consumer or to broadband providers.

The deadline to have information included in the first release of Ohio's map is Monday, March 15.

For more information, visit:

<http://www.connectohio.org/providers/>

