Prequalification Application Guide

BROADBAND EQUITY, ACCESS, AND DEPLOYMENT (BEAD) PROGRAM

Version 2 | March 24, 2025

California Public Utilities Commission

Contents

Introduction

This Prequalification Application Guide provides applicants with instructions for California's Prequalification Application for the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program and the online portal where applicants will complete the application.

About the CPUC's BEAD Subgrantee Program

The BEAD Program, which is administered by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), allocated approximately $1.86 billion to the State of California. The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) is implementing the state's BEAD subgrantee program to award that funding.

The CPUC is planning a multi-step process for selecting subgrantees:

1. **Prequalification Phase,** during which the CPUC will establish the qualifications of prospective applicants

2. **Application Phase,** during which the CPUC will receive, review, and score project applications

3. **Negotiation Phase,** during which the CPUC will engage with applicants with reference to the Extremely High Cost Per Location Threshold (EHCPLT)

The CPUC will include its provisional awards in its BEAD Final Proposal, which the CPUC will make available for public comment before submitting to NTIA for approval. NTIA must approve California's Final Proposal before the CPUC can finalize any BEAD grant awards.

About the Prequalification Phase

During the Prequalification Phase, the CPUC will review applicants' qualifications to ensure they meet the minimum requirements for BEAD subgrantees (see "Eligible Applicants," below). All entities whose prequalification materials are determined to be sufficient on a pass/fail basis will be allowed to submit proposals in the Application Phase of the program.

The CPUC will cross-check all applicants with the list of companies "ineligible to receive federal contracts" (i.e., the federal debarment list).[1] Applicants that are on the federal debarment list will not be eligible to apply for BEAD funding.

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[1] "OFCCP Debarred Companies," Office of Federal Compliance Programs, U.S. Department of Labor, https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ofccp/debarred-list.

The CPUC may contact applicants after the Prequalification Phase application window to request missing information or application revisions. If feasible given the limited timeline for the BEAD grant program, the CPUC will allow up to three business days for revision requests during the Prequalification Phase to seek to ensure an optimal participation level of qualified applicants. Revision requests would involve *de minimis* changes to applications that appear to include oversights or errors that would inadvertently disqualify the application, prevent it from being considered, or make it non-compliant with the BEAD Program (e.g., a deleted section or a missing attachment).[2]

Applicants that do not respond to the CPUC's revision requests in the allotted time may be disqualified from participating in the Application Phase. Materials submitted during the Prequalification Phase will not be scored.

The CPUC reserves the right to disqualify any applicant that was deemed qualified in the Prequalification Phase, including if the applicant's qualifications are later found not to be commensurate with the size and scope of its final project proposal.

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[2] "BEAD Initial Proposal Volume II," CPUC, September 2024, https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Published/G000/M542/K040/542040660.PDF (p. 27).

Eligible Applicants

To qualify for California's BEAD Program, applicants must demonstrate that they meet the minimum qualifications for BEAD subgrants, including:

1. Financial requirements;

2. Organizational and operational requirements defined by NTIA's BEAD Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO, section IV.D)[3] and further NTIA guidance;[4] and

3. Compliance with all applicable requirements mandated by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) of 2021, BEAD NOFO, any BEAD NOFO waivers, applicable sections of the 2 CFR 200 Uniform Guidance, the 2024 BEAD Program General Terms and Conditions,[5] and requirements of the State of California, including California's BEAD Initial Proposals[6] and subsequent state-specific rules.

The CPUC will accept applications from entities meeting the minimum qualifications for subgrantees, including cooperatives, nonprofit organizations, public-private partnerships, private companies, public or private utilities, public utility districts, local governments, and Tribal entities. (See California's BEAD Initial Proposal Volume II and BEAD NOFO, section IV.B.7.a.ii(6).)

The CPUC will accept applications from groups of applicants that choose to apply together. To avoid the potential for conflict of interest, an applicant may only participate as a single bidder or as a member of a single group for any given project area.

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[3] BEAD NOFO, https://broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov/sites/default/files/2022-05/BEAD%20NOFO.pdf.
[4] "BEAD Subgrantee Qualifications Evaluation Guide," NTIA, https://broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov/sites/default/files/2023-12/BEAD_Subgrantee_Qualifications_Evaluation_Guide.pdf.
[5] "2024 BEAD Program General Terms and Conditions," NTIA, https://broadbandusa.ntia.gov/funding-programs/policies-waivers/BEAD_IPFR_GTC_April_2024.
[6] California BEAD Initial Proposal Volume I and Volume II, https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/beadprogram.

Prequalification Application Resources

California's Initial Proposal Volume II describes the state's grant program design, proposed subgrantee selection process, project application scoring criteria, plans for workforce development and affordability strategies, and other critical information. That document and other details about the BEAD Program are available on the CPUC's California BEAD Program website.

The CPUC is an experienced grant making entity. It has administered multiple successful broadband grant programs in recent years that reflect its experience managing a fair, open, and competitive process to deploy broadband to unserved and underserved households throughout California. Technical assistance resources and announcements regarding events, deadlines, and program milestones are available on the CPUC's California BEAD Program website.

Participants who seek to ask procedural or technical questions should email the following dedicated address: beadgrant@cpuc.ca.gov.

The CPUC will regularly update its BEAD FAQ Page with the questions and answers generated by email inquiries and in-person meetings. Applicants may wish to view recordings of the webinars hosted by CPUC explaining the preapplication and project application process. Navigate to the CPUC's BEAD Events page to view the full list of recorded webinars.

Prequalification Application Requirements

The Prequalification Application comprises nine sections:

1. **Administrative:** Applicants are required to submit basic background information, such as contact details.

2. **Financial Capability:** Applicants will be expected to demonstrate financial expertise, capabilities, and available resources to meet program requirements and successfully complete a funded project.

3. **Management and Organizational Capability:** Applicants will be expected to show comprehensive and robust managerial capabilities and a commitment to long-term success of the project through stable leadership, continued process improvements, and ongoing commitment of resources. The applicant must provide necessary documentation and evidence of technical expertise, knowledge, and capabilities, as a complement to its management capabilities, to participate in the program and successfully complete a funded project.

4. **Compliance with Applicable Laws**: Applicants must demonstrate awareness and understanding of all applicable state and federal laws and the qualifications and resources to perform BEAD-related commitments in compliance with all applicable laws. Applicants are also expected to provide a full and complete picture of their corporate ownership and structure to demonstrate who is being entrusted with BEAD funding to ensure an efficient and effective use of funds that benefits the largest number of end users.

5. **Fair Labor Practices:** Applicants must demonstrate a history of prior compliance and a plan for future compliance with federal and state labor and employment law, as well as a commitment to programs that will develop a robust, diverse, and highly trained and skilled workforce.

6. **Technical Capabilities:** The CPUC will require applicants to submit materials to support their technical capabilities. All documentation will be reviewed by qualified personnel and evaluated on a pass/fail basis.

7. **Risk Management:** Applicants are required to answer questions about their history such as previous suspensions and debarment, recoupment of payments under a grant program, and violations of federal and state laws.

