Table for Broadband Funding Opportunities for State and Local Government

This information was gathered in part from the BroadbandUSA website, a component of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, under the United States Department of Commerce, and from the respective commissions and departments associated with each grant or funding opportunity.

This table is designed to be an interactive list with hyperlinks providing more information for the user. The first column lists the program and provides hyperlinks to the agency or group that runs the program. The description gives a cursory overview. The link provided in the BroadbandUSA column links to a very helpful PDF for each program. The additional commentary and resources column houses links to additional information that was not easily navigable on the program or agency's website, or other information I happened across.

Some of the programs are specifically designed to address broadband expansion or infrastructure, but not all of them. Many programs listed below are meant to apply to anything within the scope of the program's intended purpose and that could include broadband. Those programs specifically created for or that have components largely addressing broadband have been noted with an asterisk.

Program	Program Description	BroadbandUSA Guide	Funding for 2020	Type of funding	Additional Resources and Commentary
Appalachian Regional Commission					
Area Development Program	Each year, ARC provides funding for investments in areas such as business development, education and job training, infrastructure (including broadband), community development, and transportation. These projects create jobs, improve local water and sewer systems, increase school readiness, assist local communities with strategic planning, and provide technical and managerial assistance to emerging businesses.	Link	$40,945,000	Grant	
Distressed Counties Program	The Distressed Counties Program is meant to target and support the most economically distressed counties in the region, using a measure of economic distress based on three economic indicators: three-year average unemployment rates, per capita market income, and poverty rates. ARC normally limits its maximum project funding contribution to 50 percent of costs, but it can increase its funding share to as much as 80 percent in distressed counties.	Link	$17,548,000	Grant	
Partnerships for Opportunity and Workforce and Economic Revitalization (POWER) Program *	POWER Project is a congressionally funded initiative that targets federal resources to help communities and regions that have been affected by job losses in coal mining, coal power plant operations, and coal-related supply chain industries due to the changing economics of America's energy production. Within the POWER Initiative, $15 million is specifically available for broadband related projects.	Link	$45,000,000	Grant	
Department of Education					
Impact Aid Program	The mission of the Impact Aid Program is to disburse Impact Aid payments to local educational agencies that are financially burdened by federal activities where parcels of land owned by the federal government have been removed from the local tax rolls.	Link	$1,486,112,000	Grant	
Improving Basic Programs Operated by Local Educational Agencies	The Elementary and Secondary Education Act provides financial assistance to local educational agencies and schools with high numbers or high percentages of children from low-income families to help ensure that all children, particularly low-achieving children, meet challenging state academic standards.	Link	$16,309,802,000	Grant	

Prepared by the Senate Research Office, on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor's Office for the 32nd Biennial Institute (2020)

Table for Broadband Funding Opportunities for State and Local Government, Continued:

Promise Neighborhoods Program	The purpose of the Promise Neighborhoods Program is to significantly improve the educational and developmental outcomes of children and youth in the most distressed communities, and to transform those communities. The program provides funding to support eligible entities, including (1) nonprofit organizations, which may include faith-based nonprofit organizations, (2) institutions of higher education, and (3) Indian tribes in partnership with their local schools and local education agencies.	Link	$80,000,000	Grant	
Rural and Low-Income School Program	The purpose of the Rural and Low-Income School (RLIS) Grant Program is to provide poor, rural districts with financial assistance to address the unique needs of rural school districts that frequently lack the personnel and resources needed to compete effectively for federal competitive grants and receive formula grant allocations in amounts too small to be effective in meeting their intended purposes.	Link	$92,920,000	Grants	Allocation formula, Use of Funds Explanation Video and slides
Small, Rural School Achievement Program	The purpose of the Small, Rural School Achievement program is to provide small, rural local educational agencies with financial assistance to address the unique needs of rural school districts that frequently lack the personnel and resources needed to compete effectively for federal competitive grants and receive formula grant allocations in amounts too small to be effective in meeting their intended purposes.	Link	$92,920,000	Grant	Allocation formula, Use of Funds Explanation Video and slides
Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program	The program's mission is to improve student's academic achievement by increasing the capacity of States, local educational agencies, schools and local communities to: (1) provide all students with access to a well-rounded education; (2) improve school conditions for student learning; and (3) improve the use of technology in order to improve the academic achievement and digital literacy for all students.	Link	$1,210,000,000	Grant	
Strengthening Institutions Program	The Strengthening Institutions Program helps eligible Institutions of Higher Education to become self-sufficient and expand their capacity to serve low-income students by providing funds to improve and strengthen the academic quality, institutional management, and fiscal stability of eligible institutions.	Link	$107,854,000	Grant	
Strengthening Historically Black Colleges and Universities Program	The Strengthening Historically Black Colleges and Universities Program provides financial assistance to Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) to establish or strengthen their physical plants, financial management, academic resources, and endowment-building capacity.	Link	$324,792,000	Grant	
Department of Transportation					
Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) (recently known as TIGER)	The Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development, or BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grant program, provides a unique opportunity for the DOT to invest in road, rail, transit and port projects that promise to achieve national objectives. Previously known as Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery, or TIGER Discretionary Grants, Congress has dedicated nearly $7.9 billion for eleven rounds of National Infrastructure Investments to fund projects that have a significant local or regional impact.	Link	$1,000,000,000	Discretionary Grant	Federal Register Notice, Fact Sheet The Federal Register explains that projects may concurrently construct roads and invest in broadband expansion to better facilitate productivity and help rural citizens access opportunities,

Prepared by the Senate Research Office, on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor's Office for the 32nd Biennial Institute (2020)

Page **2** of 8

Table for Broadband Funding Opportunities for State and Local Government, Continued:

					or promote energy independence to help deliver significant local or regional economic benefit.
Realty Program (Utility Right-of-way)	There is no direct funding specifically for broadband. However, broadband developments may be eligible for reimbursement with federal-aid highway funds if it supports a transportation use.	Link	***		This is carried out through EO: Accelerating Broadband Infrastructure Deployment 2012.
Utilities Program	There is no direct funding specifically for broadband. However, broadband developments may be eligible for reimbursement with federal-aid highway funds if it supports a transportation use.	Link	***		This is carried out through EO: Accelerating Broadband Infrastructure Deployment 2012.
Department of Treasury					
New Markets Tax Credit Program	Through the New Markets Tax Credit Program, the CDFI Fund allocates tax credit authority to Community Development Entities (CDEs) through a competitive application process. CDEs are financial intermediaries through which private capital flows from an investor to a qualified business located in a low-income community. CDEs use their authority to offer tax credits to investors in exchange for equity in the CDE. Using the capital from these equity investments, CDEs can make loans and investments to businesses operating in low-income communities on better rates and terms and more flexible features than the market. In exchange for investing in CDEs, investors claim a tax credit worth 39% of their original CDE equity stake, which is claimed over a seven-year period.	Link	$5,000,000,000	Tax credit	NMTC Fact Sheet, Community Development Entity Certification
Community Reinvestment Act	The Community Reinvestment Act requires federal banking regulators to encourage financial institutions to help meet the credit needs of the communities in which they do business, including low- and moderate-income neighborhoods.	Link	***	Financial institution debt and equity	Office of the Comptroller of the Currency Newsletter
Department of Labor					
Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training (TAACCCT) Program	The U.S. Department of Labor's Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training grant program's purpose is to increase the ability of community colleges to address the challenges of today's workforce.	Link	None allotted for FY2020		
Workforce Development in Telecommunication Sector: Apprenticeship Investments in Support of Broadband and 5G*	The Telecommunications Industry Registered Apprenticeship Program (TIRAP) is a joint venture of telecommunications companies, industry associations and the U.S. Department of Labor that develops credentialed apprenticeship programs available to qualified employers for career development of the telecommunications workforce.	Link	$5,997,096	Grant	
Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act	Each year, Congress appropriates dollars under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act for adult, dislocated worker, youth, and basic labor exchange programs. The nation's business-led Workforce Development Boards help set the strategic direction for the programs and services in their respective labor markets.	Link			

Prepared by the Senate Research Office, on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor's Office for the 32nd Biennial Institute (2020)

