

Broadband Grant Landscape

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Agenda

01. Introduction

02. Tips for Grants

03. Infrastructure Overview

04. Digital Equity Overview

05. Cybersecurity Overview

06. BCPC Update & Overview





Who We Are



Grant Gurus

Learn Design Apply, Inc. provides grant consulting and management services to public and private sector clients. Our team is passionate about addressing pressing and systemic challenges facing U.S. communities. We connect clients with vital resources through grant funding opportunities.





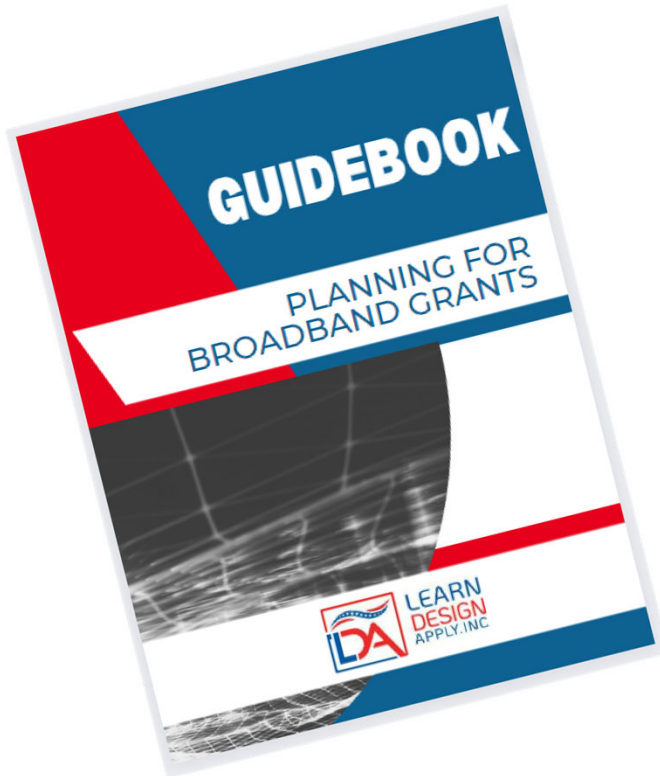
LDA Broadband Team

A dedicated branch of grant writers and consultants with experience in state and federal grants. Helped secure more than \$115 million in the past two years alone.

We learn the ins and outs of broadband grants and bring insight and strategy to our public and private clients.



Getting Started



What is Broadband?

Broadband has quickly become a modern day utility. It is essential for many activities, from remote work to online banking. But what is it exactly? The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) describes broadband as high-speed Internet access that is always on and faster than the traditional dial-up access. Broadband includes several high-speed transmission technologies:

- ▶ **Digital Subscriber Line (DSL):** DSL is a wireline transmission technology that transmits data over traditional copper telephone lines already installed to homes and businesses. The availability and speed of your DSL service may depend on the distance from your home or business to the closest telephone company facility.
- ▶ **Cable Modem:** Cable modem service enables cable operators to provide broadband using the same coaxial cables that deliver pictures and sound to your TV set. Most cable modems are external devices that have two connections, one to the cable wall outlet, the other to a computer. They provide transmission speeds of 1.5 Mbps or more.
- ▶ **Fiber:** Fiber optic technology converts electrical signals carrying data to light and sends the light through transparent glass fibers about the diameter of a human hair. Fiber transmits data at speeds far exceeding current DSL or cable modem speeds, typically by tens or even hundreds of Mbps.
- ▶ **Wireless:** Wireless broadband connects a home or business to the Internet using a radio link between the customer's location and the service provider's facility. Wireless broadband internet access services offered over fixed networks allow consumers to access the Internet from a fixed point while stationary and often require a direct line-of-sight between the wireless transmitter and receiver.
- ▶ **Satellite:** Just as satellites orbiting the earth provide necessary links for telephone and television service, they can also provide links for broadband. Satellite broadband is another form of wireless broadband, and is also useful for serving remote or sparsely populated areas. Downstream and upstream speeds for satellite broadband depend on several factors, including the provider and service package purchased, the consumer's line of sight to the orbiting satellite, and the weather.

