California Advanced Services Fund

Public Workshop
April 9, 2025

California Public
Utilities Commission

Agenda

10:00-10:10	Introduction, Welcome and CASF Program Highlights
10:10-10:20	Commissioner Darcie L. Houck, Opening Remarks
10:20-10:30	Director's Remarks
10:30-11:00	CASF Overview General Panel
11:00-12:00	Adoption and Public Housing Grantees - Success Stories & Best Practices
12:00-12:30	Lunch Break
12:30-1:00	CASF Rural and Urban Regional Broadband Consortia Panel
1:00-1:30	Alternative Broadband Grant Programs CPUC and California Department of Technology
1:30–2:00	Q&A
2:00 PM	Adjourn

Introduction, Welcome and CASF Program Highlights

Selena Huang
Program Manager

California Public Utilities Commission

CASF Key Highlights

CASF Account	In 2024		Since 2008	
	Total Projects	Total Awarded	Total Projects	Total Awarded
Infrastructure	5	$46,624,124	100	$344,621,327
Infrastructure Line Extension Program	0	$0	4	$2,071,101
Infrastructure Loan	0	$0	1	$40,997
Tribal Tech. Assistance	7	$1,471,900	74	$7,291,650
Consortia	0	$0	62	$29,063,200
Adoption	97	$11,006,616	498	$56,467,358
Pub. Housing	45	$3,433,236	539	$20,237,383
Total:	154	$62,535,876	1,278	$459,793,016

Opening Remarks

Commissioner Darcie L. Houck

Director's Remarks

Director for Broadband Initiatives
Maria Ellis

CASF General Overview Panel

- Broadband Adoption Account
- Rural and Urban Regional Broadband Consortia Account
- Public Housing Account
- Tribal Technical Assistance Program
- Broadband Infrastructure Grant Account
- Line Extension Program
- Broadband Mapping

Broadband Adoption Account

Bill Goedecke, Senior Regulatory Analyst

Adoption Account

Funding

$36.9M was authorized for fiscal year 2024-2025

July 2024 round funding

- $9.4M awarded for 55 projects projected to serve 35,358 participants

January 2025 round funding

- 74 proposed projects currently under review

Nex application window on July 1, 2025

Eligibility

- Local governments, senior centers, schools, public libraries, nonprofit organizations, and community-based organizations

- Project Types
  - Digital Literacy
  - Broadband Access
  - Broadband Call Centers

Broadband Adoption Account

Digital literacy projects funded through the Adoption Account program assist participants in becoming both digitally literate and fluent through short term training.

Broadband access projects increase access to reliable high-speed Internet in community institutions and other public locations.

Call Center projects promote and facilitate the adoption of broadband Internet services.

The intent of these projects is to increase broadband access and digital inclusion for California residents with a preference for programs and projects in communities with demonstrated low broadband access.

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County of Los Angeles, Internal Services Department (ISD) – Digital Navigator Program

The Digital Navigator Program as a community-centered approach to improving broadband adoption and digital literacy in neighborhoods adversely impacted by the digital divide.

ISD expects to train 7,500 participants and provide 2,000 devices.

Oakland Adult and Career Education (OAEC) - Digital Literacy Instruction

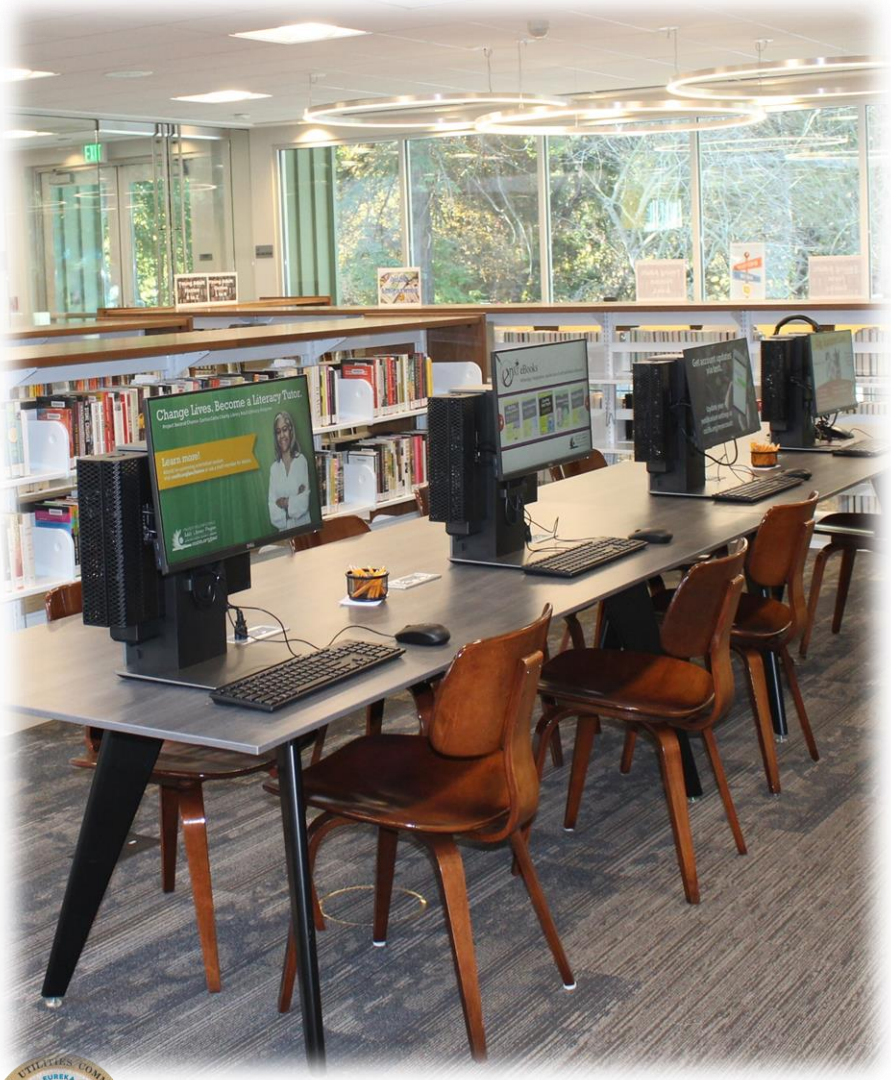
The OAEC established a mobile learning lab to provide in-person resources for digital literacy instructions to local communities in need.

