VPS Memo

Texas Broadband Development Office Publishes $120M Broadband Infrastructure NOFA

Application window opens April 3, 2023.

On March 6, 2023, the Texas Broadband Development Office (BDO) published a Notice of Funds Availability (NOFA) for an initial round of grants for Broadband Infrastructure Projects in Texas. The funding is being made available through the Bringing Online Opportunities to Texas (BOOT) program. This first round of funding will provide up to $120 million in grant funds for last mile broadband infrastructure projects in eligible areas in Texas. There are many requirements for the BOOT program, and the following is a summary of the NOFA.

Program Details

BOOT Program Funding for Broadband Infrastructure Projects

The funding will be for last mile broadband infrastructure projects in eligible areas committing to meet or exceed symmetrical 100 Mbps broadband service.

Funding Limits and Deadlines

There is no matching funds requirement; however, preferential consideration will be given to applications based on matching contributions from other sources of funding, including in-kind contributions, as a percent of the total project costs.

- Minimum Funding Amount $200,000
- Maximum Funding Amount $4,999,999

The BOOT program application window will be open from April 3, 2023 to May 5, 2023.

Eligible Applicants

Participants eligible to apply for funding under this NOFA include: political subdivisions of the State, commercial and non-commercial broadband service providers, and partnerships between political subdivisions, commercial broadband service providers, noncommercial broadband service providers or any combination of entities that are also not otherwise considered disqualified from participation in the program.

Eligible Projects and Areas

Eligible Projects

Funding under this NOFA is limited to broadband infrastructure projects that will be designed to deliver service that reliably meets or exceeds symmetrical speeds of 100 Mbps to all broadband serviceable locations within the proposed project area that lack access to broadband service at speeds at or greater than 100/20 Mbps, this includes all unserved and underserved locations.

Eligible Areas

Applicants will be able to determine the boundaries of their proposed project area, however, the proposed project area will need to consist of one or more contiguous designated areas that are eligible to receive funding as determined by the Texas Broadband Development Map.

BDO will prioritize applications that will expand access to, and adoption of, broadband service in Eligible Areas in which the lowest percentage of addresses currently have access to broadband service.

Minimum Network Requirements

Applicants will need to verify the following for all locations identified for the proposed project:

1. Location lacks access to broadband service with speeds at or greater than 100 Mbps download and 20 Mbps upload.
2. Location will not be scheduled to receive broadband service prior to the start of the proposed project.

Additional Information

For additional information, or if you would like VPS guidance with the BOOT Grant Application and filing process, please contact these members of the Vantage Point BOOT Grant Program team:

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