Federal Funding Breakdown

	USDA	NTIA	OTHER
Broadband Planning	• Rural Business Development Program	• Tribal Connectivity Program	• Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) Program
Broadband Deployment	• Reconnect Program	• Middle Mile Grant Program	• Association of Public Works Programs
Broadband Affordability	• Community Connect Program	• Tribal Connectivity Program	• EDA Public Works Grant (EOPW)
Broadband Devices	• RUS Distance Learning & Telemedicine Program	• Tribal Connectivity Program	• HUD Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
Digital Skills	• RUS Distance Learning & Telemedicine Program	• Digital Equity Competitive Program	• FCC Affordability Connectivity Program (ACP)
		• Tribal Connectivity Program	• FCC ACP (Disorderly) Development Block Grant
		• Digital Equity Competitive Program	• HUD Community Development Grant
		• Tribal Connectivity Program	• HUD Community Development Block

Notes:
The table includes programs that were approved within the Consolidated Appropriations Act 2021, CARES Act 2021, American Rescue Plan Act 2021, Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act 2021 and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law 2022. Some may not receive additional funding in coming years. Subscribe to funding newsletters to monitor the action.



Top Tips

01. Community Engagement

Engaging community members and key stakeholders is critical in broadband grants. Showing buy-in from locals and elected officials will be key in a successful application. Be sure to demonstrate this.

02. Partnerships

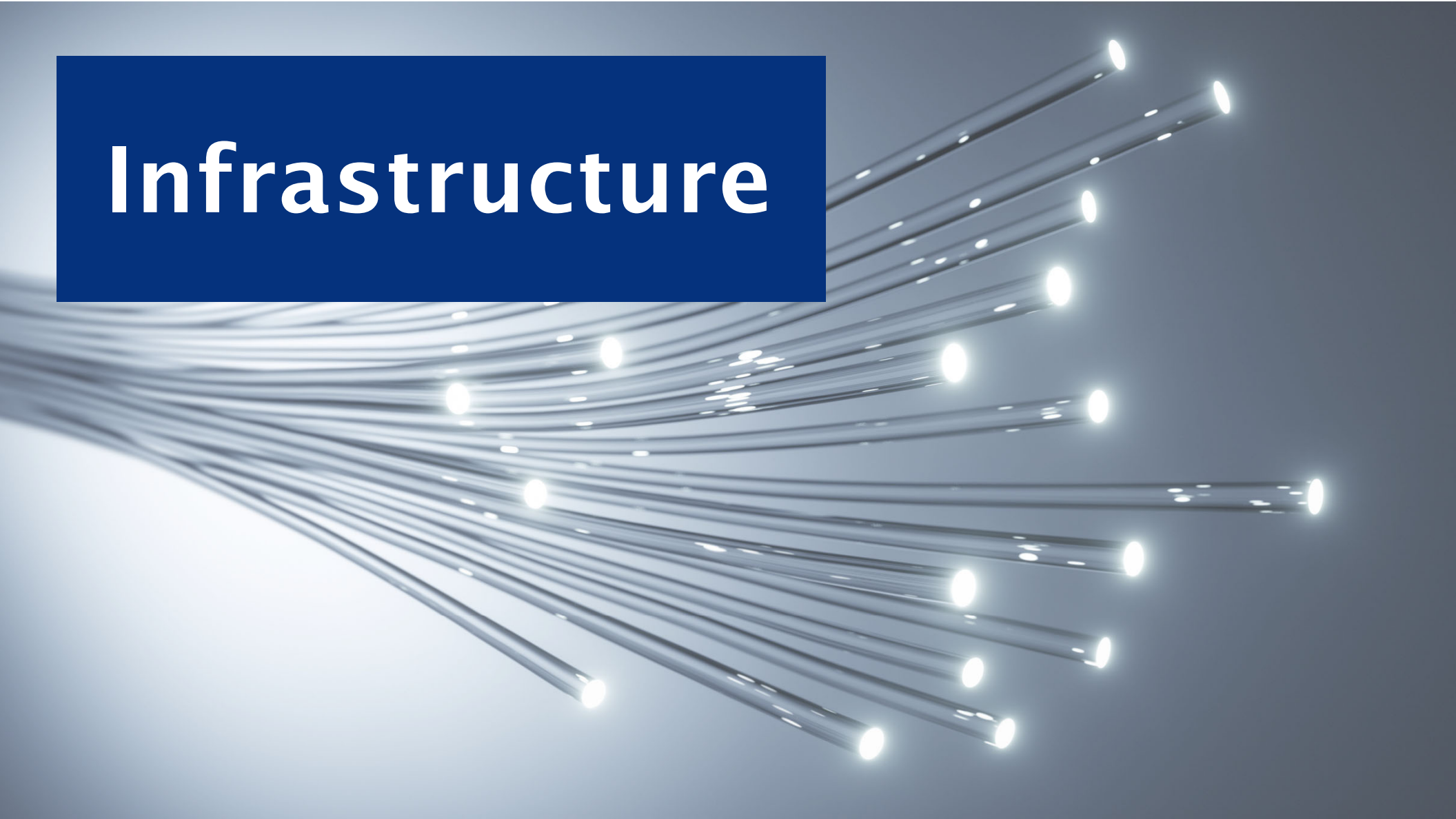
Having the right partners is important for not only for a competitive grant, but for the success of a project. Collaborate with neighboring towns or local organizations, and make sure you have a strong engineering firm partner.