OAEC expects to train 108 participants and provide 24 devices.

Binational of Central California - Digital Inclusion for Fresno and Madera Farm working Communities

(Location is in Mendota, CA) Binational provides comprehensive digital literacy training in prioritized zip codes throughout Fresno and Madera counties.

Binational expects to train 350 participants.



*Please refer to the **CASF Adoption Account website** for the following information (and much more):*

- Information on how and when to apply for funds
- The Adoption Account Guidelines (these Guidelines detail what can be funded and details program rules)

  https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/industries-and-topics/internet-and-phone/california-advanced-services-fund/casf-adoption-account

- Please email casf_adoption@cpuc.ca.gov with any questions regarding the Adoption Account

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CASF Rural & Urban Regional Broadband Consortia Account

Paul Schindler, Regulatory Analyst

California Public Utilities Commission

CASF Rural & Urban Regional Broadband Consortia Account Overview

Program Purpose: Facilitate broadband deployment through grants to regional consortia

Current Status: 15 active consortia grants (Resolution T-17778)

Program Scope: Since 2008, awarded over $29 million to 62 projects

Key Activities:

- Collaborate with CPUC, state agencies, ISPs, and local stakeholders
- Identify potential broadband infrastructure projects
- Assist applicants with project development and grant applications
- Conduct regional broadband needs assessments
- Support wireline testing volunteer recruitment

Goal: 98% broadband deployment in each consortia region

2024 Consortia Account Achievements

Financial Support: Disbursed $1.66 million to consortia grantees

Infrastructure Development:

- Multiple consortia supported CASF infrastructure applications
- Connected Capital Area identified 19 potential projects
- Gold Country Broadband Consortium identified 14 potential projects

Community Engagement:

- LA DEAL published 9 newsletters in 2024, that were distributed to over 1,400 stakeholder users.
- Gold Country Consortium developed web-based mapping tools to track grant applications, broadband projects, and analyzed speed test data to create heat maps identifying service gaps.

Regional Progress: Working toward 98% household access to 25/3 Mbps service

- 12 regions currently below 98% threshold
- 5 regions above 98% threshold

Consortia Account: 2025 Outlook

Program Enhancements:

- Developing staff proposal to update Consortia Account rules and guidelines
- Expanding opportunities to encourage Tribal participation and engagement
- Improving consistency in reporting across consortia regions
- Implementing State Controller Office's Audit recommendations

Continued Implementation:

- Supporting 15 active consortia grants
- Assisting with broadband projects related to SB 156 and AB 164
- Conducting quarterly office hours and technical claim assistance

Focus Areas:

- Encouraging Tribal participation and engagement in broadband initiative

Broadband Public Housing Account

Steven Oh, Telecom Engineer

Taylor Cheim, Analyst

Public Housing Account

The Broadband Public Housing Account funds grants and loans to finance projects to build broadband networks offering free broadband service for residents of low-income communities.

$30.1 million funding

- Assembly Bill (AB) 1299 established the account; extended by SB 745
- SB 156 made significant changes to the Broadband Public Housing Account rules and eligibility

Eligibility

- Publicly supported housing development
- Farmworker housing
- Tribal Housing
- Other housing developments
- Mobile home parks
- Census Block Group Projects (low-income)
- All projects must be CEQA Exempt

Project Types

- BPHA Infrastructure
- BPHA Internet Extension
  - The Commission will award grants to finance up to 100 percent of the costs to install last mile infrastructure, inside wiring and broadband network equipment but will not finance operations and maintenance costs through this program.

Funding Overview

BPHA INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

- All broadband networking equipment
- *But not personal computers, laptops, handheld or human interface devices.*
- Low voltage contracting work and
- *Major rehabilitation, demolition or construction work will not be funded.*
- Engineering and designing documentation
- Hardware warranty.
- Installation at the Minimum Point of Entry (MPOE)
- Taxes, shipping and insurance costs (if applicable)

Funding Overview

BPHA EXTENSION PROJECTS

- Project labor and materials, including design, permitting, installation, supervision, and telecommunications equipment.
  - Including but not limited to trenching, boring, backfill, cable, and conduits.
  - Wired and/or wireless installations and turning up service.

- Cost for all last mile infrastructure. (E.g., wired installations to interconnect from an MPOE to a middle mile network.)

- Cost of middle-mile infrastructure that is needed to achieve the last mile connection.

- Costs to lease access to property or for Internet backhaul services for a period not to exceed five years. *Operations and maintenance costs are not funded.*

Key changes to the Broadband Public Housing Account made by (D.) 24-03-021:

- Increased total project caps and per unit caps for ministerial review and approval
- Established eligibility for non-publicly supported housing developments including tribal, mobile homes and other housing developments
- Increased up to 100 percent of the costs to install last mile infrastructure, inside wiring and broadband network equipment but will not finance operations and maintenance costs
- Expanded project eligibility to include internet extension projects
- Expanded scope of costs eligible for reimbursement of interconnection and backhaul costs
- Provided tenant protections for applicants other than publicly supported, tribal housing developments and farmworker housing

Accomplishments in 2024

- In 2024, the Broadband Public Housing Account updated its rules and guidelines to reflect changes made by (D.) 24-03-021as noted previously.
- The rules were also updated to increase speed thresholds to 100mbps download and 20mbps upload per the FCC's updated guidelines for broadband speeds
- The Broadband Public Housing Account held 2 application cycles.
- 45 projects were approved with a total award amount of $3,433,235.60

Opportunities for Funding

- Applications must be received on or before the following dates to be considered:
  - July 1, 2025
  - January 1, 2026, and so on until funds are exhausted.
  - Any deadline falling on a holiday, or a weekend will be extended to the following business day.

