

# BROADBAND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES



One of the biggest hurdles in broadband deployment is finding the funding to undertake the varying projects necessary for ubiquitous connectivity in a community. There are a myriad of federal funding programs available to help communities improve broadband connectivity. This document will highlight some of the existing federal funding programs, what they fund, where to apply, and important dates.

This explainer is not an exhaustive list of available funding opportunities. For a more comprehensive list of federal funding options, the National Telecommunications Information Administration ("NTIA") has created a Federal Funding Guide that outlines broadband funding programs from a variety of federal agencies. Review NTIA's 2021 guide [here](#). States may also make funding available for community projects. Click [here](#) for contacts and resources for state broadband programs.

## **Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD"): Community Development Block Grant Program**

The Community Development Block Grant ("CDGB") program is a grant program administered by HUD. This program provides formulaic annual grants to states, cities, and counties to develop housing, expand economic opportunity, and improve livability, which primarily supports low and moderate-income residents.

While the primary focus of this grant program is not primarily broadband deployment, CDBG funds can be used to finance broadband access and adoption. Grantees can use CDBG funds to install new wiring, purchase computer hardware and software, develop and construct computer rooms, and more. Prospective applicants must ensure that their prospective broadband projects are both an eligible activity and are in compliance with the appropriate national objectives of the CDBG program. Potential applicants can learn more about broadband eligibility under the CDBG [here](#).

For more information, potential applicants can visit the CDBG program website found [here](#). HUD has also provided a webinar on using CDBG money for broadband that can be found [here](#).