

Alaska Broadband Grant Program -- Comparison of Original Criterion and Scoring to Proposed Criterion and Scoring

Original Criterion and Scoring	Revised Criterion and Scoring	Comments																																																																																																				
<p>APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE 15 MINIMUM QUALIFICATION CRITERION</p> <p>Criterion 1: Applicant License and Registration Information</p> <p>Criterion 2: Organizational and Managerial Capability</p> <p>Criterion 3: Financial Capability</p> <p>Criterion 4: Other Public Funding Disclosure (All elements are required to be present for a pass)</p> <p>Criterion 5: Technical Capability (Must provide an electronic engineering apped GIS shape file of the network and a fully completed capital cost MS Excel model)</p> <p>Criterion 6: Project Sustainability</p> <p>Criterion 7: Compliance with Applicable Federal, State, and Local Laws</p> <p>Criterion 8: Civil Rights and Nondiscrimination Law Compliance</p> <p>Criterion 9: Cybersecurity and Supply Chain Risk Management (C-SCRM)</p> <p>Criterion 10: Weather/Climate/Natural Hazard Threat Assessment and Mitigation Plan</p> <p>Criterion 11: National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Requirements</p> <p>Criterion 12: Indian Tribe/Tribal Entity Proof of Support</p> <p>Criterion 13: Low-Cost Option</p> <p>Criterion 14: Middle-Class Affordability</p> <p>Criterion 15: Application and Grant Agreement Certification</p> <p>Scoring:</p> <p>PRIMARY CRITERIA SCORING 75 Points</p> <p>A. Minimal BEAD Program Outlay, (30 Points)</p> <p>The ABO Scoring Committee will score how applicants minimize the BEAD program outlay.</p> <p>A.1. Minimal BEAD Program Outlay Per Location: (15.0 Points in HCA; 7.5 Points in non-HCA) This will be scored using the applicants' project budget sheet provided in Criterion 5: Technical Capability Section 5.1.3, bullet 4: The cost per location to connect each BSL in the project path or PDPA. The score will be valued where the minimal BEAD program outlay per location passed will receive 100% of the available points, the highest BEAD program outlay per location passed will receive 0% of the available points, and all other applicants will receive a ratio of available points based off the lowest cost per location passed.</p> <p>A.2. 100% Connections: (15.0 Points in HCA; 7.5 Points in non-HCA)</p> <p>An applicant will receive 100% of the available points in this subcategory if all BSLs within a PDPA, or if not using PDPA, every BSL within every community along a non-PDPA path are connected, or if there is compelling documentation describing why every BSL within the PDPA or path are not connected using the data from Criterion 5: Technical Capability Section 5.1.1. If not, and there is no compelling documentation on why the PDPA system was not utilized, applicant will receive no points in this subcategory.</p> <p>A.3. Matching Funds: (0 Points in High Cost Area- HCA, a 1% bonus will be attributed to each 1% of match); 15.0 Points in non-HCA.</p> <p>For deployment projects in HCA, a non-federal match is not required. In areas not considered high cost, a minimum 25% non-federal match will be required from the applicant.</p> <p>The score will be evaluated on the applicant's designated match. If the applicant meets the specified match, the applicant will receive 100% of the points within this subcategory. If not, the applicant will receive no points in this subcategory. In addition, applicants can receive a 1 bonus point for every 1% match above the requirement. Where applicable, this will be evaluated using the applicants' project budget sheet provided in MQ Criterion 5 Section 5.1.3. (This will be a number for the BSLs in a HCA, where applicable, and number for BSLs in the NCHA where applicable).