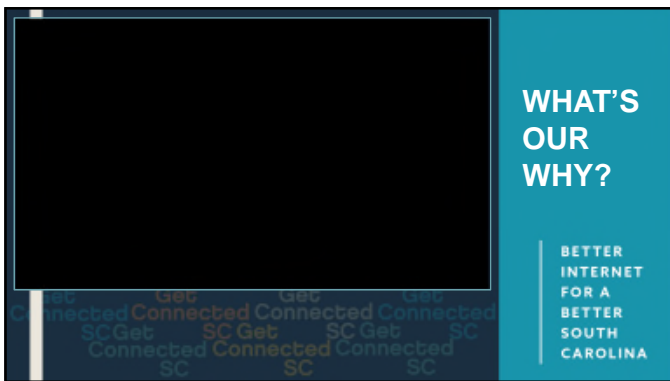


The information provided here is for informational and educational purposes and current as of the date of publication. The information is not a substitute for legal advice and does not necessarily reflect the opinion or policy position of the Municipal Association of South Carolina. Consult your attorney for advice concerning specific situations.







BROADBAND & CONSTRUCTION

Broadband-
is just another
name for High
speed Internet



BROADBAND USAGE

- Staying connected with friends and family
- Conducting business
- Homework
- Staying informed
- Watching online videos
- Watching TV shows



WHAT'S HAPPENING NOW

- Currently we are Administering Grants to Internet Service Providers by Competitive Grant programs to build in areas that have a lot of K-12 Students, Difficult Development Areas, & those rural areas currently without Internet.
- A once in a life time opportunity to close the digital divide
- Once a community has Internet, its citizens may need help with resources to learn how to use the Internet or to help pay for it.



FUNDING BROADBAND DEPLOYMENT

Who | What | When | Where | Why

Who is an Eligible Applicant for Funding?

- Internet Service Providers (ISPs)
 - *Private ISPs*
 - *Public ISPs*
 - *ISPs working in partnership with electric and telecommunication cooperatives*
 - *Local governments providing retail Broadband service*

What is being Funded?

- Deployment of new broadband infrastructure in unserved and/or partially served areas to include at least 1 priority area:
 - *Areas with a high concentration of public K-12 student households*
 - *Areas with no current ISPs*
 - *Difficult Development Areas as identified by HUD*
 - *In a main street eligible service area*



When will State Investment Occur?

Program	State Investment	Private Investment	Total Project Cost	Structure Count	Status of Completion
The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES I)	\$ 16,728,421	\$ 18,939,399	\$ 35,267,820	18,121	Complete
The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES II)	\$ 7,873,282	\$ 9,754,788	\$ 17,628,070	6,116	Complete
Rural Broadband Grant Program (RBGP)	\$ 29,335,914	\$ 29,375,910	\$ 58,711,824	16,890	Complete
Last Mile Grant Program (LMGP)	\$ 1,289,093	\$ 1,436,568	\$ 2,725,661	569	Complete
American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) 1.0	\$ 34,574,542	\$ 131,638,637	\$ 266,213,179	43,582	Scheduled December 2024
*American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Capital Projects Fund (CPF) 1.0	\$ 185,000,000	TBD	\$ 185,000,000	TBD	Scheduled December 2025
*American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Accelerated Deployment Grant Program (ADGP)	\$ 25,000,000	TBD	\$ 25,000,000	TBD	Scheduled October 2023
*American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) 2.0	\$ 25,000,000	TBD	\$ 25,000,000	TBD	Scheduled December 2026
*Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act (IIJA) Broadband Equity Access and Deployment (BEAD)	\$ 700,000,000	TBD	\$ 700,000,000	TBD	TBD
Total	\$ 1,144,800,852	\$ 190,744,902	\$ 1,335,545,754	85,278	

*State Programs Indicated with an Asterisk are Estimated Investment Costs

- ### A Call to Action – Advocacy!
- Understand the nature of Broadband in your Community
 - Where is it?
 - If your community has access, focus efforts on:
 - Adoption - What does it take to say YES to the Internet?
 - Use - What types of training can be supported for covered populations?
 - Where isn't it?
 - Consider taking the I Need Internet Survey
 - Bridge between supply (ISP's) and demand (Consumers)
 - What ISP's are in or near my area?
 - Setup meetings with nearby ISP's, discuss plans
 - Provide letters of support on upcoming grants
 - Provide in-kind support
 - Have any projects been funded in my area?
 - Setup meetings with ISP, discuss rollout schedule, potential for local permits, provide in-kind support when possible

More on Overbuilds...

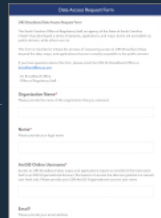
- ARPA State Funds cannot be used to overbuild existing facilities
- ARPA County/Municipal Funds cannot be used to overbuild existing broadband facilities
- Goal is to extend service and stretch financial resources to maximize expansion of Broadband to the greatest extent practicable
- Careful attention to awarded areas with State, Federal, and Local funds is paramount
- **Failure to comply with this provision of ARPA could result in recoupment of funds from the Federal Government**
- Communication is key!

SC Digital Drive

<https://www.scdigitaldrive.org/>



- Updates published every 6 months
 - Static Maps
 - Web Applications
 - Dashboards
- Story Maps
- I Need Internet Survey
- Investments Map
- Download GIS Data
 - Data Access Request Form



I Need Internet Survey

Results from survey shared with ISPs to inform expansion of broadband access across state



I Need Internet Survey

Complete this survey to help us understand the need for broadband in your area. Your responses will be used to help us understand the need for broadband in your area. Your responses will be used to help us understand the need for broadband in your area.

South Carolina Citizen Survey for Broadband Internet

If you need internet, it's in your call to action!

The South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff (ORS) is currently conducting the Broadband Internet Survey (Survey) for the purpose of gathering information from citizens of the State of South Carolina to help us understand the need for broadband in your area. Your responses will be used to help us understand the need for broadband in your area.

No internet service available?

Take the I Need Internet survey.

Dig Once

- Dig Once – Term used for minimizing the number and scale of ground excavation when installing infrastructure. The practice of dig once effectively eliminates the need to dig up recently paved roads for example, to expand broadband infrastructure, significantly reducing the cost of building out internet access to unserved and underserved communities across the state.
- Dig Once Opportunities with SC State Agencies
 - Rural Infrastructure Authority (RIA)
 - South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT)
 - South Carolina Broadband Office (SCBBO)

THANK YOU
SO MUCH

FOR ALLOWING US TO PRESENT TO YOU ON BROADBAND





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