Contact Information

- Steven Oh, Senior Telecom Engineer, steven.oh@cpuc.ca.gov
- Taylor Cheim, Analyst, taylor.cheim@cpuc.ca.gov
- BPHA Inbox: CPUC_Housing@cpuc.ca.gov

- Website: https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/industries-and-topics/internet-and-phone/california-advanced-services-fund/casf-public-housing-account

Tribal Technical Assistance Grant Program

Christopher Poschl, Program and Project Supervisor

Tribal Technical Assistance – Program Overview

Adopted in 2020 by D.20-08-005 and modified in March 2024 by D.24-03-041.

Provides grants to California Tribes and Tribal Consortia to pursue improved voice and broadband communications.

- $250,000 max per Tribe, per fiscal year
- Speed requirements increased to a minimum of 25 Mbps download/ 3 Mbps upload
- Multiple work products per grant
- Grants are available for, but not limited to, market studies, environmental studies, feasibility studies, business plans, grant writing, consultant services, TTA specific tribal staff hours and administrative costs.

- Applications Reviewed Quarterly:
  - January 1,
  - April 1,
  - July 1,
  - October 1
- April 1, 2025, applications in review.
- Next Application Date: July 1, 2025

Tribal Technical Assistance to 39 Tribes

TTA program, since 2020, has approved 74 grants to 39 Tribes totaling $7,241,900.

- 48 completed projects
- Total grant payments $3,542,185

- Big Sandy Rancheria Band of Western Mono Indians of CA
- Big Valley Rancheria of Pomo Indians of California
- Bishop Paiute Tribe
- Blue Lake Rancheria Tribe
- Bridgeport Indian Colony
- Campo Band of Mission Indians
- Chemehuevi Tribe
- Colorado River Indian Tribes
- Colusa Indian Community Council
- Elk Valley Rancheria California
- Enterprise Rancheria of Maidu Indians
- Ewiiaapaayp Band of Kumeyaay Indians
- Fort Bidwell Indian Community
- Fort Independence Indian Community
- Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake
- Hoopa Valley Tribe (HVPUD)
- Karuk Tribe
- La Jolla Band of Luiseno Indians
- lipay Nation of Santa Ysabel
- Lone Pine Paiute-Shoshone Tribe
- Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Cupeno Indians
- Manzanita Band of Diegueno Mission Indians
- Mechoopda Indian Tribe of Chico Rancheria, California
- Middletown Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians
- Morongo Band of Mission Indians
- North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians of California
- Paskenta Band of Nomlaki Indians
- Pauma Band of Luiseno Mission Indians
- Picayune Rancheria of the Chukchansi
- Quechan Indian Tribe
- Resighini Rancheria
- Round Valley Indian Tribe
- San Pasqual Band of Mission Indians
- Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians
- Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians
- Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo Indians
- Tolowa Dee-Ni' Nation
- Tule River Indian Tribe
- Yurok Tribe

Contact Information

- Christopher Poschl, *Program and Project Supervisor*, christopher.poschl@cpuc.ca.gov
- Russ McAvey, *Senior Regulatory Analyst*, russell.mcavey@cpuc.ca.gov
- TTA Inbox: tribal_tech_assist@cpuc.ca.gov

Website: https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/industries-and-topics/internet-and-phone/california-advanced-services-fund/tribal-technical-assistance

CASF Broadband Infrastructure Grant Account

Heyward Daluz, Regulatory Analyst

Current Team

- Louise Fischer, Program & Project Supervisor
- Mike Goins, Sr. Telecommunications Engineer
- Sr. Telecommunications Engineer (TBH)
- Rosa Sauer, Senior Regulatory Analyst
- Heyward Daluz, Regulatory Analyst
- Benjamin Swearingen, Regulatory Analyst
- Brandon Coyle, Regulatory Analyst
- Zhuoying Liu, Research Data Analyst

CASF Broadband Infrastructure Grant Account

Provides grants to eligible applicants to build and deploy broadband networks in underserved areas throughout the State of California.

- Historically awarded $513,044,730 since 2009 for 145 projects
- Awarded $344,621,327 since 2008 for 100 projects
- 75 Last Mile projects, 7 Middle Mile, 18 Hybrid
- 322,682 Households served by CASF funded projects

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Recent CASF Infrastructure Highlights

- Approved 5 infrastructure projects in 2024
- 8 projects were completed across 6 counties
- $28.7 Million in payments to 18 projects
- 2025 Application Deadline is October 31, 2025

Contact Information

- CASF Application Questions: CASF_Application_Questions@cpuc.ca.gov
- Correspondence/Questions regarding approved projects: CASF_Infrastructure_Grant_Administrator@cpuc.ca.gov
- CASF Workshop inquiries: CASF_Workshop@cpuc.ca.gov
- Website: https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/industries-and-topics/internet-and-phone/california-advanced-services-fund/casf-infrastructure-grant

Line Extension Program

Ben Swearingen, Regulatory Analyst

Line Extension Program

- AB 1665 (2017) created the Line Extension Program (LEP) to offset the cost to low-income households of connecting their home or property.
- Program rules established with Decision 19-04-022. Currently drafting revised LEP rules.
- $5 million initial LEP fund. Over $2 million in LEP grant funding awarded.
- To apply for an LEP grant, please see our CASF Line Extension Program webpage and scroll down to 'Applying for Funds'.