</p> <p>B. Affordability: (25 Points)</p> <p>A) Fiber projects:</p> <p>Applicants who meet the price point in this category of \$500/month, 1Gbps/1Gbps Service, Unlimited Data will receive the total points available. Pricing above the target will receive a reduced score based on the Affordability Scoring ratios listed in the following Scoring Matrix</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>1Gbps/1Gbps Price</th> <th>Affordability Scoring within the subcategory B.1(A)</th> <th>Affordability Scoring Contribution Points</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>\$500</td><td>100%</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>\$600</td><td>90%</td><td>22.5</td></tr> <tr><td>\$700</td><td>80%</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>\$800</td><td>70%</td><td>17.5</td></tr> <tr><td>\$900</td><td>60%</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>\$1,000</td><td>50%</td><td>12.5</td></tr> <tr><td>\$1,100</td><td>40%</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>\$1,200</td><td>30%</td><td>7.5</td></tr> <tr><td>\$1,300</td><td>20%</td><td>5</td></tr> <tr><td>\$1,400</td><td>10%</td><td>2.5</td></tr> <tr><td>\$1,500+</td><td>0%</td><td>0</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>OR</p> <p>B) Other (Non-Fiber) Projects:</p> <p>Applicants who meet the price point in this category of \$110/month, 100Mbps/20Mbps Service, Unlimited Data will receive the total points available. Pricing above the target will receive a reduced score based on the Affordability Scoring ratios listed in the following Scoring Matrix.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>100/20Mbps</th> <th>Affordability Scoring within the subcategory B.1(B)</th> <th>Affordability Scoring Contribution Points</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>\$110</td><td>100%</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>\$114</td><td>90%</td><td>22.5</td></tr> <tr><td>\$118</td><td>80%</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>\$122</td><td>70%</td><td>17.5</td></tr> <tr><td>\$126</td><td>60%</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>\$130</td><td>50%</td><td>12.5</td></tr> <tr><td>\$134</td><td>40%</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>\$138</td><td>30%</td><td>7.5</td></tr> <tr><td>\$142</td><td>20%</td><td>5</td></tr> <tr><td>\$146</td><td>10%</td><td>2.5</td></tr> <tr><td>\$150+</td><td>0%</td><td>0</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>C. Fair Labor Practices: (20 Points)</p> <p>Applicants that provide all the required information and certify they will comply with existing labor requirements outlined in the BEAD Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) will receive 20 points. Points will be allocated based on the information submitted for each element of the fair labor category. Applicants that provide no response will receive 0 points. Applicants must certify that their applying organization will comply with existing labor requirements outlined in subcategory E.</p> <p>C.1. Certification of compliance Applicants are required to have a plan for ensuring the project workforce will be appropriately skilled and credentialed (including contractors and subcontractors). Factors that will be considered include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> the ways in which the applicant will ensure the use of an appropriately skilled workforce (e.g., registered apprenticeships); the steps the applicant will take to ensure an appropriately credentialed workforce (e.g., licensure, occupational training); where known, identify whether the workforce is unionized; identify status of workforce (e.g., directly employed or contracted); and identification of proposed contractors and subcontractors. <p>• Non-Union Workforce Requirements. If the project workforce, or any applicant's, contractor's, or subcontractor's workforce is not unionized the applicant is required to provide the following with respect to the non-union workforce:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The jobs titles and size of the workforce (in terms of Full-Time Equivalent positions, including those of contractors and subcontractors) required to carry out the proposed work over the course of the project and the entity that will employ each portion of the workforce; and For each job title required to carry out the proposed work (including contractors and subcontractors) a description of safety training, certification, and/or licensure requirements (e.g., OSHA 10, OSHA 30, confined space, traffic control, etc.) including whether there is a robust in-house training program with established requirements tied to certifications, titles, and information on the professional certifications and/or in-house training in place to ensure that deployment is done at a high standard. Applicants are required to demonstrate three years of history for themselves and any other entity that will participate in the project, including contractors and subcontractors, of compliance with federal labor and employment laws on broadband deployment