How Rental Housing Providers Can Access Historic Federal Broadband Infrastructure Funding

September 6, 2023

NMHC — NATIONAL MULTIFAMILY HOUSING COUNCIL

NAA — NATIONAL APARTMENT ASSOCIATION

Education SUPERHIGHWAY

CARH — Council for Affordable and Rural Housing

CORES — Certified Organization for Resident Engagement & Services

IREM — INSTITUTE OF REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT

MHI — Manufactured Housing Institute

NAHMA — NATIONAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

SAHF — STEWARDS OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR THE FUTURE

NLHA — NATIONAL LEASED HOUSING ASSOCIATION

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- This webinar will be recorded.

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- For more information on NMHC please visit nmhc.org.

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Welcome!

Thank you for joining us for today's webinar.

Kevin Donnelly
VP of Government Affairs,
Technology & Strategic Initiatives
NMHC

Joe Riter
Sr. Manager, Public Policy
NAA

NMHC

Segment 1: Webinar Speakers

Adeyinka Ogunlegan
*Vice President, Government Affairs
& Policy,
EducationSuperHighway*

Sean Gerner
Senior Director, Apartment Wi-Fi
Program,
EducationSuperHighway

Education SUPERHIGHWAY

HOW RENTAL HOUSING PROVIDERS CAN ACCESS HISTORIC FEDEREAL BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING

EducationSuperHighway

Content

From 2013 to 2020, EducationSuperHighway Led the Effort to Close the K-12 Digital Divide

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED:

The classroom connectivity gap is now closed

	2013	2020	
	4 M STUDENTS MEETING 100 KBPS PER STUDENT GOAL	**46.8 M** STUDENTS MEETING 100 KBPS PER STUDENT GOAL	**99.6%** districts connected
	22,958 SCHOOLS WITHOUT FIBER	**504** SCHOOLS WITHOUT FIBER	**99.3%** schools on fiber
	$22.00 COST PER MBPS	**$1.85** COST PER MBPS	Cost has declined **92%** since 2013
	10% of students had broadband to support digital learning	**99.6%** of students have broadband to support digital learning	

OUR
MISSION

Close the digital divide for the **17 million households** that have access to the Internet but can't afford to connect.

We focus on America's most unconnected communities, where more than 25% of people don't have Internet.

BEAD Basics

- **THE BROADBAND EQUITY, ACCESS, AND DEPLOYMENT (BEAD) PROGRAM**, provides $42.45 billion to **expand high-speed internet access by funding planning, infrastructure deployment and adoption programs**

- **ELIGIBLE ENTITIES WILL RECEIVE A MINIMUM OF $100M**; Additional funding will be determined by each entities % of unserved and underserved households. TBD by the New FCC Data Maps (to be released Fall 2022)

- **PROGRAM PRIORITIES**
  - Unserved locations (No access to 25/3 Mbps)
  - Underserved locations (No access to 100/20 Mbps)
  - Community anchor institutions (Without gigabit connections)
  - Multi-Family Households can be prioritized in BEAD funding

All 50 states, D.C., Puerto Rico, and all other U.S. territories submitted their Letters of Intent (LOIs) to request BEAD Funds.

The IIJA sets forth a $65 billion investment

into broadband through the Broadband, Equity, Access, and Deployment; Digital Equity Act, and Affordable Connectivity Programs

BEAD-Eligible Uses

PLANNING FOR THE DEPLOYMENT of high-speed internet, including conducting research, collecting data, outreach, and training.

DEPLOYING OR UPGRADING INTERNET in unserved or underserved areas or improving service to community anchor organizations.
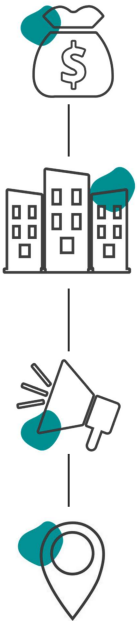
INSTALLING INTERNET AND WI-FI INFRASTRUCTURE in eligible multi-family dwelling units (MDUs):

1. Have a substantial share of unserved households; or,
2. Are in locations where the number of households with an income at or below 150% of the poverty line is higher than the national percentage.

Connecting multi-family and public housing with BEAD

FEDERAL FUNDING
$42.45 billion available through the Broadband Equity, Access, & Deployment (BEAD) Program.

MULTI-FAMILY HOUSING
Projects for multi-family residential buildings are specifically highlighted in the bill.

STATE ACTION
States will be given allocations from the BEAD program to fund local projects via grant programs.

LOCAL PROJECTS
Local stakeholders will be able to apply for grant funding by proposing "shovel ready" projects, such as Apartment Wi-Fi

FCC Broadband Data Maps do not accurately reflect the connectivity of MDUs

1
20-25% of unconnected households across the country live in multi-family housing.

2
The FCC Broadband Data Map identifies multi-family housing developments as one Broadband Serviceable Location (BSL) but do not represent broadband availability of the individual units.

3
Without accurate unit-by-unit data, the maps will significantly **undercount the number** of unserved and underserved MDUs and households living in multi-family housing.

4
The FCC challenge process places the burden of proof on unconnected residents, most of whom have limited to no access to the Internet or are unaware of this program and the challenge process.

5
By states adopting the NTIA's challenge process guidance, states can fairly putting the onus back on ISPs to provide unit-level service availability for all MDUs.