8. **Confidentiality and Certification:**

   Confidentiality: Applicants can request confidentiality protection for certain responses in their Prequalification Application. (Please note that information required in the NTIA Final Proposal cannot be marked confidential.)

Certification: At the end of the Prequalification Application, applicants will be required to print the provided BEAD Prequalification Certification document relevant to the applicant's organization; review, sign, and notarize the document; and upload a scanned copy of the document to the portal.

9. **Review and Submit**: Applicants can review and download a copy of their responses before submitting to the CPUC.

Portal Navigation

Starting the Application

Account Registration

Applicants must register for an account and be approved by the CPUC before beginning the prequalification or project application. Applicants may register at register.bead.cpuc.ca.gov. Upon receiving approval, applicants can log in at bead.grant.cpuc.ca.gov and begin the application. If the applicant encounters any technical issues around registration, login, or account administration, please contact the Ready.net support team by email at cahelpdesk@ready.net.

Getting Started

Upon opening the application, you will be greeted with the 'Home' dashboard:

The dashboard includes the following sections:

- **Prequalification:** Start a new application, continue an existing application, or view a submitted application.

- **Organization Profile**: View or modify your organization information submitted during account registration, including address, contact information, and FCC Provider ID.

- **Team**: Collaborate on an application with others in your organization by granting them logins using the Invite Teammate function. Note: Each application still requires a single Primary Contact.

- **Summary**: See a count of applications submitted and applications in progress.

- **Resources**: Links to the Prequalification and Project Application Guides.

When ready to start the application click 'Start' within the Prequalification menu.

Application Navigation

This section covers general information about the application portal, including button functionalities. The preferred browser to access the application portal is Google Chrome. The numbered Prequalification Application section titles appear at the top of the page, as in the following sample screenshot:
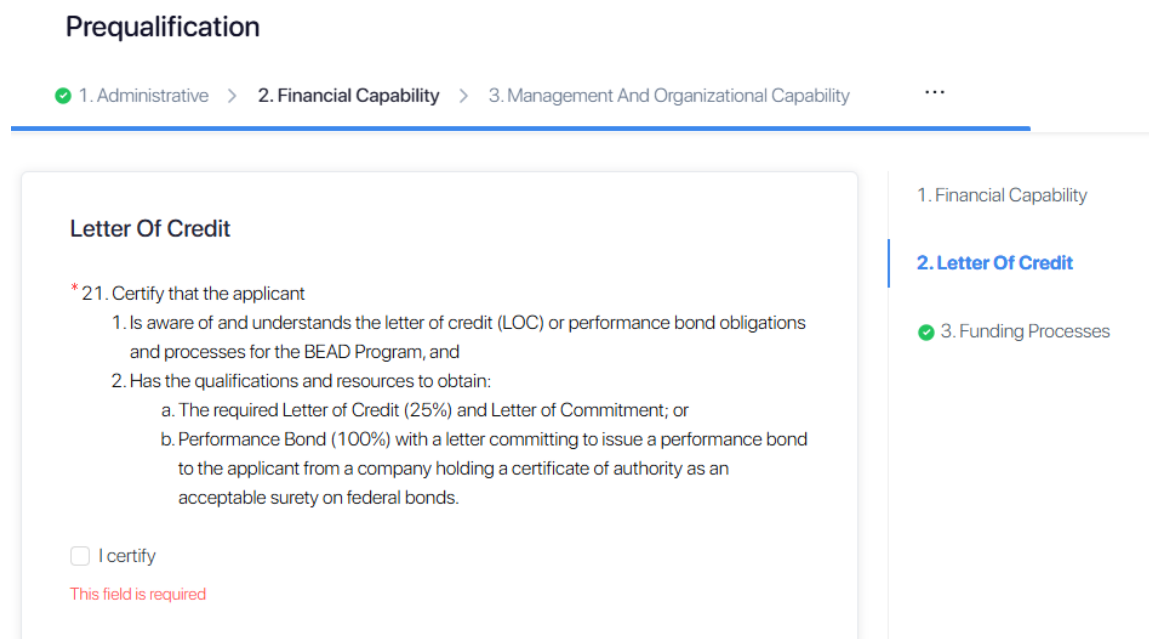
Navigate among sections by clicking the titles. Subsection titles will appear on the right sidebar. Navigate among the different subsections by clicking the subsection title. The application will save each time you navigate to a different section or subsection, when you upload a file, and when you click the blue 'Next' button at the bottom right of each page. Per Open Worldwide Application Security Project guidelines, after 15 minutes of inactivity and once every 24 hours applicants will be automatically logged out.

Subsequent questions may be presented based on the information provided in prior responses. For example, within the Financial Capability section, selecting "Unqualified

Audited Financials" will prompt the applicant to upload unqualified statements, while selecting "Qualified Audited Financials" will prompt a different set of questions. Applicants can review the different question trees in the portal or later in this guide (see "Prequalification Application Questions and Instructions").

Templates and Uploads

Some questions require you to upload a completed template. Unless specified in the application, file names should be descriptive and reference the template file name if possible. Please review these file name guidelines and examples:

- [Applicant Organization] – [Template Title].[file extension]
    - For example: HometownInternet - Past performance and experience.xlsx
- [Applicant Organization] – [Question].[file extension]
    - For example: HometownInternet - 3-2 Org Charts.pdf

Submitting the Application

Applicants can track their progress by reviewing the numbered Prequalification Application section titles at the top of the portal pages. A green circle with a white checkmark in the center ✅ indicates that all required fields have been submitted in that section. For an example, see the screenshot above. When all sections show a green circle with a white check, navigate to the final section titled "Review and Submit." Applicants should review their entire application before submitting to the CPUC.

Applicants who have an applications-specific question after they have submitted their application through the portal should email the following dedicated address: beadgrant@cpuc.ca.gov.

Revising the Application

During its application review, the CPUC will request edits via the application portal if any items need to be addressed or corrected. The application portal will automatically notify you via email with a specified deadline for submitting revisions (up to three business days) and will re-open the application portal for the updated responses/documentation to be submitted, if applicable.

Note: Applicants should submit revisions or additions requested by the CPUC through the application portal. Do not send replies/submission updates via email.

Upon review of the completed application, the CPUC will make a final eligibility determination and communicate this decision by email.

Prequalification Application Questions and Instructions

Note: You may not need to answer every question listed in this document. Responses to certain questions in the application portal will determine whether you need to answer subsequent questions. The portal will display the questions you should answer. See the instructions for each question for additional clarification. Required or conditionally required questions are noted with a red asterisk ***** throughout the application in the portal and the application guide.

Section 1: Administrative

1.1 Organization name*

Enter the organization's name in the textbox.

1.2 Organization UEI*

Enter the organization's unique entity identifier (UEI) in the textbox. The U.S. government will use the UEI, found in an entity's SAM.gov registration, for federal awards management, including, but not limited to, contracts, grants, and cooperative agreements. The UEI is the primary way to identify an entity throughout the federal awarding lifecycle and in SAM.gov. Each applicant must obtain a UEI. Applicants can register at https://www.sam.gov/. Registration is free. Registration can take seven to 10 business days under normal circumstances; it can take longer if the applicant does not supply all necessary information or if revisions are needed.[7]

1.3 Organization CPCN*

Enter the organization's Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) in the textbox. If not applicable (if the applicant does not provide full Facilities-Based/Limited-Facilities Based and/or Resold Competitive Local Exchange Services, Interexchange Services, and/or Fixed Interconnected VoIP Services), enter "0." For more information, see Information for Telecommunications Applicants and Registrants in California.