03. Prepare

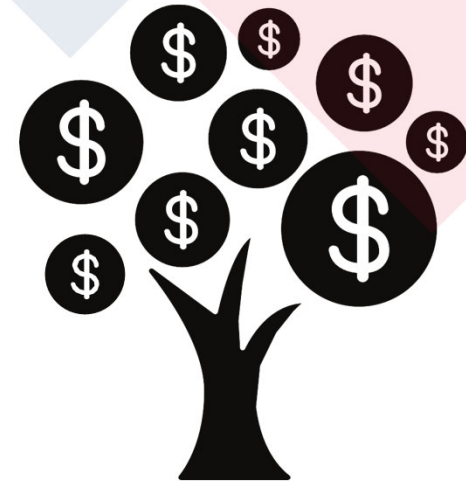
Start now. Be as close to 'shovel ready' as possible. This doesn't just mean engineering, it applies to financial preparedness too. Grantors are looking to see organizations that are fiscally responsible. Have your audits ready and your finance team on board.



Infrastructure



Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act

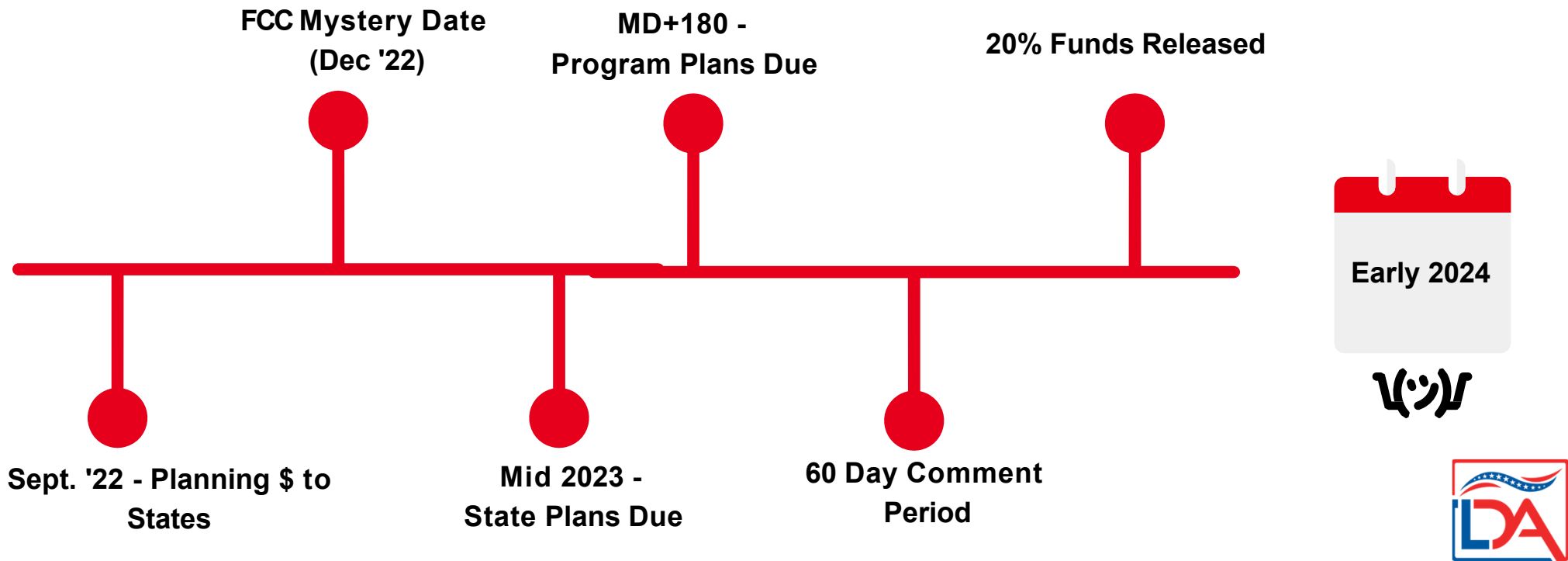


President Biden signed the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (PL 117-58) on Nov. 15, 2021, delivering \$65 billion to ensure every American has access to high-speed Internet. This funding will be disbursed to the NTIA, the FCC, the USDA, and states (via NTIA). NTIA will receive \$48.2 billion, FCC will receive \$14.2 billion, and USDA will receive \$2 billion.



What is BEAD and when will I see it?

Funds that came from the IIJA that will be distributed to states & territories.
States will develop competitive grant programs to distribute their funds.



Where to find funding until then:



State Grants

ARPA
CPF
State Legislature



Other Federal Grants

USDA
NTIA
EDA



Sneaky Grants

HUD
Regional
(ARC, DRA, NBRC, Alaska)

Subscribe

Agency websites
Broadband Forums



& the BCPC Summary Table



Local Agency Technical Assistance Grant



- **Program Purpose:** support tribes and local agencies in their efforts to expand broadband to communities lacking sufficient internet. This program aims to prepare eligible entities for last mile broadband deployment.