projects. New entrant applicants, without historical records, may submit historical data for the project team that has been assembled, including contractors and subcontractors. All applicants shall show past violations and outcomes for that three-year period certified by an authorized official within the applicant's organization. Other considerations include the applicant, and its contractors and sub-contractors disclosed violation of laws such as the Occupational Safety and Health Act, the Fair Labor Standards Act, or other applicable labor and employment laws. Finally, this category will be scored on how the applicant will ensure compliance for itself, contractors and subcontractors with labor and employment practices for the proposed deployment project including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) applicable wage scales and wage and overtime payment practices for each class of employee expected to be involved directly in the physical construction of the broadband network; and 2) how the applicant will ensure the implementation of workplace safety committees that are authorized to raise health and safety concerns in connection with the delivery of deployment projects. <p>C.2. Compliance with federal labor and employment laws This will be scored based on the response provided in MQ Criterion 7.</p> <p>C.3. Disclosure of applicant violations Where applicable list all State or Federal labor and/or OSHA violations within the last 3 years. Include any fines and mitigation requirements and status of the mitigation efforts. If no violations, type "None".</p>	1Gbps/1Gbps Price	Affordability Scoring within the subcategory B.1(A)	Affordability Scoring Contribution Points	\$500	100%	25	\$600	90%	22.5	\$700	80%	20	\$800	70%	17.5	\$900	60%	15	\$1,000	50%	12.5	\$1,100	40%	10	\$1,200	30%	7.5	\$1,300	20%	5	\$1,400	10%	2.5	\$1,500+	0%	0	100/20Mbps	Affordability Scoring within the subcategory B.1(B)	Affordability Scoring Contribution Points	\$110	100%	25	\$114	90%	22.5	\$118	80%	20	\$122	70%	17.5	\$126	60%	15	\$130	50%	12.5	\$134	40%	10	\$138	30%	7.5	\$142	20%	5	\$146	10%	2.5	\$150+	0%	0	<p>CRITERION (PASS/FAIL)</p> <p>Criterion 1: Applicant License and Registration Information</p> <p>Criterion 2: Organizational and Managerial Capability (edited and simplified)</p> <p>Criterion 3: Financial Capability (edited and simplified)</p> <p>Criterion 4: Other Public Funding Disclosure - Criterion Eliminated</p> <p>Criterion 5: Technical Capability (edited and simplified)</p> <p>Criterion 6: Project Sustainability (Excel Model) - Criterion Eliminated</p> <p>Criterion 7: Compliance with Applicable Federal, State, and Local Laws</p> <p>Criterion 8: Civil Rights and Nondiscrimination Law Compliance</p> <p>Criterion 9: Cybersecurity and Supply Chain Risk Management (C-SCRM)</p> <p>Criterion 10: Weather/Climate/Natural Hazard Threat Assessment and Mitigation Plan - Criterion Eliminated</p> <p>Criterion 11: National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Requirements</p> <p>Criterion 12: Indian Tribe/Tribal Entity Proof of Support</p> <p>Criterion 13: Low-Cost Option - Criterion Eliminated</p> <p>Criterion 14: Middle-Class Affordability - Criterion Eliminated</p> <p>Criterion 15: Application and Grant Agreement Certification</p> <p>Scoring:</p> <p>PRIMARY CRITERIA SCORING 80 Points</p> <p>A. Minimal BEAD Program Outlay, (40 Points)</p> <p>The ABO Scoring Committee will score how applicants minimize the BEAD program outlay.</p> <p>A.1. Minimal BEAD Program Outlay Per Location: (20.0 Points) This will be scored using the applicants' project budget sheet provided in Criterion 5: Technical Capability Section 5.1.3, bullet 4: The cost per location to connect each BSL in the project path or PDPA. The score will be valued where the minimal BEAD program outlay per location passed in conjunction with the prioritization matrix will receive 100% of the available points, the highest BEAD program outlay per location passed in conjunction with the prioritization matrix will receive 0% of the available points, and all other applicants will receive a ratio of available points based off the lowest cost per location passed.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Priority</th> <th>Infrastructure</th> <th>Below the cumulative EHCHPL (middle and last mile)</th> <th>Above the cumulative EHCHPL (middle and last mile)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Fiber</td> <td>If no other fiber projects. Applicant Selected with no other grading. 