1.4 Organization address line one*; 1.5 Organization address line two

Enter the address (one or two lines) in the textboxes.

1.6 Organization address City*; 1.7 Organization address State*; 1.8 Organization address Post Code*

Enter the address in the textboxes.

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[7] See, e.g., "Applicant Registration," Grants.gov, https://www.grants.gov/applicants/applicant-registration.

1.9 Primary contact first name*

Enter the primary contact's first name in the textbox.

1.10 Primary contact last name*

Enter the primary contact's last name in the textbox.

1.11 Primary contact title*

Enter the primary contact's title in the textbox.

1.12 Primary contact email*

Enter the primary contact's email in the textbox.

1.13 Primary contact phone*

Enter the primary contact's phone number in the textbox.

1.14 Alternative contact email

Enter the alternative contact's email in the textbox.

1.15 Alternative contact phone

Enter the alternative contact's phone number in the textbox.

1.16 Authorized Certifying Official first name (if different than Primary Contact)

A response to this question (and subsequent questions related to Authorized Certifying Official) is required if the Authorized Certifying Official is a different individual than the Primary Contact. The Authorized Certifying Official must have the authority to sign documents on behalf of the applicant and is typically an officer or official of the entity. If the Authorized Certifying Official is different from the Primary Contact, provide the first name of the Authorized Certifying Official in the textbox.

1.17 Authorized Certifying Official last name (if different than Primary Contact)

If applicable, provide the last name of the Authorized Certifying Official in the textbox.

1.18 Authorized Certifying Official contact email

If applicable, provide the Authorized Certifying Official's email in the textbox.

1.19 Authorized Certifying Official contact phone

If applicable, provide the Authorized Certifying Official's phone number in the textbox.

Section 2: Financial Capability

Applicants will be expected to demonstrate financial expertise, capabilities, and available resources to meet program requirements and successfully complete a funded project.

2.1* Does the applicant have unqualified, qualified, or no financial statements audited by an independent certified public accountant from the prior fiscal year?

Select one of the following three options: "Unqualified audited statements," "Qualified audited statements," or "No audited financial statements." Applicants may submit financial statements from the 2023 or 2024 fiscal year.

Applicants who select "Unqualified audited statements" will proceed to 2.1A, applicants who select "Qualified audited statements" will proceed to 2.1B, and applicants who select "No audited financial statements" will proceed to 2.1C.

An unqualified financial statement is a statement that "present[s] fairly, in all material respects, the financial position and the results of the entity's operations in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles."[8]

A qualified audited financial statement is a statement that presents fairly the financial position and results of an entity's operations in conformity with generally accepted U.S. accounting principles, apart from the circumstances necessitating the qualification.

2.1A* Upload unqualified audited financial statements.

A response to this question is required if the answer to 2.1 is "1. Unqualified audited statements." Uploads must be in PDF format. Applicants will proceed directly to 2.2 after providing the requested materials.

2.1B* If the prior fiscal year's unqualified audited financial statements are not available because the audited financial statements contain qualifications, the applicant must submit qualified audited financial statements from the prior fiscal year.

A response to this question is required if the answer to 2.1 is "2. Qualified audited statements." This question should only be answered by applicants who prepare financial statements in the ordinary course of business but whose audit for the current fiscal year contains qualifications. Applicants may submit financial statements from the 2023 or 2024 fiscal year.

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[8] "Office of Justice Programs Annual Financial Statement - Fiscal Year 2008," U.S. Department of Justice: Office of the Inspector General, March 2009, https://oig.justice.gov/reports/OJP/a0917.htm.

Upload qualified audited financial statements from the prior fiscal year that contain substantially the same level of information as audited statements and audited financial statements from the year before. If the financial statements from the year before are qualified, the CPUC will follow up with the applicant.

Uploads must be in PDF format. After completing this step, proceed to 2.1Bi.

2.1Bi* Upload a description and explanation of the qualification, the reason for the qualification, and measures taken by the company to address the qualification, if applicable.

A response to this question is required if the answer to 2.1 is "2. Qualified audited statements."

Upload an explanation as to why unqualified statements were unavailable and the measures taken to address the qualifications. Uploads must be in PDF format.

Applicants will proceed directly to 2.2 after providing the requested materials.

2.1C* If the applicant does not prepare audited financial statements in the ordinary course of business, the applicant must upload a description of the circumstances and reasons for the lack of audited financials.

A response to this question is required if the applicant's answer to 2.1 is "3. No audited financial statements." Upload a description of the circumstances and reasons for the lack of audited financials.

Uploads must be in PDF format. After completing this step, proceed to 2.1Ci.

2.1Ci* Provide financial statements from the prior fiscal year that contain substantially the same level of detail and information as would audited financial statements.

A response to this question is required if the applicant's answer to 2.1 is "3. No audited financial statements." Upload financial statements from the prior fiscal year that contain substantially the same level of detail and information as would audited financial statements. Applicants may submit financial statements from the 2023 or 2024 fiscal year.

Uploads must be in PDF format. After completing this step, proceed to 2.1Cii.

2.1D* Is the applicant a public entity?

Answer "Yes" or "No." A response to this question is required if the answer to 2.1 is "No audited financial statements." If the answer is "Yes," proceed to questions 2.1E through 2.1Eii. Otherwise proceed to question 2.1Di.

2.1Di* Certify that the applicant will submit audited financials within 12 weeks of submitting its project application.

A response to this question is required if the applicant's answer to 2.1D is "No." Select the checkbox. Applicants who do not submit audited financials during the prequalification process will be required to respond to an additional revision request within the application portal before funds are formally committed.

2.1E* If the applicant is a public entity and does not prepare audited financial statements, applicant must submit relevant and applicable financial documentation that provides substantially similar information to substantiate the applicant's financial qualifications and capabilities to participate in the program.

A response to this question is required if the answer to 2.1D is "Yes."

Upload relevant and applicable financial documentation that provides substantially similar information to substantiate the applicant's financial qualifications and capabilities to participate in the program. Applicants may submit financial statements from the 2023 or 2024 fiscal year. Uploads must be in PDF format. Applicants can upload more than one file.

2.1Ei* Certify that the financial documentation is a true and accurate representation.

A response to this question is required if the answer to 2.1D is "Yes.". Select the checkbox.

2.1Eii* Upload a narrative explanation of the financial documentation.

A response to this question is required if the answer to 2.1D is "Yes.". Upload a narrative explanation of the financial documentation supplied in 2.1E. Uploads must be in PDF format.

2.1F* Certify that the applicant has the necessary financial qualifications, capabilities, and resources to comply with all program requirements and successfully participate in the program.

Select the checkbox.