Table for Broadband Funding Opportunities for State and Local Government, Continued:

Economic Development Administration					
FY2019 Disaster Supplemental Funding	The Fiscal Year 2019 (FY2019) Disaster Supplemental Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) makes $587 million available to eligible grantees in communities impacted by natural disasters in 2018 and Floods and Tornadoes in 2019.	Link	$587,000,000	Grant	*specifically areas effected by Hurricane Michael qualify
FY2020 Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Programs	EDA's Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance programs provide economically distressed communities and regions with comprehensive and flexible resources to address a wide variety of economic needs.	Link	$200,500,000	Grant	
Federal Communications Commission					
E-Rate Program*	The Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support Program, commonly known as the E-Rate Program, helps schools and libraries obtain affordable broadband. Eligible schools, school districts, and libraries may apply individually or as part of a consortium. Funding may be requested under two categories of service: category one services to a school or library (telecommunications, telecommunications services and Internet access), and category two services that deliver Internet access within schools and libraries (internal connections, basic maintenance of internal connections, and managed internal broadband services). Discounts for support depend on the level of poverty and whether the school or library is located in an urban or rural area. The discounts range from 20 percent to 90 percent of the costs of eligible services. E-rate program funding is based on demand up to an annual Commission-established cap of $4.15 billion.	Link	Cap for FY2020 not yet available	Discount program	The E-rate program is administered by the Universal Service Administrative Company under the direction of the FCC.
High Cost Program*	The federal Universal Service High-Cost Program is designed to ensure that consumers in rural, insular, and high-cost areas have access to modern communications networks capable of providing voice and broadband service, both fixed and mobile, at rates that are reasonably comparable to those in urban areas. The program allows eligible carriers who serve these areas to recover some of their costs from the federal Universal Service Fund.	Link	$4,500,000,000	Support	The High Cost Program is administered by the Universal Service administration and can be accessed here.
Lifeline Program*	The Lifeline Program provides a discount on phone and broadband service for qualifying low-income households to ensure that all Americans have the opportunities and security that those services bring, including being able to connect to jobs, family, and emergency services. Lifeline is part of the Universal Service Fund. The Lifeline program is available to eligible low-income consumers in every state, territory, commonwealth, and on Tribal lands.	Link	$982,004,000 (2019 disbursements)	Subsidy	The Lifeline Program is administered by the Universal Service Administration and can be accessed here.
Rural Health Care Program*	The Rural Health Care Program provides funding to eligible public or non-profit health care providers for broadband and telecommunications services necessary for the provision of health care. The goal of the program is to improve the quality of health care available to patients in rural communities by ensuring that eligible health care providers have access to telecommunications and broadband services.	Link	Cap for 2020 not available yet; cap for 2019 was about $593,782,000		The Rural Health Care Program is administered by the Universal Service Administration and can be accessed here.

Table for Broadband Funding Opportunities for State and Local Government, Continued:

Department of Housing and Urban Development					
Community Development Block Grant Program	The CDBG Program provides annual grants on a formula basis to states and local governments, to be used for economic and community development, principally for low- and moderate-income persons. HUD continues its efforts to narrow the digital divide in low-income communities served by HUD by providing broadband infrastructure to communities in need of such infrastructure.	Link	$3,425,000,000	Grant	CDBG Broadband Infrastructure FAQs
Section 108 Loan Guarantee Program	The Section 108 Loan Guarantee Program provides Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) recipients with the ability to leverage their annual grant allocation to access low-cost, flexible financing for economic development, housing, public facility, and infrastructure projects. Communities can use Section 108 guaranteed loans to either finance specific projects or to launch loan funds to finance multiple projects over several years.	Link	$300,000,000	Loan Guarantee Program	CDBG Broadband Infrastructure FAQs
Neighborhood Networks Program (Multifamily Housing or Public/Indian Housing)	The Neighborhood Networks Program provides grants to Public Housing Authorities to establish, expand and/or update community technology centers. In lieu of direct grant funding, by statute, PHAs may use their Capital and Operating Funds to establish and operate Neighborhood Networks centers. Neighborhood Networks centers provide access to computers, computer training and the Internet. Neighborhood Networks centers can also provide a wide range of services to help residents achieve long-term economic self-sufficiency.	Link	None specifically appropriated for Neighborhood Networks.		
Grants to States Program	Using a population based formula, more than $160 million is distributed among the State Library Administrative Agencies (SLAAs) every year. SLAAs are official agencies charged by law with the extension and development of library services.	Currently unavailable, but similar information can be found here	$166,803,000		
National Science Foundation					
Campus Cyberinfrastructure*	The Campus Cyberinfrastructure program invests in coordinated campus-level networking and cyberinfrastructure improvements, innovation, integration, and engineering for science applications and distributed research projects. Learning and workforce development in cyberinfrastructure is explicitly addressed in the program. Science-driven requirements are the primary motivation for any proposed activity.	Link	Anticipated $17,000,000	Grants	
Platforms for Advanced Wireless Research*	The Platforms for Advanced Wireless Research program is enabling experimental exploration of new wireless devices, communication techniques, networks, systems, and services that will revolutionize the nation's wireless ecosystem while sustaining US leadership and economic competitiveness for decades to come. The PAWR program is a public-private partnership, integrating $50 million from NSF with $50 million in cash and in-kind contributions from a consortium of more than 30 wireless companies and associations.	Link	Anticipated $9,000,000	Grants and Cooperative Agreements	
Smart and Connected Communities Program*	The goal of the Smart and Connected Communities (S&CC) program is to accelerate the creation of the scientific and engineering foundations that will	Link	Anticipated $43,000,000	Grants	

Prepared by the Senate Research Office, on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor's Office for the 32nd Biennial Institute (2020)

Page **5** of **8**

	enable smart and connected communities to bring about new levels of economic opportunity and growth, safety and security, health and wellness, and overall quality of life. The S&CC program encourages researchers to work with communities and residents to identify and define challenges they are facing, enabling those challenges to motivate use-inspired research questions. The S&CC program supports integrative research that addresses fundamental technological and social science dimensions of smart and connected communities and pilots solutions together with communities. Importantly, the program is interested in projects that consider the sustainability of the research outcomes beyond the life of the project, including the scalability and transferability of the proposed solutions.				
Spectrum and Wireless Innovation enabled by Future Technologies*	The Spectrum and Wireless Innovation Enabled by Future Technologies (SWIFT) Program focuses on effective wireless spectrum utilization and/or coexistence techniques, especially with passive uses, which have received less attention from researchers. Coexistence is when two or more applications use the same frequency band at the same time and/or at the same location, yet do not adversely affect one another. Proposals may be submitted by institutions of higher learning.	Link	$12,000,000		Program solicitation
Small Business Administration					
Lender Match Service	The Lender Match Service Program is a free online referral tool that connects small businesses with participating SBA-approved lenders. Small businesses can use SBA's referral tool to describe their needs and within two days will receive an email with the contact information of a lender who has expressed interest in their loan. This allows small businesses to talk with lenders to compare rates, fees, and terms.	Link	N/A	N/A	*This is not a federal funding program.
Department of Agriculture					
Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Program (REDLG)	The Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant program provides funding for rural projects through local utility organizations. USDA provides zero-interest loans to local utilities which they, in turn, pass through to local businesses (ultimate recipients) for projects that will create and retain employment in rural areas. The ultimate recipients repay the lending utility directly. The utility then is responsible for repayment to USDA. USDA provides grants to local utility organizations which use the funding to establish Revolving Loan Funds. Loans are made from the revolving loan funds to projects that will create or retain rural jobs. When the revolving loan fund is terminated, the grant is repaid to USDA.	Link	Loans: $50,506,394 Grants: $10,900,000	Loans and Grants	Rural Economic Development Loan & Grant Program Fact Sheet

Prepared by the Senate Research Office, on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor's Office for the 32nd Biennial Institute (2020)

Page **6** of **8**

Table for Broadband Funding Opportunities for State and Local Government, Continued:

Business and Industry Guaranteed Loan Program	The Business and Industry program bolsters the availability of private credit by guaranteeing loans for rural businesses. This program improves the economic health of rural communities by increasing access to business capital through loan guarantees that enable commercial lenders to provide affordable financing for businesses in eligible rural areas.	Link	$1,356,000; An additional $20.5 million provided under the CARES Act	Loan Guarantees	Business & Industry Loan Guarantees Fact Sheet
Community Connect Grant Program*	The Community Connect Grant Program provides financial assistance to eligible applicants that will provide broadband service in rural, economically-challenged communities where service does not exist. The funds may be used for construction, acquisition, or leasing of facilities, spectrum, land or buildings used to deploy broadband service for residential and business customers located within the Proposed Funded Service Area, participating essential community facilities (such as public schools, fire stations, public libraries, and public safety stations), in addition to other public uses.	Link	$35,000,000	Grants	Community Connect Grants Fact Sheet
Distance Learning Telemedicine Grant Program*	The Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant Program helps rural communities use the unique capabilities of telecommunications to connect to each other and to the world, overcoming the effects of remoteness and low population density. Grant funds may be used for the acquisition of eligible capital assets, such as: - Broadband facilities, - Audio, video and interactive video equipment, - Terminal and data terminal equipment, - Computer hardware, network components and software, - Inside wiring and similar infrastructure that further DLT services, - Acquisition of instructional programming that is a capital asset, and - Acquisition of technical assistance and instruction for using eligible equipment.	Link	$47,000,000; an additional $25 million provided under the CARES Act	Grants	Distance Learning & Telemedicine Grants Fact Sheet
Rural Broadband Access Loan and Loan Guarantee Program (Broadband Program)*	The Rural Broadband Access Loan and Loan Guarantee Program (Broadband Program) furnishes loans and loan guarantees to provide funds for the costs of construction, improvement, or acquisition of facilities and equipment needed to provide service at the broadband lending speed in eligible rural areas.	Link	$11,200,000	Loans, Loan Guarantees	Rural Broadband Access Loan & Loan Guarantee Fact Sheet
Rural eConnectivity Program (ReConnect)*	The ReConnect Program offers unique federal financing and funding options in the form of loans, grants, and loan/grant combinations to facilitate broadband deployment in areas of rural America that don't currently have sufficient access to broadband. This program will generate private sector investment to deploy broadband infrastructure to provide high-speed internet e-Connectivity to as many rural premises as possible, including homes, community facilities for healthcare and public safety, schools, libraries, farms, ranches, factories, and other production sites.	Link	$555,000,000; an additional $100 million in grant funding provided through the CARES Act	Grants, Loans, Grant/Loan combinations	ReConnect Program Fact Sheet
Telecom Infrastructure Loans and Loan Guarantees Program*	The Telecom Infrastructure Loans and Loan Guarantees Program provides financing for the construction, maintenance, improvement and expansion of telephone service and broadband in rural areas.	Link	$690,000,000	Loan, Loan Guarantees	Telecommunications Infrastructure Loans & Loan Guarantees Fact Sheet

Prepared by the Senate Research Office, on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor's Office for the 32nd Biennial Institute (2020)

Table for Broadband Funding Opportunities for State and Local Government, Continued:

	Eligible applicants include most entities that provide telecommunications in qualified rural areas including: State and local governmental entities; federally recognized Tribes; non-profits, including cooperatives, and limited dividend or mutual associations; and for-profit businesses. Eligible areas include rural areas and towns with a population of 5,000 or less, and areas without telecommunications facilities.				
Community Facilities Program	The Community Facilities Program provides affordable funding to develop essential community facilities in rural areas. An essential community facility is defined as a facility that provides an essential service to the local community for the orderly development of the community in a primarily rural area, and does not include private, commercial or business undertakings.	Link	$2,800,000,000 (Loan) $32,000,000 (Grant)	Loans, Grants, Grant/Loan Combination	Community Facilities Direct Loan & Grant Fact Sheet The funds are intended to be used for developing utility services such as telemedicine or distance learning equipment, in addition to other uses.

Analyst: Katherine Russell

Prepared by the Senate Research Office, on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor's Office for the 32nd Biennial Institute (2020)

Page **8** of **8**