Broadband Mapping Program

Alex Walton, Research Data Specialist

Current Team

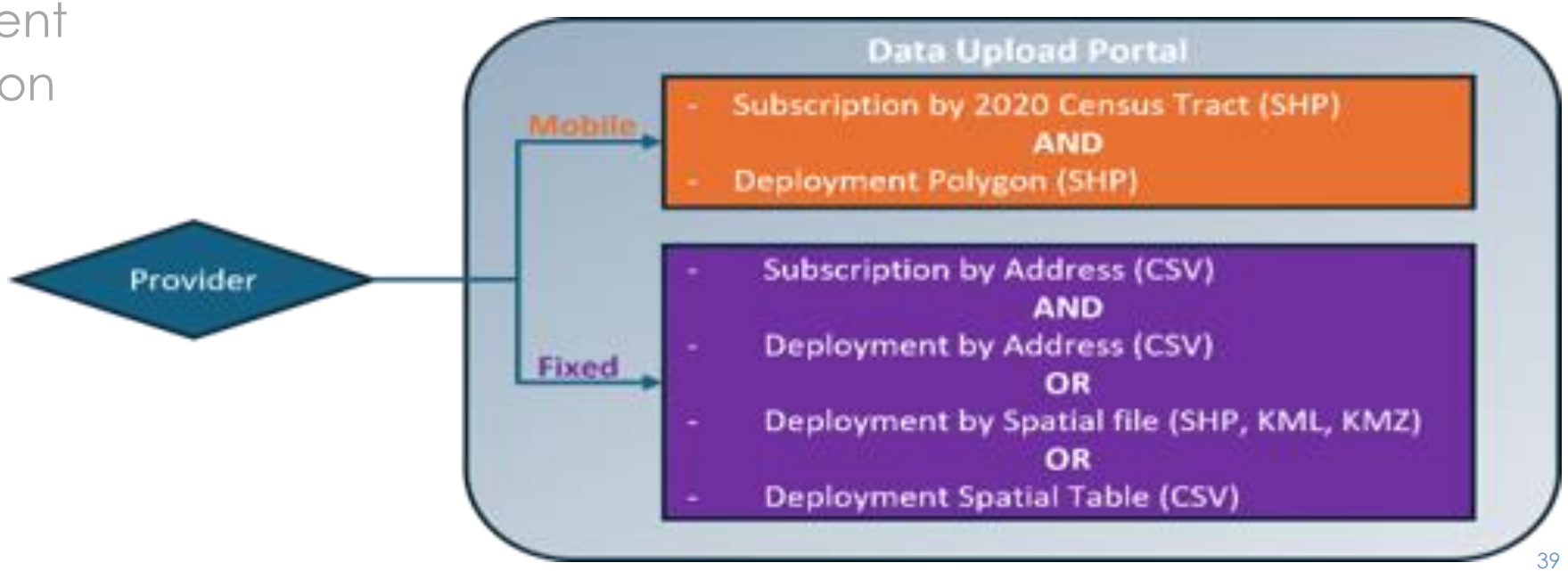
- Kim Hua, Program & Project Supervisor
- Farinaz Gholami, Research Data Specialist
- Yuanhang "Hang" Liang, Research Data Specialist
- Pamela Wu, Regulatory Analyst
- Shadi Matar, Regulatory Analyst

Broadband Mapping Program Overview

- **Conduct Annual Broadband Data Collection**
  - ISPs who provide internet through facilities they own, or partially own are required to submit data annually under Public Utilities Code Sections 281(b)(4), 281.6, and 5895
  - Verify submissions to determine the level of broadband service
- **Publish California Interactive Broadband Map (Broadbandmap.ca.gov)**
  - CASF-eligible locations where broadband speeds are "Unserved" or "Priority Unserved"
  - Broadband availability and adoption throughout CA