2.2* Certify that the applicant 1) is aware of and understands the letter of credit (LOC) or performance bond obligations and processes for the BEAD Program, and 2) has the qualifications and resources to obtain: a) the required Letter of Credit (25%) and Letter of Commitment or b) Performance Bond (100%) with a letter

committing to issue a performance bond to the applicant from a company holding a certificate of authority as an acceptable surety on federal bonds.

Select the checkbox. For more information, see the NTIA notice regarding the BEAD Letter of Credit Waiver.

2.3* Provide a narrative description of processes in place to conduct funding activities in compliance with federal and state laws, including descriptions and documentation of procurement practices (if applicable).

Provide a narrative description of processes in place to conduct funding activities in compliance with federal and state laws. If applicable, provide descriptions and documentation of procurement practices.

Uploads must be in PDF format. Applicants can upload more than file.

2.3A Provide an explanation of any special circumstances or considerations that may prevent compliance with specific applicable laws.

Provide an explanation of any special circumstances or considerations that may prevent compliance with specific applicable laws.

Uploads must be in PDF format. Applicants can upload more than file.

Section 3: Management and Organizational Capability

Applicants will be expected to show comprehensive and robust managerial capabilities and a commitment to long-term success of the project through stable leadership, continued process improvements, and ongoing commitment of resources.

Applicants that are deemed to fail any of the requirements mentioned below may be asked to re-submit required documentation. If applicants ultimately fail to provide documentation that meets the standards outlined below, the applicant will be ineligible to receive any BEAD funding as part of the CPUC's subgrantee selection process.

3.1* Please upload *one* file containing a one-page resume for each essential financial, technical, and managerial key personnel and a narrative explaining the role this person is expected to play as part of a BEAD-funded project. Each person must have at least five years of experience in the same or similar role within the communications industry, and have the demonstrated experience, skills, and authority to successfully fulfill the obligations of the role.

Resumes should include management personnel in roles such as officers and directors of the organization, executive level management, financial planning and strategy, technical design, risk management, equipment procurement, operations, and planning. Key personnel may include the organization's Chief Technology Officer, project engineer, and, if the subgrantee anticipates using a contracted workforce for any part of their proposed project, the relevant management personnel who will be responsible for overseeing any contracted labor or other organizations, among other key personnel.

Personally Identifiable Information, such as addresses, phone numbers, e-mails, and personal hobbies and activities, should be removed from resumes before submission in accordance with applicable federal and state law.

Upload the requested file to the portal. Only one file may be uploaded. The upload must be in PDF format.

3.1A* Provide a detailed description of the applicant's managerial approach including the roles and responsibilities held by the individuals identified as key personnel in response to Question 3.1.

Also describe plans to maintain sufficient levels of management resources throughout the project period, including any planned training, retention programs, and recruitment initiatives.

Enter the response in the textbox (3,000 characters maximum).

3.2* **Please upload detailed organizational chart(s) of the organization's structure, key management personnel, and relevant operational teams. These charts will also provide information regarding the organization's parent company and affiliates, if any. The organizational charts are expected to correspond to the key personnel provided in section 3.1 and relevant operational teams.**

Applicants can upload more than one file in any of several formats: PDF, DOCX, ODF, or XLSX.

3.2A* **Please provide a description covering any recent or expected changes to the organization's structure, processes, or planning that may impact BEAD project operations. If not applicable, input, "There are no recent or expected changes to the organization's structure, processes, or planning that may impact BEAD project operations."**

Enter the response in the textbox.

3.3* **Please use the "Past Performance and Experience" template to provide evidence detailing the applicant's experience designing and constructing broadband infrastructure projects of similar size and scope and its experience with operating networks to offer last-mile services. This description should reference the key management personnel referenced in section 3.1 as well as the experience and expertise of the technical teams the organizations will use to design, permit, construct, and operate the proposed project. If the applicant has no experience designing and constructing broadband infrastructure projects of similar size and scope or experience with operating networks to offer last-mile services, state, "No past experience," in cell B4.**

Upload the "Past performance and experience" template, which is an XLSX file.

3.3A* **Use the "Other Public Funding" template to submit a list of all of the applicant's broadband deployment projects that have received or are expected to receive public funding (both state and federal). Include projects for which the applicant has applied or intends to apply and publicly funded broadband deployment projects conducted or planned by the applicant's parent company or any affiliates.**

These projects could be, but do not necessarily have to be, associated with programs in the following list of relevant federal and state statutes:

- **Families First Coronavirus Response Act (Public Law 116-127; 134 Stat. 178)**
- **CARES Act (Public Law 116-136; 134 Stat. 281)**
- **Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Public Law 116-260; 134 Stat. 1182)**

- **American Rescue Plan of 2021 (Public Law 117-2; 135 Stat. 4)**
- **Any federal Universal Service Fund high-cost program (e.g., RDOF, CAF)**
- **Any CPUC broadband grant program and any state or local universal service or broadband deployment funding program (e.g., FFA, CASF).**

If the applicant has no broadband deployment projects that have received or are expected to receive public funding (both state and federal), state, "No other public funding," in cell B5.

Upload the "Other Public Funding" template, which is an XLSX file.

3.3B* Use the "Service Pricing in Non-Grant-Funded Areas" template to submit the current pricing of products or services that applicant offers in non-grant-funded areas that are analogous to those products that applicant expects to offer as part of a BEAD funded project; please include speeds, rates, and any terms of service including ETFs or data caps. If the applicant does not offer products or services in non-grant-funded areas that are analogous to those products that applicant expects to offer as part of a BEAD funded project, state, "No service pricing in non-grant funded areas," in cell B5.

Upload the "Service Pricing in Non-Grant-Funded Areas" template, which is an XLSX file.

3.4* Certify that the applicant possesses the operational expertise, capabilities, and resources to successfully complete and operate a BEAD-funded project.

Select the checkbox.

3.4A* Does the applicant, or its parent company, possess at least two years of experience providing voice, broadband, or electric transmission or distribution service to end users?

 "Yes" or "No." If "Yes," proceed to 3.4B. Otherwise proceed to questions 3.4Bi through 3.4Biii.

3.4B* Certify that the applicant, or its parent company, possesses at least two consecutive years of experience providing voice, broadband, or electric transmission or distribution service to end users. New entrant applicants with less than two years of experience will still be able to qualify after answering additional questions.

A response to this question is required only from those applicants who answered "Yes" to 3.4A. Select the checkbox.

If the answer is "No," proceed to 3.4Bi. If the answer is "Yes," go to 3.4C.

3.4Bi* Provide a narrative demonstrating that the applicant has obtained, through internal or external resources, sufficient operational capabilities to successfully complete and operate a BEAD-funded project in compliance with program requirements. Such evidence may include resumes from key personnel, project descriptions and narratives from contractors, subcontractors, or other partners with relevant operational experience, or other comparable evidence.

Such documentation could also include additional operational or financial reports that the electric service provider or new entrant may have originally submitted to a financial institution or applicable regulatory agency. These additional reports must be accompanied by a certification from an officer or director of the organization that they are true and correct copies of the reports originally provided to the financial institution or regulatory agency.

Electric service providers and new entrants may provide documentation of plans to acquire additional resources to increase the organizations' organizational capabilities, including third-party contractors and partners with relevant operational expertise, to the extent that they cannot demonstrate that they have already acquired those capabilities.