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If not, and there is no compelling documentation on why the PDPA system was not utilized, applicant will receive no points in this subcategory.</p> <p>A.3. Matching Funds: (Variable Points) a 1% bonus will be attributed to each 1% of match above the requirement.</p> <p>B. Affordability: (20 Points)</p> <p>B.1. Low Cost Option - 100/20Mbps (15 Points). The lowest price for the 100/20Mbps service per PDPA will receive 100% of the available points, the highest price for the 100/20Mbps Service will receive 0% of the available points, and all other applicants will receive a ratio of available points based on the lowest cost per location passed.</p> <p>B.2. 1/Gbps. (5 Points) The lowest price for the 1/Gbps service per PDPA will receive 100% of the available points, the highest price for the 1/Gbps will receive 0% of the available points, and all other applicants will receive a ratio of available points based off the lowest cost per location passed.</p> <p>C. Fair Labor Practices: (20 Points)</p> <p>C.1. Compliance with federal labor and employment laws. (5 Points) This will be scored based on the response provided in MQ Criterion 7.</p> <p>C.2. Disclosure of applicant violations Where applicable, and where the sub-contractors are known at the time of application. (5 Points) Applicants must list all state or Federal labor and/or OSHA violations within the last 3 years. Include any fines and mitigation requirements and status of the mitigation efforts. If no violations, type "None".</p>	Priority	Infrastructure	Below the cumulative EHCHPL (middle and last mile)	Above the cumulative EHCHPL (middle and last mile)	1	Fiber	If no other fiber projects. Applicant Selected with no other grading. Otherwise goes to scoring.	Cost/BSL Passed multiplied by 1	2	Fiber and Non-Fiber, Reliable Broadband Hybrid	Cost/BSL Passed gets multiplied by .5	Cost/BSL Passed multiplied by 1	3	Fiber and Non-Reliable Broadband Hybrid	Cost/BSL Passed multiplied by .7	Cost/BSL Passed multiplied by 1	4	Non-Fiber, Reliable Broadband	Cost/BSL Passed multiplied by .6	Cost/BSL Passed multiplied by 1	5	Non-Fiber, Reliable Broadband and non-reliable broadband hybrid	Cost/BSL Passed multiplied by .8	Cost/BSL Passed multiplied by 1	6	Non-reliable Broadband	Cost/BSL Passed multiplied by 1 and requires a waiver	Cost/BSL Passed multiplied by 4	<p>No Change</p> <p>This language is removed in eliminate applicant preference.</p> <p>Reduces the choices to the most economical (10% bond)</p> <p>Edits subsection 3.4 to read: "3.4. Bond: Each applicant will provide a letter of Bond Commitment (Appendix A)." Footnote 3 is removed.</p> <p>This is a requirement of the State not the subcategories</p> <p>These elements are merged (5.2.1. and 5.2.2.) to create one set of standards for all applicants.</p> <p>No Change</p> <p>This criterion was added as a function of a fixed "Low Cost Option". With the fixed Low Cost Option removed this criterion is no longer necessary</p> <p>No Change</p> <p>This criterion has been eliminated as it is not statistically based</p> <p>No Change</p> <p>This criterion has been moved to the scoring section B.</p> <p>No Change</p> <p>This criterion has been eliminated as it is not statistically based</p> <p>No Change</p> <p>This matrix is added to better identify the most scalable technology within the IUA definition of "Priority Broadband Project"</p> <p>No Change</p> <p>This has been changed from a fixed rate evaluation to evaluating a variable Low-Cost Option.</p> <p>This scoring goes to the availability and scalability of the network.</p> <p>Numbering change only</p> <p>Numbering change and combining of previous scoring options</p>
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C.4. Disclosure of contractor and/or subcontractor violations] Where applicable, and where the sub-contractors are known at the time of application, applicants must list all State or Federal labor and/or OSHA violations within the last 3 years. Include any fines and mitigation requirements and status of the mitigation efforts. If no violations, type "None". If an applicant is awarded, a list of all State or Federal labor and/or OSHA violations within the last 3 years (including any fines and mitigation requirements and status of the mitigation efforts) must be provided to the Grant Administrator prior to the first payment to the contractor or subcontractor.

