

Section I: Overview

Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Local Planning Grants are available in the form of formula funding of \$1.5 million under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to Wisconsin counties and federally recognized Tribes to generate locally informed analysis of broadband needs and develop each community's vision for broadband development. The Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (Commission) approved the allocation of this formula funding in docket 5-BP-2023 on February 1, 2023. Local planning activities may include a needs assessment, outreach and stakeholder engagement, and a strategy for broadband deployment. County and Tribal planning activities will inform Wisconsin's Five-Year Broadband Action Plan and future grant funding for broadband infrastructure projects across the state.

BEAD Local Planning Grants are not competitive grants but rather formula funding that will be allocated to each applicant that elects to participate in the program. Counties that elect to participate in the program may opt to (1) collaborate regionally through their respective [Regional Development organization \(REDO\)](#) or (2) participate independently. Tribes that elect to participate may opt to (1) collaborate regionally with a REDO, (2) collaborate with the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council, or (3) participate independently.

Funding will be distributed equally to all participating counties and Tribes, with those collaborating in groups receiving an additional 10 percent of the base allocation. Participation is not required, and the total grant allocation amount for each participating entity will be formulated following the submission deadline of this participation form. If a REDO or the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council coordinates on behalf of multiple counties or Tribes, it will receive and administer funding directly.

By completing this form, counties and Tribes are certifying their intent to participate in the program, including complying with related grant requirements. A subsequent grant agreement will delineate eligible costs for use of funding, applicable federal grant compliance requirements, and project deliverables. Each entity that opts in will be responsible to ensure compliance with applicable federal and state requirements related to this funding.

Following the Commission's Wisconsin Broadband Office's announcement of formula grant awards, those counties and Tribes that elected to participate individually and participating collaboratives will complete a brief application in the Commission's Online Grants System that describes planned activities and the intended use of funding among cost categories. Further details on completing the online application will be made available in forthcoming grant instructions available on the Commission website. The Wisconsin Broadband Office will inform participating REDOs, Tribes, and individual counties when the formula allocation has been processed and that the application is open in the online grants system, likely by March 13, 2023.

This BEAD Local Planning Grant Program Participation Form must be uploaded to the Commission's [Electronic Records Filing System \(ERF\)](#) by March 7, 2023, 1:30 P.M. For help uploading documents to ERF, see the [ERF user manual](#) or contact PSCStateBroadbandOffice@wisconsin.gov for assistance.

BEAD Local Planning Grant Program – Letter of Intent

Election to participate and receive formula funds



Section II: Election to Participate

Please select whether your county or Tribe elects to:

Participate in the BEAD Local Planning Grant Program collaboratively with a Regional Economic Development Organization (REDO)	
Specify REDO: _____	
Participate in the BEAD Local Planning Grant Program collaboratively with the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council	
Participate in the BEAD Local Planning Grant Program independently	
Not participate in the BEAD Local Planning Grant Program	

Section III: Primary Point of Contact

The primary point of contact will be the recipient of further communication from the Wisconsin Broadband Office regarding the BEAD Local Planning Program and need not be the authorized representative signing below.

1. Name	2. Position
3. Email	4. Phone

Section IV: Certification from Authorized Representative

Please sign below to declare your county or Tribe’s intent to participate in the BEAD Local Planning Program. The authorized representative could be a local elected official or executive of Tribal or county government and must be authorized under applicable laws to act on behalf of the entity related to receipt and administration of federal funding. By signing below, you are affirming and certifying that you are an authorized representative of your county or Tribe and are authorized to act on behalf of the county or Tribe related to this funding. If you have questions regarding whether as an authorized representative, you are authorized to act on behalf of the county or Tribe, please consult your legal counsel.

Signature below does not constitute an obligation of a county, Tribe, or its collaborating partners to comply with any terms or conditions of the grant program. For entities submitting this letter of intent, a grant agreement will be provided for review and signature.

1. Name	2. Position
3. Email	4. Phone
5. Signature	6. Date