Applicants must answer if they answered "no" to 3.4A—meaning that the applicant, or its parent company, does not possess at least two years of experience providing voice, broadband, or electric transmission or distribution service to end users. Applicants can upload more than one file in any of several formats: PDF, DOCX, ODF, or XLSX.

3.4Bii* Provide qualified operating or financial reports filed with the relevant financial institution for the relevant time period.

Applicants must answer if they answered "no" to 3.4A—meaning that the applicant, or its parent company, does not possess at least two years of experience providing voice, broadband, or electric transmission or distribution service to end users. The upload must be in PDF format. Upload a single file.

3.4Biii* Certify that the submitted operating or financial reports are a true and accurate copy of the reports that were provided to the relevant financial institution.

Applicants must answer if they answered "no" to 3.4A—meaning that the applicant, or its parent company, does not possess at least two years of experience providing voice, broadband, or electric transmission or distribution service to end users. Select the checkbox.

3.4C* How many years of experience does the applicant (or its parent company) have providing voice, broadband, or electric transmission or distribution service to end users?

Enter a whole number. Enter "0" if the applicant or its parent company has no experience providing voice, broadband, or electric transmission or distribution service to end users.

3.4D If the applicant is referencing operations in other states to demonstrate operational capabilities, provide a list or chart describing operations providing voice, broadband, and/or electric transmission in other states. The list must include licensing and certification identifiers, years of operating experience, and descriptions of the services provided in each state either by the organization directly or by its affiliates and parent organization.

A response is only required if the applicant is referencing operations in other states to demonstrate operational capabilities.

Applicants can upload more than one file in any of several formats: PDF, DOCX, ODF, or XLSX.

3.4E* Provide a narrative description of the applicant's experience, resources, and readiness to provide the required service offerings, level of service, and maintenance over the completed network. Describe plans to maintain a sufficient level of management resources through training, retention, and recruitment activities to support service delivery efforts throughout the federal interest period.

Enter the response in the textbox.

3.5* Certify the applicant is fully and properly licensed in California to conduct funded activities and comply with all post-award activities.

Select the checkbox.

3.5A* Provide a list of the business and technical certifications and licenses that will be relevant to the applicant's participation in the BEAD Program that it holds nationally and in California. This should include certifications and licenses held by key technical personnel as well as those held by the organization. The list will be required to include unique identifiers and license numbers to allow the CPUC to validate the reported data.

Applicants can upload more than one file in any of several formats: PDF, DOCX, ODF, or XLSX. Applicants should include any certifications and licenses that indicate the

organization has the operational capacity to successfully deploy a broadband project. See the IPv2 section 5.12.3.2, (p. 66) for more information.

3.5B* Certify that the applicant has processes and resources in place to employ an appropriately skilled and credentialed workforce and that key technical personnel and technical team members are current on all required training, licensing, and license renewals.

Select the checkbox.

3.6* Provide descriptions of workforce training and certification programs the applicant relies on, or expects to rely on, to support a continued commitment to a highly skilled and trained workforce. These programs should include certified apprenticeship programs, community college curricula, and for-profit certification programs, programs offered by trade and labor unions, as well as industry-sponsored programs.

Enter the response in the textbox.

3.7* Provide a certification from an officer or director that:

1) **The applicant has a cybersecurity risk management plan (the plan) in place that is either: (a) operational, if the applicant is providing service prior to the award of the grant; or (b) ready to be operationalized upon providing service, if the applicant is not yet providing service prior to the grant award,**
2) **The plan reflects the latest version of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Framework for Improving Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity, and the standards and controls set forth in Executive Order 14028 and specifies the security and privacy controls being implemented,**
3) **The plan will be reevaluated and updated on a periodic basis and as events warrant, and**
4) **The plan will be submitted to the CPUC prior to the allocation of funds. If the applicant makes any substantive changes to the plan, a new version will be submitted to the CPUC within 30 days.**

Select the checkbox.

3.7A* Provide a timeline for how frequently the cybersecurity risk management plan will be reevaluated and updated.

Enter the response in the textbox (100 characters maximum). Your timeline should use months and years as the units of time.

3.8* Provide a certification from an officer or director that:

1) **The applicant has a Supply Chain Risk Management (SCRM) plan in place that is either: (a) operational, if the applicant is already providing service at the time of the grant; or (b) ready to be operationalized, if the applicant is not yet providing service at the time of grant award**

2) **The SCRM plan is based upon the key practices discussed in the NIST publication NISTIR 8276, Key Practices in Cyber Supply Chain Risk Management: Observations from Industry and related SCRM guidance from NIST, including NIST 800-161, Cybersecurity Supply Chain Risk Management Practices for Systems and Organizations and specifies the supply chain risk management controls being implemented**

3) **The SCRM plan will be reevaluated and updated on a periodic basis and as events warrant, and**

4) **The SCRM plan will be submitted to the CPUC prior to the allocation of funds. If the applicant makes any substantive changes to the plan, a new version will be submitted to the CPUC within 30 days. Please take note that, if the applicant becomes a subgrantee, the CPUC must provide a subgrantee's plan to NTIA upon NTIA's request.**

Select the checkbox.

3.8A* Provide a timeline for how frequently the SCRM plan will be reevaluated and updated.

Enter the response in the textbox (100 characters maximum). Your timeline should use months and years as the units of time.

3.9* The applicant certifies that it understands that for any applications that include projects on Tribal lands, a formal Resolution of Consent or other formal form of consent consistent with the applicable Tribe's governing structure from the applicable Tribal government will be a required element of the review to be determined to be a presumptive awardee and must be submitted with the Project Application. In limited circumstances, the CPUC may consider and score an application for deployment on Tribal lands where no Resolution of Consent has yet been provided if substantial evidence of meaningful and sustained consultation with the Tribal government is provided, but a formal Resolution of Consent must be submitted to the CPUC before funds may be formally committed. In the event that a presumptive awardee cannot provide documentation of support and approval from

Tribal authorities, the CPUC will use the Negotiation Phase to engage with other applicants and/or to meet with Tribal authorities to understand their preferences.

Select the checkbox.

3.10* The CPUC will require all prospective subgrantees to provide:

- **A low-cost service option available to all households with income equal to or below 200 percent of the federal poverty line and/or that meet the eligibility requirements of the federal Affordable Connectivity Program at a cost of $30 per month or less (or $75 per month or less on Tribal lands), inclusive of all government taxes and fees, for a plan offering speeds of 100/20 Mbps**
- **A Middle Class Affordable Service Option (MCASO) to all end-users at a cost of no more than $84 per month, inclusive of all fees and charges, for a plan offering speeds of 100/20 Mbps**

All applicants will be required to provide a low-cost service option and MCASO, but applicants are permitted to submit requests for a modification of these mandatory service options within specified parameters if they can provide acceptable evidence attesting to the infeasibility of the required service option.

Does the applicant plan to provide a low-cost service option and MCASO at the prices specified above and in compliance with the requirements in California's Initial Proposal Volume 2?

Select "Yes" or "No." If "Yes," proceed to 4.1. If "No," proceed to 3.10A.