- **Total Funding:** \$50 Million
- **Maximum Funding Per Applicant:** \$50k
- **Estimated Timeframe:** Rolling Application
- **Eligible uses of funding:**
 - Needs assessments
 - Environmental and engineering studies
 - Network design
 - JPA formation
- **Priority Focuses:** Areas that have communities that lack broadband connectivity.



California Last Mile Federal Funding Account Grant



- **Program Purpose:** fund last mile connections to unserved and underserved areas, with equal funding to urban and rural areas. The program prioritizes unserved areas.
- **Total Funding:** \$2 billion
- **Maximum Funding Per Applicant:** \$25 million
- **Estimated Timeframe:** Late 2022/Early 2023
- **Eligible uses of funding:**
 - Construction of broadband infrastructure
 - Lease of backhaul services
 - Upgrade existing facilities
 - 2% Admin costs, 15% contingency costs
- **Priority Focuses:** Unserved areas as determined by CPUC.





Consideration Points

Financials

- Audited Financial Statements
- Proforma Financials
- Details, details, details
- Matching



Consideration Points

Mapping & Speed Tests

- **Treasury Ruling:** Unserved and underserved are households that do not receive 25 Mbps down/3 Mbps up from wireline connections.
- **NTIA Ruling:** Unserved are households that do not receive 25/3 Mbps, underserved are households that do not receive between 25/3 Mbps and 100/20 Mbps.
- **USDA Ruling:** Sufficient access is access to 120/20 Mbps