An **Apartment Wi-Fi Program Plan** Is Key to Closing the Broadband Affordability Gap

50+ unit MDUs Required by the National Broadband Map

9,417

Free Wi-Fi networks in these buildings can connect

1.3M

of the country's most vulnerable households.

50+ unit MDUs Requiring Challenge Process Review

75K

Free Wi-Fi networks in these buildings can connect

10.2M

of the country's most vulnerable households.

Better Connectivity at a Lower Cost

STEP 1
Procure a high speed fiber internet connection to the building
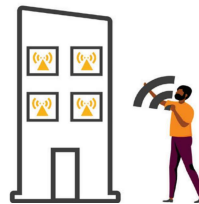
STEP 2
Install Wi-Fi access points efficiently to provide ubiquitous coverage

STEP 3
Provide residents with the SSID and password to connect to the internet

Learn more about Apartment Wi-Fi at
educationsuperhighway.org

Case Study: **Oakland, California**

- **We raised awareness** with property owners via mass marketing, webinars, and one-to-one outreach.

- **Interested property owners signed an MOU** giving us permission to solicit bids on their behalf.

- **We designed RFPs** for participating buildings and promoted the RFPs to managed service providers (MSPs).

- **We reviewed RFP responses and advised property owners** on final awards. Property owners signed contracts with MSPs.

- **We validated the network installations** to ensure they met our high standards.

- **We supported network adoption** for residents.
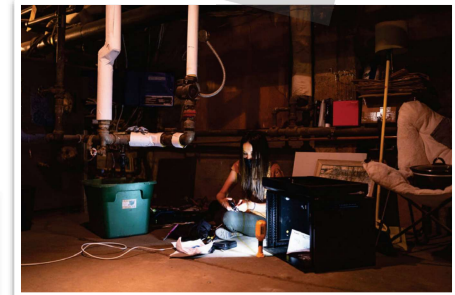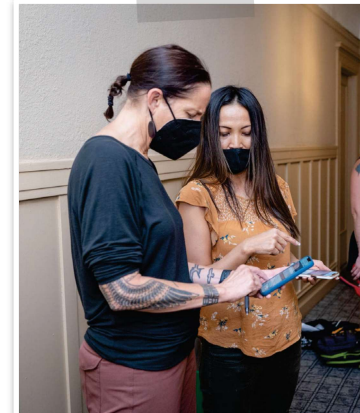
BEAD & DEA

BEAD **Key Dates**

July 2022 - States submit letters of intent (July 18th)

Aug 2022- States request initial planning funds

June 2023 - BEAD Funding Allocations Announced

Fall 2023 - State 5-Year Plan Due to NTIA

December 2023 - Initial Proposal's Due to NTIA

2024- Initial Proposal Review & State Challenge Process

December 2024 - Final Proposal Due and Release of Remaining Funds

YOUR ROLE: MAKE SURE YOUR PROPERTIES COUNT!

1. **KNOW YOUR BUILDING STATUS**
   - Review National Broadband Map Designation
   - Assess Building Connectivity

1. **ENGAGE WITH STATE BROADBAND OFFICE(S)**
   - 1:1 Meetings
   - Stakeholder outreach events
   - Advocacy Letters

1. **PARTICIPATE IN STATE CHALLENGE PROCESS**

   What: States are required to develop a transparent, evidence-based, fair, and expeditious challenge process

   Who: Local government, nonprofit organization, or broadband service provider can participate

   Why: Participants can challenge the state's determination of whether a particular location or community anchor institution is **eligible for grant funds**.

Next Steps

1 Review your property status on the National Broadband Map

2 Engage State Broadband Offices and urge them to prioritize MDUs

3 Connect with EducationSuperHighway to learn more about Apartment Wi-Fi

Free Apartment Wi-Fi
How States Can Close the Digital Divide in Affordable Multi-Dwelling Units (MDUs)

NO HOME LEFT OFFLINE

nohomeleftoffline.org/apartment-wifi

ADEYINKA OGUNLEGAN
Vice President,, Government Affairs & Policy
adeyinka@educationsuperhighway.org

SEAN GERNER
Senior Program Director
sean@educationsuperhighway.org

Segment 2: Webinar Speakers

Jamile Kadre
Federal Communications
Commission (FCC)

Julia Johnson
Federal Communications
Commission (FCC)

Affordable Connectivity Program Resources

- To apply, please visit GetInternet.gov or Accedeainternet.gov. Updated online application instructions are available in English, Spanish, and 8 other languages.

- For more information, please visit AffordableConnectivity.gov (resources available in English and Spanish) or contact ACPinfo@fcc.gov.

- For consumer questions, please visit the FCC's ACP Consumer Hub at fcc.gov/ACP.

- Enrollment tracker may be found at fcc.gov/data.

- Consumer FAQs are available at www.fcc.gov/affordable-connectivity-program-consumer-faq.

- Consumer toolkits are available at https://www.fcc.gov/acp-consumer-outreach-toolkit and www.affordableconnectivity.gov/community-resources/.

- For assistance, call the ACP Support Center at (877) 384-2575 seven days a week from 9 a.m. – 9 p.m. ET or send an email to ACPSupport@usac.org. For accessibility questions, please email FCC504@fcc.gov.

- Sign up for ACP email updates and upcoming events. Find upcoming trainings and other resources on the ACP Learn page.

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Questions?

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or

Raise your hand and NMHC staff will call on you and unmute you.

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Thank You!

Please complete the survey as you exit the virtual room—your feedback is essential to our future content planning.

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