3.10A* Does the applicant plan on submitting a request to modify the low-cost service option? Applicants will submit requests for modifications and supporting evidence in the project application.

A response is required only if the applicant answered "No" to 3.10. Select "Yes" or "No."

3.10B* Does the applicant plan on submitting a request to modify the middle-class affordable service option? Applicants will submit requests for modifications and supporting evidence in the project application.

A response is required only if the applicant answered "No" to 3.10. Select "Yes" or "No."

Section 4: Compliance with Applicable Laws

Applicants must demonstrate awareness and understanding of all applicable state and federal laws and the qualifications and resources to perform BEAD-related commitments in compliance with all applicable laws. Applicants are also expected to provide a full and complete picture of corporate ownership and structure to demonstrate who is being entrusted with BEAD funding to ensure an efficient and effective use of funds that benefits the largest number of end users.

4.1* Certify under penalty of perjury and Rule 1.1 of the CPUC's Rules of Practice and Procedure that the applicant's organization is aware of and will comply with the federal and State laws applicable to BEAD-funded broadband deployment projects and that the organization possesses the qualifications and resources to perform BEAD-related commitments in compliance with all applicable federal and State laws.

Select the checkbox.

4.1A* Detail any applicable federal and State law violations or pending court proceedings. Type "N/A" if not applicable.

Enter the response in the textbox.

4.2* Certify that the applicant understands and will comply with all Environmental and Historical Preservation (EHP) requirements, including the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), and requirements of the California State Historic Preservation Office, as applicable.

Select the checkbox. For more details, see the [BEAD NOFO](#).

4.2A Certify that the applicant has no history of failure to comply with EHP requirements.

Note: Subgrantees awarded BEAD funds will be required to re-certify their compliance on a semiannual basis for the duration of the BEAD implementation period.

If the applicant can certify, select "I certify" and proceed to 4.2B If the applicant cannot certify, select "I do not certify" and proceed to 4.2Ai.

4.2Ai If the applicant cannot certify a track record of full compliance, provide a detailed narrative and documentation regarding your histories of challenges or noncompliance.

A response to this question is required only from applicants who could not certify 4.2A. The upload must be in PDF format. Upload a single file.

4.2B* Indicate that the applicant understands and will comply with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and describe how the applicant has begun compliance efforts. The narrative must address specific requirements and discuss the applicant's plans to mitigate significant environmental impacts, or potential impacts, during their participation in the program.

The narrative must address specific requirements and discuss the applicant's plans to mitigate the impact of any noncompliance on its participation in the program. Please also include a discussion indicating that the applicant understands California's CEQA requirements and describing how the applicant has begun efforts to determine compliance. The CPUC has posted relevant resources on the [California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) website](#).

4.3* Certify that the applicant understands and will comply with the Build America, Buy America Act (BABA) requirements as outlined in the BEAD NOFO and Section 9 of the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019 (47 U.S.C. § 1608) (see the regularly updated "List of Equipment and Services Covered By Section 2 of The Secure Networks Act," FCC, https://www.fcc.gov/supplychain/coveredlist). The applicant should review all BABA requirements as well as the limited general applicability nonavailability waiver of certain BABA requirements for the BEAD Program, which can be found at https://www.commerce.gov/sites/default/files/2024-02/BABA%20Waiver%20Signed.pdf.

Select the checkbox.

4.3A The applicant certifies that it has no history of failure to comply with applicable BABA requirements.

If the applicant can certify, select "I certify" and proceed to 4.4. If the applicant cannot certify, select "I do not certify" and proceed to 4.3Ai.

4.3Ai If the applicant cannot certify a track record of full compliance, provide a detailed narrative and documentation regarding your history of challenges or noncompliance.

A response to this question is required only from applicants who could not certify 4.3A. The upload must be in PDF format. Upload a single file.

4.4* Certify that the applicant will permit workers to create worker-led health and safety committees that are authorized to raise health and safety concerns in connection with the delivery of deployment projects; that management will meet with these committees upon reasonable request; and that the applicant will require the same from its contractors and subcontractors for BEAD-related work. The applicant also certifies that it will recertify this annually for the duration of the BEAD implementation period.

Select the checkbox.

4.4A* Certify that applicant has or will have a process in place to monitor and support compliance with specific state and federal safety regulations applicable to work on BEAD Program projects, including federal Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA), California's equivalent OSHA regulations, and related state and federal regulations.

Select the checkbox.

4.4B* Provide documentation of the applicant's policies and practices regarding compliance with health and safety laws and regulations.

The upload must be in PDF format. You may upload more than one file.

4.5* Has the applicant provided a voice and/or broadband service for at least two years?

Select "Yes" or "No." If "Yes," go to 4.5A. If "No," go to 4.6.

4.5A* Certify that the applicant has timely filed FCC Form 477s and Broadband DATA Act submissions, if applicable, as required during this time period, and otherwise has complied with FCC requirements including the FCC Broadband Data Collection process and has complied with CPUC requirements regarding broadband data collection and mapping.

A response to this question is required only from applicants who answered "Yes" to 4.5. If the applicant can certify, select "I certify" and proceed to 4.6. If the applicant cannot certify, select "I do not certify" and proceed to 4.5Ai.

4.5Ai* **If the applicant previously provided a voice and/or broadband service for at least two years, but has not complied, or is accused of failing to comply, with the FCC's rules and regulations, please provide a narrative explanation of any pending or completed enforcement action, litigation, or other action regarding said non-compliance and provide a description of any efforts to cure the noncompliance or violation.**

A response to this question is required only from applicants who are unable to certify 4.5A. Enter the response in the textbox.

4.6* **Using the "Ownership Information" template please submit the relevant ownership information, as required by 47 C.F.R. § 1.2112(a)(1)-(7). The showing should reference and correspond to the organizational charts, identification of executive leadership, and financial statements provided in other elements of the application.**

Upload the completed "Ownership Information" template. Upload the template in PDF format.

4.6A* **Are there any discrepancies between the information provided in this application and the information provided by the applicant to the FCC in compliance with 47 C.F.R. § 1.2112(a)(1)-(7) and/or submitted to the State of California for relevant business licensing requirements?**

Select "Yes" or "No." If "No," proceed to 4.6B. If "Yes," proceed to 4.6Ai.

4.6Ai* **If yes, identify and explain any discrepancies or inconsistencies in the reported ownership and corporate structure information between the information reported to the FCC and/or the State of California and the information submitted as part of this application.**

A response to this question is required only from applicants who answered "Yes" to 4.6A. Enter the response in the textbox.

4.6B* **Certify for the applicant and all partners that there is no collusion, bias, or conflict of interest pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 1.2105(a).**

Select the checkbox.

4.6C* **Provide the necessary ownership and partnership disclosures pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 1.2105(a).**

Upload as many files as needed. All files must be in PDF format.

4.6D* Certify that the applicant will not engage in prohibited communications as defined in 47 C.F.R. § 1.2105 starting from the date of submission of the prequalification application until final award. (For more details, see: https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-47/chapter-I/subchapter-A/part-1/subpart-Q#1.2105.)

Select the checkbox.

