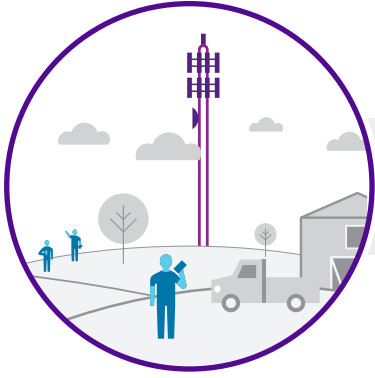# CROWN CASTLE

Maximize funding to **connect your community.**

Start today—we'll help you navigate the process.

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) has made nearly $50 billion available to communities in order to close the digital divide and ensure reliable, affordable high-speed broadband for all Americans. The process can seem daunting and time is of the essence, but we're here to help. This information will help you better understand the key programs and position yourself to receive the funding your constituents deserve.

You may qualify under two separate programs:

Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD)

These funds are meant to expand high-speed internet access and use in rural communities. This includes infrastructure planning and deployment, as well as planning for digital adoption and inclusion projects.
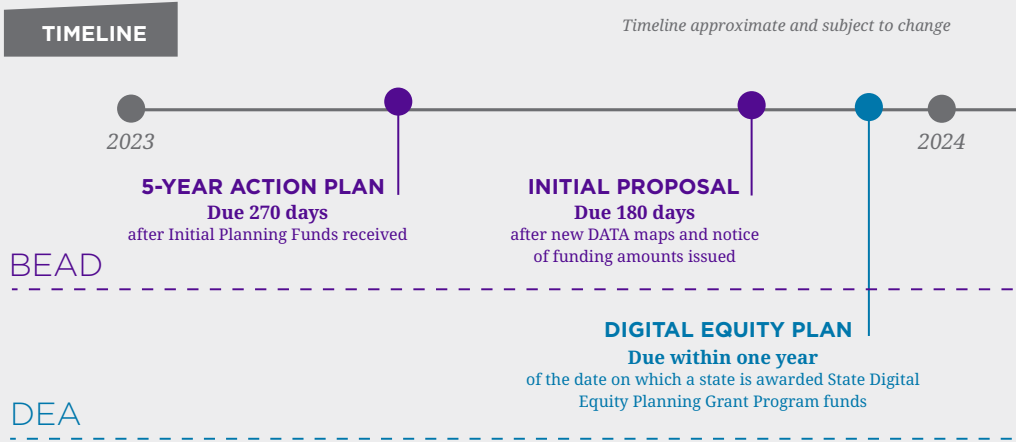
Digital Equity Act (DEA)

These funds are meant to promote digital equity and inclusion in more established and urban areas. This includes improving the online accessibility and inclusivity of public resources for communities.

Note: Some of the programs' deliverables must be developed in coordination with each other.

Is your community on track?

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration has yet to assign timelines and details for Digital Equity Planning Grant Program funds but BEAD funding amounts and state plans are being approved, and procurement opportunities will follow shortly. Let us help you navigate the program and timelines.

TIMELINE

Timeline approximate and subject to change

2023 — 2024

BEAD

5-YEAR ACTION PLAN
Due 270 days
after Initial Planning Funds received

INITIAL PROPOSAL
Due 180 days
after new DATA maps and notice of funding amounts issued

DEA

DIGITAL EQUITY PLAN
Due within one year
of the date on which a state is awarded State Digital Equity Planning Grant Program funds

Requirements to receive funding

Whether you're applying for BEAD or DEA funds, it's important to understand what the requirements are and to find a partner whose standard operating procedures will help you qualify.

SPEED AND CAPACITY
These funds are available to unserved (<25Mbps download/3Mbps upload) and underserved (<100Mbps download/20Mbps upload) communities, as well as community anchor institutions.
> Through our towers, small cells and fiber, we have multiple high-speed/high-capacity wired and wireless infrastructure solutions.

NETWORK OUTAGES
Entities must design a reliable network and implement countermeasures to anticipate and avoid outages, achieving 99.995% uptime.
> Our fiber solutions can achieve up to 99.999% uptime and are monitored by our 24/7 Network Operations Center.

INTERCONNECTION
Any new broadband infrastructure must provide access to data centers, Cloud Innovation Centers, education consortiums and other partners.
> We have a diverse, nationwide network of fiber connected to 900+ data centers, PoPs and COs.

CYBERSECURITY MANAGEMENT
You must develop an operational cybersecurity risk-management plan that meets compliance requirements and is updated on a periodic basis.
> We have a full suite of security offerings, from Optical Encryption and Managed SD-WAN to DDoS protection.

OPEN ACCESS
New broadband infrastructure must be equally available to all broadband service providers at a fair price.
> Our shared infrastructure model offers a more sustainable solution that already meets open-access requirements.

Ready to get started? Let's navigate the process together. Call 877-714-3264.

CROWN CASTLE