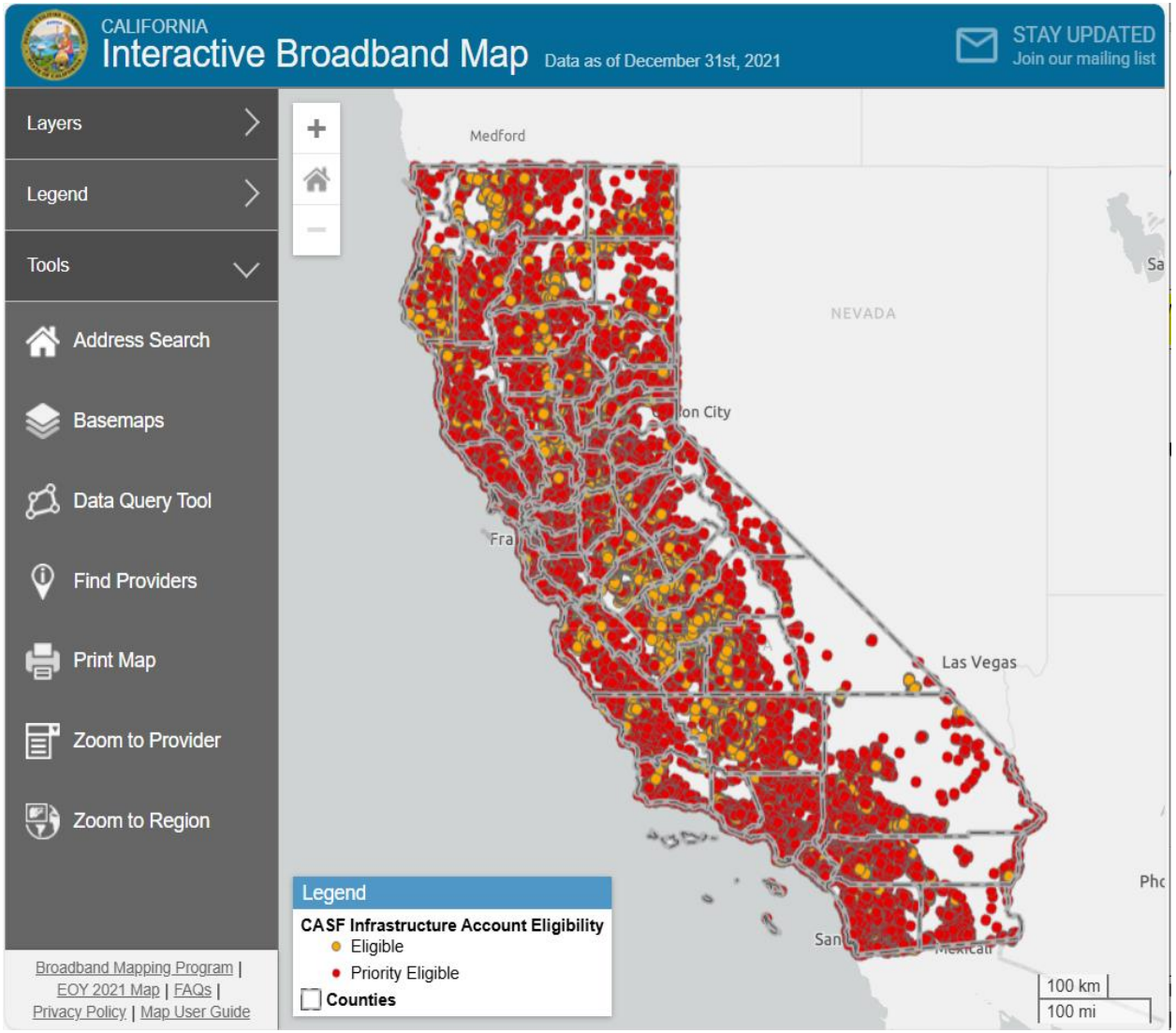
Broadband Data Collection

- **Collect from ~160 Internet Service Providers (ISPs)**
  - Fixed broadband deployment
  - Fixed broadband subscription
  - Price of fixed residential broadband service (optional)
  - Methodology
  - Mobile deployment
  - Mobile subscription



California Interactive Broadband Map (CIBM)

- BDC collected and cleaned data posted to CIBM
- Inform CASF grant applicants
  - CASF Infrastructure Account Eligibility
    - ❖ Eligible: < 25/3 Mbps
    - ❖ Priority Eligible: < 10/1 Mbps
  - Other layers
- https://www.broadbandmap.ca.gov/



Contact Information

- Interactive Map and Broadband Mapping Inquiries: BroadbandMapping@cpuc.ca.gov
- Broadband Feedback: BroadbandFeedback@cpuc.ca.gov
- Website: https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/industries-and-topics/internet-and-phone/broadband-mapping-program

Adoption and Public Housing Grantees - Success Stories & Best Practices

Moderated by Andrew Aliabadi,
Senior Analyst for the CASF Adoption Account
&
Taylor Cheim, Analyst for the CASF Broadband Public Housing Account

California Public Utilities Commission

Our Panelists

- **Sunne Wright McPeak** | President and CEO for the California Emerging Technology Fund (CETF)
- **Jiano Ma** | Vice President of IT for EAH Housing
- **Eduardo Gonzalez** | Co-Founder / Co-Executive Director for Rural Prosperity Center
- **Hang Mosier** | Community Engagement Program Director for Satellite Affordable Housing Associates (SAHA)
- **Amy Himes** | Director of Development for Tech Exchange

Sunne McPeak

President and CEO
California Emerging
Technology Fund (CETF)

California Public
Utilities Commission

Jiano Ma

Vice President of IT

EAH Housing

California Public
Utilities Commission

Eduardo Gonzalez

Co-Founder / Co-Executive Director for Rural Prosperity Center

RURAL PROSPERITY CENTER

California Public Utilities Commission

Hang Mosier

Community Engagement Program Director Satellite Affordable Housing Associates (SAHA)

SAHA
SATELLITE AFFORDABLE HOUSING ASSOCIATES

Amy Himes

Director of Development

Tech Exchange

Thank You

Contact Information

- Broadband Adoption Account: CASF_Adoption@cpuc.ca.gov
- Website: https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/industries-and-topics/internet-and-phone/california-advanced-services-fund/casf-adoption-account

- Broadband Public Housing Account: CPUC_Housing@cpuc.ca.gov
- Website: https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/industries-and-topics/internet-and-phone/california-advanced-services-fund/casf-public-housing-account

California Advanced Services Fund

Public Workshop – Lunch Break

Workshop will resume at **12:30 PM**

CASF Rural and Urban Regional Broadband Consortia Panel

Moderated by Paul Schindler

CASF Rural and Urban Regional Broadband Consortia Panel

Panel Facilitator
- Paul Schindler, Regulatory Analyst, Consortia

Anza Electric Cooperative
- Shawn Trento, Telecommunications Manager

Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association
- Matthew Rantanen, Director of Technology

Valley Vision
- Trish Kelly, Managing Director

Redwood Coast Connect Broadband Consortium
- Connie Stewart, Executive Director of Initiatives

Unite LA
- Amy Cortina Mathias, Executive Vice President

Alternative Broadband Grant Programs CPUC and California Department of Technology

Tiffany Jones, Regulatory Analyst
Paloma Avilez, Regulatory Analyst

Maria Kelly, CDT

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Overview of Broadband Programs

Federal Funding Account
Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD)

Tiffany Jones and Paloma Avilez

Broadband Caseworkers

April 9, 2025

California Public Utilities Commission

Last Mile Broadband Investments

	Broadband Equity Access and Deployment (BEAD)	California Advanced Services Fund (CASF)	Last Mile Federal Funding Account (FFA)
Amount	~$1.86 billion	$136 million for 2024-25	~ $2 billion
Summary	Funds for planning, broadband infrastructure, and adoption began in 2024.	Funds broadband infrastructure and adoption in low-income housing, Tribal communities, and unserved areas.	Funds for last-mile broadband infrastructure projects in every county.
What's next?	The pre-qualification and project application windows are now open.	Adoption, Public Housing, Line Extension and Tribal Tech Assistance application cycles in 2025.	Data, map, and registration available now. Application window runs through April 15 to April 29.