Section 5: Fair Labor Practices

Applicants must demonstrate a history of prior compliance and a plan for future compliance with federal and state labor and employment law, as well as a commitment to programs that will develop a robust, diverse, and highly trained and skilled workforce.

5.1* Does the applicant, and any contractors or subcontractors, have a history of compliance with federal and state labor and employment and unfair trade practices laws during the preceding three years, such as the Occupational Safety and Health Act, the Fair Labor Standards Act, or any other applicable labor and employment laws?

Select "Yes" or "No." Applicants who answer "Yes" proceed to 5.1A. Applicants who answer "No" proceed to 5.1B.

5.1A* If yes, certify that applicant, as well as its contractors and subcontractors, have not been found to have violated laws such as the Occupational Safety and Health Act, the Fair Labor Standards Act, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and relevant safety standards as determined by the CPUC including the National Electrical Safety Code, California state labor and employment laws, or any other applicable labor and employment laws for the preceding three years.

Select the checkbox. A response to this question is required only from applicants who answered "Yes" to 5.1. Select "Yes" or "No."

Applicants who answer "Yes" proceed to 5.1B. Applicants who answer "No" proceed to 5.2.

5.1B* If no, please document any history and findings of violations by applicant, or any of its planned contractors or subcontractors, of federal and state labor and employment laws for the prior three years.

Please also include discussion of any steps taken to mitigate the impact of those violations on workers.

A response to this question is required only from applicants who answered "No" to 5.1A. Upload as many files as needed. All files must be in PDF format.

5.2* Does the applicant or any of its partners, planned contractors, or subcontractors qualify as a minority-owned enterprise, women-owned enterprise, or a Labor Surplus Firm?

Select "Yes" or "No."

Applicants who answer "Yes" proceed to 5.2A. Applicants who answer "No" proceed to 5.3.

5.2A* If yes, please identify the program the applicant, partners, contractors, or subcontractors qualifies under, the designation, and any unique identifier. The CPUC will accept documentation from its own Supplier Diversity Program or from other California state and local government agencies.

Applicants must answer this question only if, in 5.2, they stated that they, any partners, and/or any planned contractors or subcontractors qualify as a minority-owned enterprise, women-owned enterprise, or a Labor Surplus Firm. Upload as many files as needed. All files must be in PDF format.

5.3* Certify that the applicant, its contractors, and its proposed contractors and subcontractors have existing labor and employment practices in place and that the applicant will recertify this annually for the duration of the BEAD implementation period.

Select the checkbox.

5.3A* Provide information including applicable wage scales and wage and overtime payment practices for each class of employees expected to be involved directly in the physical construction of the network.

Upload as many files as needed. All files must be in PDF format.

5.3B* Please provide a narrative that includes discussion of the following as described in California's BEAD [Initial Proposal Volume 2](#)**:**

(1) Discussion of the applicant's workforce plan, including information on training and safety, job quality, local hire and targeted hire preferences, accountability and subcontracting practices, and ongoing operational workforce capacity.

(2) Discussion of current and planned future practices regarding using a directly employed workforce, robust in-house training, wages and benefits, and a locally based workforce.

(3) Current and planned future practices regarding public disclosure of workforce plans and labor commitments on a website or online portal.

(4) Discussion of job quality considerations as part of the applicant's workforce development strategies.

(5) Discussion of track record and commitment to maintaining high standards of workplace safety practices, training certification or licensure for all relevant workers, and compliance with state and federal workplace protections.

(6) Discussion of whether the construction workforce will be directly employed or subcontracted, the anticipated size of the workforce required to carry out the proposed work, a description of plans to maximize use of local or regional workforce, and a description of the expected workplace safety standards and training to ensure the project is completed at a high standard.

Upload as many files as needed. All files must be in PDF format.

Section 6: Technical Capabilities

The CPUC will require applicants to submit materials to support their technical capabilities during both the Prequalification Phase. All documentation will be reviewed by qualified personnel and evaluated on a pass/fail basis.

6.1* Certify that the applicant is technically qualified to complete and operate a broadband network and that it is capable of carrying out BEAD-funded activities in a competent manner.

Select the checkbox.

6.2* If not submitted as part of the managerial capability requirements, the applicant must provide the resumes of an employed Chief Technology Officer (or equivalent) and a contractor oversight team with the relevant certifications (both management and non-management) for deployment projects as mandated by state and federal law.

If submitted as part of the managerial capability requirements, upload a document stating, "The resumes of an employed Chief Technology Officer (or equivalent) and a contractor oversight team with the relevant certifications (both management and non-management) for deployment projects as mandated by state and federal law were submitted as part of the managerial capability requirements."

Upload a single file in PDF format.

6.3* Certify that if the applicant chooses to contract resources, all contracted resources will have the relevant and necessary skills.

Select the checkbox.

6.4* Enter the applicant's total number of subscribers in California as of December 2024.

Enter a whole number.

6.4A* Enter the applicant's total number of subscribers outside California as of December 2024.

Enter a whole number.

Section 7: Risk Management

The following questions will not be used to score project applications. Responses will not disqualify any application.

7.1* Has the applicant previously received funds from the CPUC (for state-supported programs) or federal funds (for federal-supported programs)?

Select "Yes," "No," or "N/A."

7.2* Does the applicant receive 25% or more of its total funding through federal/state awards?

Select "Yes," "No," or "N/A."

7.3* If the applicant, or its affiliates, previously received funds from the CPUC, did the applicant return more than 10% of its grant allocation to the CPUC at the completion of the project?

Select "Yes," "No," or "N/A."

7.4* Has the applicant ever been subject to recoupment of payments under any federal/state grant?

Select "Yes," "No," or "N/A."

7.5* Does the applicant have adequate financing available to support this project?

Select "Yes," "No," or "N/A."

7.6* Is the applicant required to conduct an annual audit or does the applicant otherwise conduct an audit at least annually?

Select "Yes," "No," or "N/A."

7.7* Does the applicant have a financial management system in place to track and record expenditures for the program?

Select "Yes," "No," or "N/A."

7.8* Does the applicant have a records management and retention system that allows for the preparation of required reports and tracing of funds to each program?

Select "Yes," "No," or "N/A."

7.9* **Does the applicant have a property management system to track and record the acquisition and use of real property, equipment, and supplies?**

Select "Yes," "No," or "N/A."

7.10* **Does the applicant have policies and procedures in place to obtain insurance for real property and equipment it acquires, including through self-insurance?**

Select "Yes," "No," or "N/A."

7.11* **Does the applicant have policies and procedures in place to prevent the procurement and use of prohibited covered telecommunications and video surveillance services or equipment?**

Select "Yes," "No," or "N/A."

7.12* **Does the applicant have policies and procedures in place to obtain required permits and comply with environmental, historic preservation, and other land use requirements?**

Select "Yes," "No," or "N/A."

7.13* **Does the applicant have established effective procedures and internal controls that provide safeguards and reasonable assurances that the award will be managed in compliance with applicable law and the terms and conditions of the award?**

Select "Yes," "No," or "N/A."

7.14* **Does the applicant have a time and accounting system to identify time and expenses associated with the project? (Each project must be able to be tracked separately.)**

Select "Yes," "No," or "N/A."