www.pcbroadband.org/speed-test/



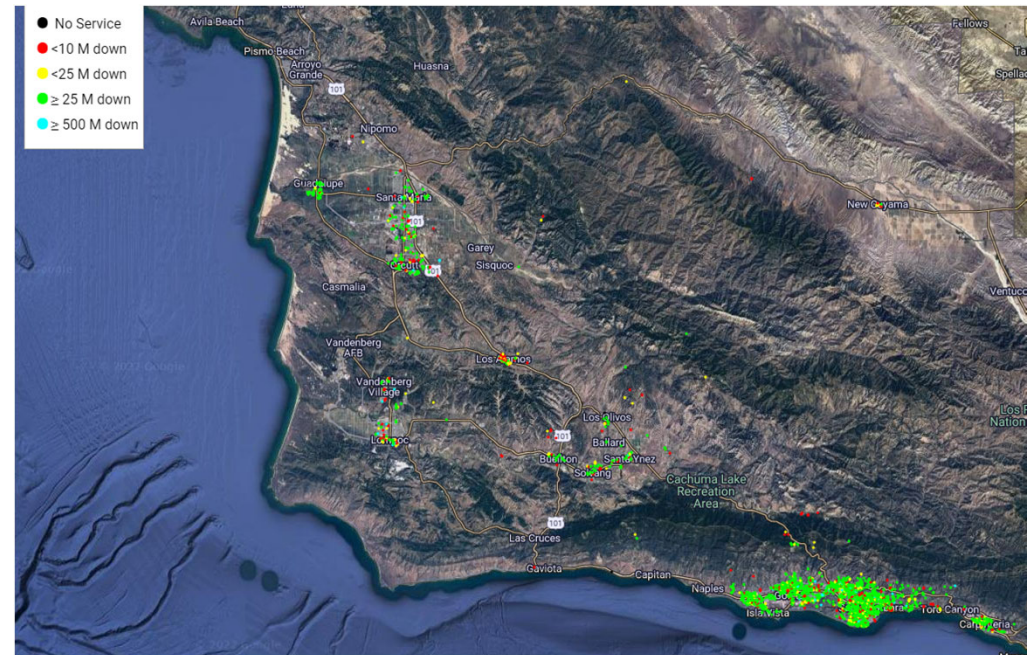
Ventura County Speed Test



Santa Barbara County Speed Test



San Luis Obispo County Speed Test



Digital Equity



Fall 2022

Late 2022

Spring 2024



USDA DLT

Discretionary program that allows rural communities to purchase telecommunications equipment to overcome effects of remoteness.

\$62 M



NTIA TBCP

Discretionary program that allows tribes to expand access to and adopt broadband service and purchase of devices to enable digital inclusivity.

\$1 B



NTIA State DE

Formula grant program that allows states to create and fund a grant program for five years to support digital equity projects and digital equity plans.

\$1.44 B



NTIA Comp. DE

Discretionary program open to a wide variety of applicants, allowing annual funding of programs for five years to support digital equity projects.

\$1.25 B



FCC Affordable Connectivity Outreach Grant Program



- **Program Purpose:** to assist in outreach efforts to raise awareness about the Affordable Connectivity Program and increase enrollment in the ACP.
- **Total Funding:** \$100 Million
- **Maximum Funding Per Applicant:** TBD
- **Estimated Timeframe:** Late 2022/Early 2023
- **Eligible uses of funding:** (anticipated)
 - Outreach activities
 - Staff salaries
 - Training
 - Hybrid projects
- **Priority Focuses:** Low-income households.



Cybersecurity



DHS State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program



- **Program Purpose:** funds to assist state, local, and tribal governments to address cybersecurity threats and risks.
- **Total Funding:** \$200M FY '22, \$400M FY '23, \$300M FY '24, \$100M FY '25
- **Match:** Increasing each year, starting at 20%
- **Rules:** 80% must go to local governments
- **Emphasized Projects:** (anticipated)
 - Infrastructure
 - IRP Readiness
 - Monitoring
 - Training



Other IIJA Funded Cybersecurity Programs



- **Rural and Municipal Utility Advanced Cybersecurity Grant & Technical Assistance:** funds to electric utility providers to prevent, respond to, and recover from cybersecurity attacks. \$250M, open Q4 of '22
- **Cyber Response and Recovery Fund:** funds to recover from cyber attack. Available after emergency declaration from DHS to affected state, local, tribal governments & private as determined. \$100M with \$20M in '22





Broadband Consortium Role in Local Grants

- Support opportunities for and the development of applications from the CPUC
 - CASF: Broadband Infrastructure Grant Account– Identify and support CASF projects related to SB 156 and AB 164 with grant applications with the goal to achieve 98% deployment in the consortium region.
 - CASF: Broadband Public Housing Account – Support housing partners in the development of applications that serve public housing developments and farmworker housing.
 - Last Mile Federal Funding Account – Support the public sector by providing information for this program and support application process.
- California Emerging Technology Fund (CETF)
 - Support implementation of grant funding received by CETF and provide services related to scope of grant – varies.



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