Federal Funding Account Overview

- $2 billion for last-mile broadband infrastructure
- Goal to invest in projects in all 58 California counties

Round 1

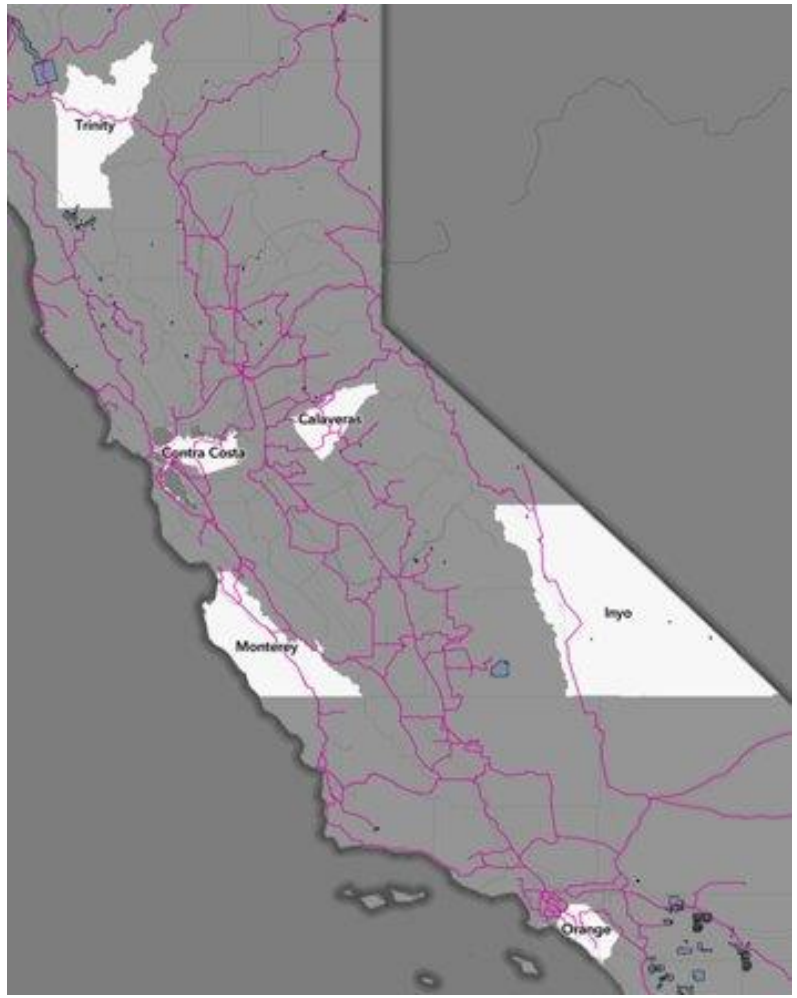
- 113 projects building across California now
- $1.11 billion awarded in 52 counties benefitting 2 million Californians.
- 73 grants serve majority disadvantaged and low-income communities
- 111 projects included affordable plans
  - One or more of: low-cost, low-income, or bundled Lifeline plans

Plumas County
Plumas-Sierra Telecom
Plumas Pines

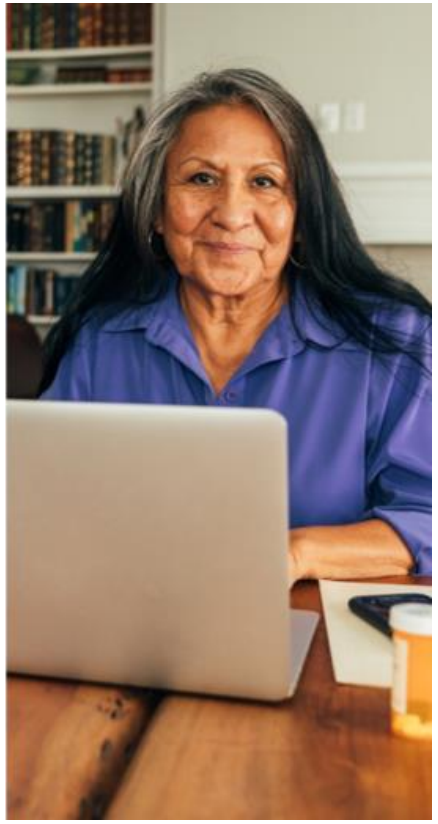
Tulare County
Varcomm Terra Bella

Limited Federal Funding Account – Round 2

- Expedited, limited solicitation for six Counties without Round 1 awards: **Calaveras, Contra Costa, Inyo, Monterey, Orange, and Trinity**
- Map and data published late February 2025
- New applicant registration began April 7, 2025.
- Application window is April 15, 2025 – April 29, 2025.



Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD)



- $42.45 billion in federal funding to expand high-speed internet across the country
  - California was allocated ~$1.86 billion
- BEAD Prequalification and Project Application Windows
  - Prequalification deadline is 11:59 PM on April 24, 2025
  - Project Application deadline is 11:59 PM on May 2, 2025

Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Updates

Subgrantee Selection Process

- To comply with NTIA requirements, the CPUC encourages applicants to submit complete applications.
- There will be very limited opportunity to provide revisions to prequalification and project application submissions.
- Failure to respond to revision requests may disqualify an applicant.

Publication of Final Map	**February 2025**
GMS Development	**Start:** December 23 **End:** March 25
Prequalification Application	**Start:** March 25 **End:** April 24
Project Application	**Start:** April 2 **End:** May 2
Subgrantee Selection Process and Preparation of Final Proposal and Resolution	**Start:** May 3 **End:** August 19
Public Comment on Final Proposal and Resolution	**Start:** August 20 **End:** September 15
Resolution Considered by Commission	**September 18**
Submit Final Proposal to NTIA	**Start:** September 19 **End:** October 2

Resources

- BEAD Program
- Send BEAD questions to BEAD@cpuc.ca.gov
- 2025 Federal Funding Account Application Resources
- 2025 Federal Funding Account Public Map
- Broadband Caseworkers
- Subscribe to Our Mailing Lists

California Public Utilities Commission

broadbandcaseworkers@cpuc.ca.gov

CA Digital Equity Program (CalDEP) Presentation

Maria Kelly

Access and Deployment Advisor

Office of Broadband and Digital Literacy
California Department of Technology

WELCOME

Our Journey: SDEP & CalDEP Milestones

2022

Application and Receipt of $4M State Digital Equity Planning Grant

2023

Planning and Development of the State Digital Equity Plan (SDEP)

Q2 2024

State Digital Equity Capacity Grant (DECG) Application submitted to NTIA

Q2 2024 – Q1 2025

SDEP Implementation & CalDEP Program Design

*Receipt of State Award of $70.2M DECG (*Period of Performance start date: 12/01/24*)

March 26

Launch CA Digital Equity Program (CalDEP)

Stakeholder Engagement

Capacity Grant Program Structure

NTIA
(Federal Grant Administrator)

CDT
(State Grant Recipient / Administrating Entity)
Administration (3%), Evaluation (5%), Update and Maintain SDEP (20%)*
*Percentages represent not to exceed amounts per NTIA State Capacity Grant agreement

Centralized Services

Develop, procure, or curate tools to support SDEP implementation (Digital literacy training platform)

State Agency Digital Inclusion Efforts

Fund State digital inclusion programs

California Digital Equity Program (CalDEP)

Subgrants to entities and coalitions to implement SDEP
(Digital Navigation, Digital Literacy Training)

GRANT GUIDELINES & REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

Focus

Covered Populations

1. Individuals living in covered households
2. Aging individuals (60+)
3. Incarcerated individuals
4. Veterans
5. Individuals w/ disabilities
6. Individuals w/ language barriers
7. Members of racial or ethnic minority groups
8. Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas

SDEP 7 Key Activities

1. Complete BB4All infrastructure investments
2. Convene digital equity stakeholders
3. Refine digital equity data and maps
4. Develop a digital equity capacity subgrant program
5. Fund State-managed digital inclusion programs
6. Develop digital inclusion tools & best practices
7. Promote low-cost service offers & subsidy programs

Outcome Areas

1. Education
2. Health
3. Digital Literacy and Inclusion
4. Essential Service, Accessibility, & Civic Engagement
5. Workforce & Economic Development
6. Tribal Collaboration

Background & Principles

NTIA State Digital Equity Capacity Grant's Overarching Goal

Support State Digital Equity Plan (SDEP) Implementation through:

- Focus on Covered Populations
- Long-lasting & Meaningful Change
- Measurable Implementation Strategies
- Stakeholder Engagement

California Digital Equity Program (CalDEP)

Advancing **SDEP Goals 2 & 3 + State Policy Outcomes**

SDEP Goals

- **Goal 1:** All Californians have high-performance broadband available at home, schools, libraries, and businesses.*
- **Goal 2**: All Californians have access to affordable broadband and necessary devices
- **Goal 3**: All Californians can access training and support to enable digital inclusion.

*Goal 1 and its corresponding objectives will be addressed through the continued build-out of existing Broadband for All investments and Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD)-funded projects.

Purpose & Goals

Through the subgrants, CalDEP will focus on:

- Fund entities to implement the Statewide Digital Equity Plan.
- Address digital equity barriers at local, regional, and state level.
- Develop ecosystems and increase capacity.
- Provide digital inclusion funding to trusted messengers.
- Allocate funding across every county.
- Encourage statewide innovation.

Eligible Entities & Requirements

1

Political subdivision, agency, or instrumentality of the State

2

Indian Tribe or a Native Hawaiian organization

3

Foundation, corporation, institution, or association
(that is not-for-profit entity and not a school)

4

Community anchor institution

5

Local educational agency

6

Entity that carries out a workforce development program

7

Partnership between any of the entities described in 1 to 6

8

Regional Broadband Consortia
(if they belong to another Eligible Entity category)

Must have an active UEI from SAM.gov and EIN from the IRS, and submit more than one Letter of Intent/Support.

