

## Latta, Aaron

---

**From:** Latta, Aaron  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 8, 2021 11:51 AM  
**To:** Latta, Aaron  
**Subject:** IJA Broadband Funding Opportunities

### Memorandum on IJA Broadband Funding Opportunities

Please see the following overview from Congressmen Garamendi's office regarding broadband funding opportunities made available in the Investment in Infrastructure and Jobs Act recently made into law. Please feel free to contact our office directly for any comments or concerns on these programs.

#### Funding Process

1. National Telecommunications and Information Administration will release a "Notice of Funding Opportunity" to announce the start of the funding process. This is required to happen 180 days after passage of the IJA or May 2022.
2. States and Territories will receive their allocated portions of non-competitive grant funding after providing a 5 year broadband expansion/digital equity plan and provide an updated broadband access map the NTIA and FCC
3. Project applications will then undergo a review and challenge process administered by the state government before final awarding of funds.

#### IJA Broadband Funding Programs

##### Broadband Equity, Access & Deployment Program - \$42 billion

- The purpose of this program is to provide direct federal investment into expanded broadband infrastructure to unserved and underserved populations along the following priority.
  1. Unserved populations or areas where 80% of locations lack access to reliable download speeds of 25Mbps and upload speeds of 3Mbps or any broadband access at all.
  2. Underserved populations or areas where 80% of the locations lack access to reliable download speeds of 100Mbps and download speeds of 20Mbps.
  3. Anchor Institutions – such as schools, libraries, hospitals, and any location serving vulnerable individuals that lacks access to 1Gbps
- Each project must receive at least 25% of its funding from a "Non-federal source":
  - This funding could come from Federal COVID-19 relief programs authorized through the CARE Act or the ARP, local government, utility company, cooperative, non-profit organization, for-profit company, regional planning/governmental organization (SACOG), federal regional commission/authority, or any combination of the above.

##### State Digital Equity Capacity Grants - \$600 million

- The purpose of this grant is to provide funding to states for the planning and execution of a plan to increase internet literacy and broadband enrollment among vulnerable populations.
  - How will the funds be released?
    - First phase will see the NTIA release \$60 million in planning grants in 2022 to states for the purpose of identifying each state's key barriers to comprehensive broadband enrollment.
    - Second phase will see \$240 million in grants provided in 2022 and \$300 million in grants provided from 2023-2026 to execute each state's plan.
  - Eligible entities will need to contact the State government to be included in that state's Digital Equity Plan and receive funding through the program.

Digital Equity Competitive Grant – \$1.25 billion

- The purpose of this grant is to provide competitive grant funding to eligible entities who's project will increase internet literacy and broadband enrollment in their regions.
- Available to eligible entities who were not included in their state's Digital Equity Plan.
- \$250 million/year in grants available to eligible entities through the NTIA
  - Go to [www.ntia.doc.gov](http://www.ntia.doc.gov) to apply when applications are open.

Middle Mile Grants - \$1B

- The purpose of this grant is to connect terrestrial and wireless broadband service providers with each other while increasing available broadband capacity for unserved and underserved populations. Additionally, the connections funded by these grants must be able to provide 1Gbps.
- Grant applications will become available through the NTIA ([www.ntia.doc.gov](http://www.ntia.doc.gov))

Affordable Connectivity Benefit Program \$14 billion

- The purpose of this program is to extend the Emergency Broadband Benefit for current recipients and establish a new broadband benefit program to support low-income individuals with a \$30/month discount on their in-home broadband service.
- Broadband customers must apply for this program directly and contact their broadband service providers.
  - Customers should apply directly at [www.GetEmergencyBroadband.org/how-to-apply/](http://www.GetEmergencyBroadband.org/how-to-apply/)

Sincerely,

**Aaron Latta, District Representative**  
**Office of Congressman John Garamendi (CA-03)**

412 G Street  
Davis, CA 95616  
Office: 530-753-5301  
Cell: 202-380-5984  
[Aaron.latta@mail.house.gov](mailto:Aaron.latta@mail.house.gov)

*“This e-mail (including any attachments) may contain information that is private, confidential, or privileged. If you received this e-mail in error, please delete it from your system without copying it and notify the sender by reply e-mail.”*