7.15* **Is the applicant required to provide a budget or annual financial report to an appropriate oversight group (e.g., committee, board members, stockholders, etc.)?**

Select "Yes," "No," or "N/A."

7.16* **Does the applicant owe any money to any division of the state or to the federal government under any program where it has not arranged a repayment plan?**

Select "Yes," "No," or "N/A."

7.17* Has a petition been filed with respect to the applicant or its affiliates under the Bankruptcy Code in the past five years?

Select "Yes," "No," or "N/A."

7.18* Does the applicant have policies and procedures in place to allow employees to report potential noncompliance and/or waste, fraud, and abuse potentially affecting the federal award?

Select "Yes," "No," or "N/A."

7.19* Does the applicant plan to assign staff to the project that have worked with the business for less than one year?

Select "Yes," "No," or "N/A."

7.20* Does the applicant receive proceeds directly from any federal awarding agency?

Select "Yes," "No," or "N/A."

7.21* Has the applicant received monitoring for any federal/state dollars awarded?

Select "Yes," "No," or "N/A." Applicants answering "Yes" proceed to 7.21A. Applicants answering "No" or "N/A" proceed to 7.22.

7.21A* If yes, were any findings cited during monitoring?

A response to this question is required only from applicants who answered "Yes" to 7.21. Select "Yes," "No," or "N/A."

7.21B* Is the applicant on a corrective action plan from monitoring?

A response to this question is required only from applicants who answered "Yes" to 7.21. Select "Yes," "No," or "N/A."

7.21C* Does the applicant have any unresolved questioned costs or finding of fiscal inadequacy as a result of project monitoring?

A response to this question is required only from applicants who answered "Yes" to 7.21. Select "Yes," "No," or "N/A."

7.22* Has the applicant ever been found to have violated federal, state, or local labor, nondiscrimination, or equal employment opportunity laws?

Select "Yes," "No," or "N/A."

7.23* Has the applicant currently or previously been suspended or debarred by any federal/state agency?

Select "Yes," "No," or "N/A."

7.24* Has the applicant settled a debt with a lending institution for less than the full amount outstanding?

Select "Yes," "No," or "N/A."

7.25* Does the applicant have any outstanding judgments or liens pending against it other than liens in the normal course of business?

Select "Yes," "No," or "N/A."

7.26* Has the applicant or one of its affiliates defaulted on any previous non-BEAD grant awards including awards from the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF)?

Select "Yes," "No," or "N/A."

Section 8: Confidentiality and Certification

Confidentiality

Confidentiality 1: Does your application contain information for which you are requesting confidentiality protection pursuant to CPUC General Order 66-D? *

Select "Yes," or "No." If Yes, proceed to the confidentiality declarations. If "No," proceed to the application certification questions.

Confidentiality 2: Any person or entity wishing to submit or file materials with a claim of confidentiality should follow the procedures set forth in CPUC General Order 66-D. Casual claims of confidentiality are not accepted. The CPUC looks with disfavor on claims of confidentiality for entire documents. When a claim of confidentiality is made, a public, redacted version of the document must also be submitted or filed.

Applicants cannot claim confidentiality for information required in the NTIA Final Proposal.

Using the provided template, upload your General Order 66-D confidentiality declarations and other documents supporting your confidentiality claims. *

A response to this question is required only from applicants who answered "Yes" to Confidentiality 1. To request confidentiality on specific questions, download the "Application Confidentiality" template and check the corresponding checkbox in the "Request for Confidentiality" column or enter "TRUE". Provide a clear and concise reason for the confidentiality request in the next column. If attaching supporting evidence, include the file name in the "Relevant Attachment" column.

Confidentiality 3: Unredacted files must be uploaded in response to the relevant question in the application. Redacted versions of the same file may optionally be uploaded in response to this question. The redacted file name should begin with "redacted_", followed by the same file name as the original upload.

A response to this question is required only from applicants who answered "Yes" to Confidentiality 1. Upload any relevant files, making sure the file name contains "redacted_".

Confidentiality 4: Applicants may optionally download a copy of their application, redact relevant answers or portions of answers in the copy, and upload the redacted copy in response to this question.

A response to this question is required only from applicants who answered "Yes" to Confidentiality 1. Upload the redacted copy in PDF format, making sure the file name contains "redacted_".

Certification

Do you attest, under penalty of perjury, that to the best of your knowledge all the information submitted, and statements and representations made in the application are true and correct. *

Select the checkbox.

Is the applicant a telephone corporation or non-telephone corporation as defined by the California Public Utilities code? *

A response to this question is required from all applicants. Choose "Telephone Corporation" or "Non-Telephone Corporation" and proceed to the next question.

The affidavit must be signed and notarized. Using the provided template, complete the telephone corporation affidavit and upload with your application. *

A response to this question is required only from applicants who answered "Telephone Corporation." Upload the signed and notarized "CPUC Certification" document in PDF format.

The affidavit must be signed and notarized. Using the provided template, complete the non-telephone corporation affidavit and upload with your application. *

A response to this question is required only from applicants who answered "Non-Telephone Corporation." Upload the signed and notarized "CPUC Certification" document in PDF format.

Section 9: Review and Submit

Applicants can review and download a copy of their responses before submitting to the CPUC.

Appendix A: Resource Links

Resource Name	URL
California BEAD Initial Proposal Volume I and Volume II	https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/beadprogram
BEAD NOFO	https://broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov/sites/default/files/2022-05/BEAD%20NOFO.pdf
2 C.F.R §25.300	https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-2/subtitle-A/chapter-I/part-25/subpart-C/section-25.300
47 C.F.R. § 1.2105	https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-47/chapter-I/subchapter-A/part-1/subpart-Q
2024 BEAD Program General Terms and Conditions	https://broadbandusa.ntia.gov/funding-programs/policies-waivers/BEAD_IPFR_GTC_April_2024
BEAD Letter of Credit Waiver	https://broadbandusa.ntia.gov/funding-programs/policies-waivers/BEAD-Letter-of-Credit-Waiver
Final BABA Waiver	https://www.commerce.gov/sites/default/files/2024-02/BABA%20Waiver%20Signed.pdf
Guidance on NTIA National Environmental Policy Act Compliance	https://broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov/sites/default/files/2024-04/Guidance_on_NTIA_NEPA_Compliance_April_2024.pdf
NTIA Permitting and Environmental Information Application	NTIA Permitting and Environmental Information Application
Office of Small Business and Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Services (OSDS)	https://www.dgs.ca.gov/PD-OSDS
Secure Networks Act, List of Equipment & Services	https://www.fcc.gov/supplychain/coveredlist
Supplier Clearinghouse Database	https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/about-cpuc/divisions/news-and-public-information-office/business-and-community-outreach/supplier-diversity-program/supplier-database

Prequalification Application Guide Version History

Version One

First version published March 11, 2025.

Version Two

Second version published March 24, 2025. Notable changes:

- Section 2: Specified that applicants may submit financial statements from the 2023 or 2024 fiscal year.
- Reordered question 2.1Di and updated branching logic.
- Added additional guidance to question 3.5A.