GRANT GUIDELINES & REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

Allowable Uses of CalDEP

- Develop local digital equity plans
- Broadband adoption campaigns
- Digital navigation services
- Digital literacy and skills training
- Targeted device distribution
- Workforce development training and apprenticeships

*RFA Section 7.2 Funding Restrictions
Prohibition on Construction and Infrastructure Projects

Funding Tracks

Two funding tracks designed to focus on regional, local & targeted statewide **ecosystem development.**

Track 1: Regional/Local Ecosystems (Planning + Capacity / $43 M)	Track 2: Targeted Statewide Ecosystems (Development, Planning, + Innovation / $7 M)
• Subgrants to: 1) Develop and refine regional and local digital equity plans 2) Provide capacity to implement digital equity activities directly or through 2nd-tier subgrants • Formula allocation per county geographic boundary • Will only award one application per county funding allocation. Encourage one Lead Applicant with partnerships per county boundary • Lead Applicant may also partner with entities across multiple counties to submit one regional application for multiple county funding allocations • Lead Applicant may make 2nd-tier subgrants to other Eligible Entities.	• Subgrants for a specific: o Outcome Area, or o Covered Population • Plans to only award the highest scoring application for a given Outcome Area or Covered Population • Must include a plan to support, coordinate, or share best practices with Track 1 Subgrantees • Lead Applicant may make 2nd-tier subgrants to other Eligible Entities.

CalDEP Application Period

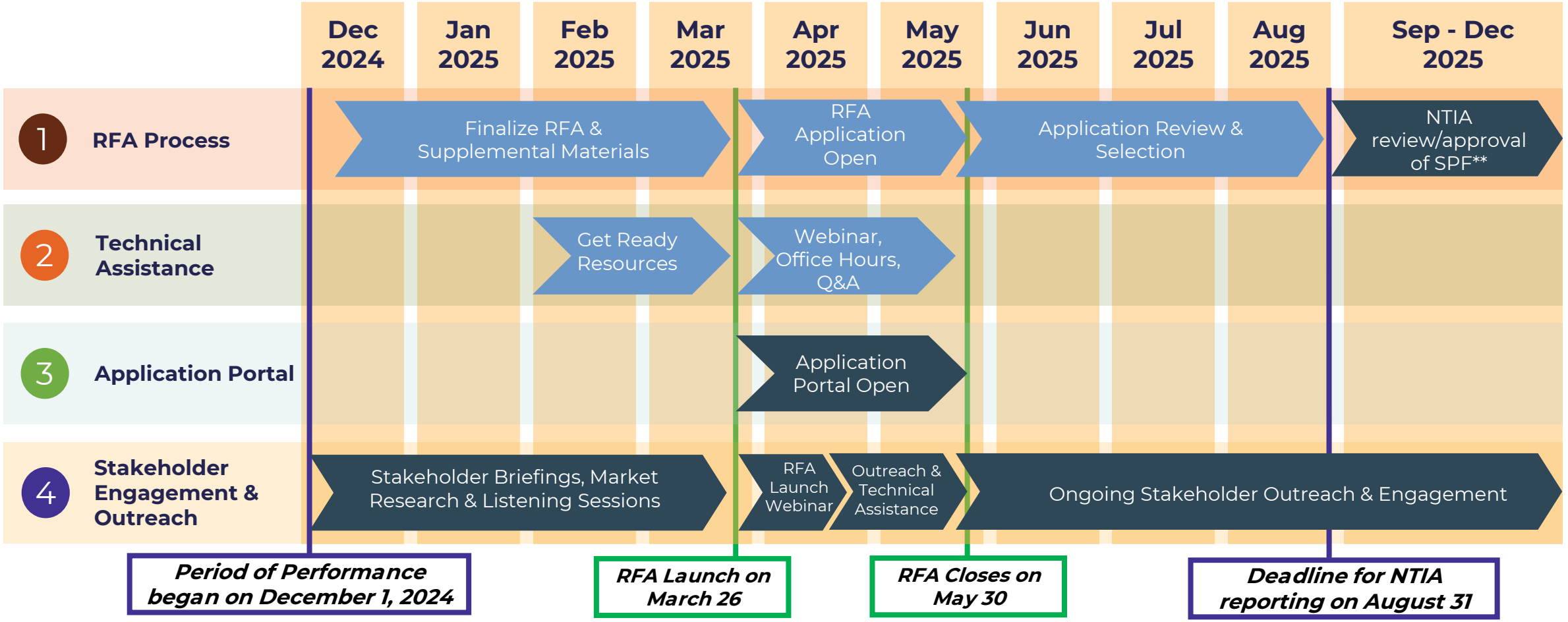
Overview	Notes
• Two-month open application period • March 26 – May 30 • Online via the BB4All Portal	• Review the Grant Guidelines and RFA and all associated materials on the BB4All Portal. • Use the Application Portal to complete and submit your application. • Only applications submitted via the Application Portal will be accepted.

Schedule of Activities

Activity	Date
RFA Opens	March 26
Office Hours – Session 1	April 16 (2:00 – 3:00 pm PDT)
Office Hours – Session 2	May 7 (2:00 – 3:00 pm PDT)
Q&A – Deadline to Submit Questions	May 9 (5:00 pm PDT)
RFA Closes	May 30 (11:59 pm PDT)
CDT Application Review	June 2 to August 15
Submit Recommendations for Award to NTIA for Approval	August 30

TIMELINE & CLOSING

CalDEP Program Timeline



***Tentative timeline subject to revision and change*

TIMELINE & CLOSING

RFA Next Steps

- ❑ Review CalDEP webpages & TA resources on the BB4All portal
- ❑ Read the Grant Guidelines & RFA
- ❑ Enter info in Partnership Coordination Resource (optional)
- ❑ Identify partners or supporters
- ❑ Submit questions / Office Hours

Submit Application by Deadline
May 30, 2025
11:59pm PDT

Contact:

CalDEP@state.ca.gov

THANK YOU!

Sign up:
Broadband for All Email Update

Website:
BroadbandForAll.cdt.ca.gov/caldep

Contact:
CalDEP@state.ca.gov

CALIFORNIA ALL
Broadband for All
California Public Utilities Commission

Q&A

Questions: dial 1-800-857-1917
Public Passcode: 1673482#

or email your question to:

CASF_Workshop@cpuc.ca.gov

Thank You!