C.5. Wage information Applicant may be subject to the requirements of the Davis-Bacon Act, when Grant Award funds are used on a construction project in conjunction with funds from another federal program that requires enforcement of the Davis-Bacon Act. Additionally, corollary state prevailing-wage-in-construction laws (commonly known as "little Davis-Bacon Acts") may apply to projects. The Applicant must certify that they will receive and verify the accuracy of copies of the contractor/subcontractor's certified weekly payroll reports and compliance with applicable labor standards upon award.

C.6. Workplace safety committees Plan for Establishment of a Worker-Led Safety Committee. Applicants must provide a narrative on how they plan to run workplace safety committees to attain points in this category.

SECONDARY CRITERIA SCORING (25 Points)

D. Speed to Deployment. (10 Points for Priority Broadband Projects; 5 Points for Other Last-Mile Broadband Deployment Projects)
This will be evaluated from the schedule in the Project Budget provided in Criterion 5: Technical Capability, Subsection 5.1.4. Based on the schedule below.

Time to Deployment	Deployment Scoring within the subcategory D.	Fiber Project Points	Non-Fiber Project Points
47 Months or less	100%	10	5
Greater than or equal to 48 Months	95%	9.5	4.75

E. Speed of Network and Other Technical Capabilities. The total score opportunity for this category is 0 Points for Priority Broadband Projects and 5 Points for Other Last-Mile Broadband Deployment Projects.

Scalability: Can achieve 1 Gbps/1 Gbps	Fiber Project Points	Non-Fiber Project Points
Asset life: 10-year asset life	0	2.5
	0	2.5

F. Non-Traditional Providers. The total score opportunity for this category is 2.5 Points. Applicants that are Non-Traditional Providers such as Local Governments (including

G. Use of State of Alaska/Department of Natural Resources/Office of Project Management and Permitting. The total score opportunity for this category is 10 Points. Applicants who agree to use the Office of Project Management and Permitting (OPMP) within the State of Alaska (SOA) Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to assist in efficient permitting and project management will receive an additional 10 Points. Applicants may choose not to use SOA/OPMP. Where this is the case, applicants will receive 0 Points for this category. This will be a "Yes" or "No" selection in the portal

C.3. Workplace safety committees Plan for Establishment of a Worker-Led Safety Committee. (10 Points) Applicants must provide a narrative on how they plan to run workplace safety committees to attain points in this category.

SECONDARY CRITERIA SCORING (10 Points)

D. Speed to Deployment. (10 Points)
This will be evaluated from the schedule in the Project Budget provided in Criterion 5: Technical Capability, Subsection 5.1.4. Based on the schedule below.

Time to Deployment	Deployment Scoring within the subcategory D.	Fiber Project Points	Non-Fiber Project Points
47 Months or less	100%	10	5
Greater than or equal to 48 Months	95%	9.5	4.75

E. Use of State of Alaska/Department of Natural Resources/Office of Project Management and Permitting. (10 Points)

Applicants who agree to use the Office of Project Management and Permitting (OPMP) within the State of Alaska (SOA) Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to assist in efficient permitting and project management will receive an additional 10 Points. Applicants may choose not to use SOA/OPMP. Where this is the case, applicants will receive 0 Points for this category. This will be a "Yes" or "No" selection in the portal

Numbering change only

No Change

Numbering change only