State of Florida Broadband Equity, Access & Deployment (BEAD) and Digital Adoption and Use (DAU) Plan

Public Workshop

June 30, 2023
Jacksonville, Florida
Welcome!

➢ Please sign in

➢ Locate on the map approximately where you live and/or where the populations you represent live. Place a color mark on that location using...
  • **Green** if your Internet connection is good
  • **Yellow** if the connection is spotty
  • **Red** if the connection is poor
Your facilitators for today’s meeting

Brett Kaiser
Guidehouse

Katie Smith
Director, Office of Broadband
Florida Commerce

Sarah Beck
Guidehouse
Today’s agenda

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>10 min</td>
<td>Welcome and Introduction</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 min</td>
<td>Broadband 101</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 min</td>
<td>Overview of Federal Broadband Programs</td>
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<td>15 min</td>
<td>Group Discussion</td>
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<td>15 min</td>
<td>Interactive Activity</td>
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<td>25 min</td>
<td>Q&amp;A / Public Comments / Wrap Up</td>
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The mission of FloridaCommerce is to advance Florida’s economy by championing the state’s economic development vision and administering state and federal programs and initiatives to help visitors, citizens, businesses, and communities.

The Office of Broadband within FloridaCommerce works with local and state government agencies, community organizations and private businesses to increase the availability and effectiveness of broadband Internet throughout the state. Through these partnerships, the Office of Broadband encourages investment in grant funding opportunities that focus on the expansion of broadband.
Broadband is high-speed Internet that connects us with one another – and the world!

Broadband Definition

Broadband is a type of telecommunications. It refers to wide bandwidth that can transport multiple signals over a "broad" range of frequencies, allowing many data streams to be sent at once, over high speeds. Broadband uses technologies like DSL, cable, and fiber to deliver internet access to homes and businesses.

High-Speed Internet Definition

High-speed Internet is a generic term used for Internet service that is faster than the average. Traditionally, the way to determine if a connection is high-speed is to test its ability to connect multiple devices simultaneously to allow streaming and access to modern applications.

Which Term to Use?

The terms “Broadband” and “High-Speed Internet” are often understood to mean the same thing when internet speeds are at Federal Communications Commission (FCC) standards or higher (i.e., speeds of at least 25 megabytes per second (Mbps) when downloading data and 3Mbps when uploading).

For purposes of this presentation, when discussing infrastructure or technology, we will use the term “broadband.” When discussing the service provided, we will use the term “high-speed Internet.”

Source: National Telecommunications Information and Administration.
The benefits of broadband span a wide array of public and essential services


Broadband generates wide-ranging benefits… and enables people to participate fully in our modern economy

- **Health** (e.g., telehealth)
- **Economic development** (e.g., job creation and e-commerce)
- **Government services** (e.g., improved traffic lights)
- **Public safety** (e.g., disaster/emergency response)
- **Education** (e.g., remote learning)
- **Quality of life** (e.g., entertainment)

- **77%** of all jobs require at least some technology skills
- **48%** of hiring managers say that candidates lack the skills needed to fill open jobs
- **29%** of students without basic digital skills say they won’t consider post-secondary studies

Understanding current connectivity in the State of Florida

- The 2017-2021 American Community Survey (ACS) conducted by the United States Census Bureau estimates that the State of Florida is home to around 8 million households. Among these households, the ACS finds that:
  - 74% of households have a broadband Internet subscription through fiber, cable, or DSL. This translates to some 2 million households that have not adopted broadband wireline services.*
  - 94% of households in Florida have a computer, suggesting that 490,000 households do not have access to this computing device.

*Wireline technologies include fiber, cable, and DSL
Local Technology Planning Teams

**Structure**

- **Health** (e.g., telehealth)
- **Economic development** (e.g., job creation and e-commerce)
- **Government services** (e.g., improved traffic lights)
- **Public safety** (e.g., disaster/emergency response)
- **Education** (e.g., remote learning)
- **Quality of life** (e.g., entertainment)

**Directives**

- 77% of all jobs require at least some technology skills
- 48% of hiring managers say that candidates lack the skills needed to fill open jobs
- 29% of students without basic digital skills say they won’t consider post-secondary studies

Florida is participating in two Federal programs that aim to increase the availability and effectiveness of broadband.

**Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) Program**

- **Objective:** Achieve universal, high-speed coverage by building infrastructure and increasing adoption
- ✓ $42.45B nationally
- ✓ Funds the deployment of high-speed Internet in unserved and underserved locations

**Digital Equity Act Program**

- **Objective:** Ensure all communities can participate and meaningfully use high-speed Internet
- ✓ $1.5B for states
- ✓ Funds activities that promote affordable access, digital skills, and devices
The Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment Program supports the deployment of broadband infrastructure

**Program Overview**
- $42.5B for states, D.C., Puerto Rico and U.S. Territories
- Funding for partnerships between states/territories, communities, and stakeholders for building broadband infrastructure
- Aims to get all Americans online and increase adoption of high-speed Internet

**Program Priorities**
- Unserved locations (those below 25/3 Mbps)
- Underserved locations (those below 100/20 Mbps)
- Community anchor institutions (Without gigabit connections)

Entities must also prioritize persistent high-poverty areas and offer a low-cost plan to all their subscribers

**Eligible Uses of Funding**
- Planning for deployment of Internet
- Deploying/upgrading Internet
- Installing Internet in multi-tenant buildings
- Implementing digital adoption and use programs
- Implementing workforce and job training

**Subgrantee Selection Process**
- States create their own challenge process for FCC maps
- Subgrantee selection process must be competitive and open to non-profits, cooperatives, P3s, private companies, and more
- States set selection criteria using NTIA parameters

**BEAD Plan Development Process**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>BEAD 5-Year Action Plan</th>
<th>Initial Proposal</th>
<th>Plan Implementation</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Summer 2023</strong></td>
<td><strong>Late 2023</strong></td>
<td><strong>2024-2028</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop understanding of broadband needs and identify activities to achieve effective high-speed coverage.</td>
<td>Submit a proposal elaborating on key activities described in the 5-Year Action Plan and use of BEAD grant funds.</td>
<td>States have four years to carry out the approved activities.</td>
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The Digital Adoption and Use Program promotes access to high-speed Internet, digital skills, and devices

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overview</th>
<th>Program Descriptions</th>
<th>Eligible Uses of Funding</th>
<th>Covered Populations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| • $2.75B across 3 programs  
  • Provides funding to promote **digital inclusion** and advance **digital literacy**  
  • Aims to ensure that all communities can access and use affordable, reliable, high-speed Internet to meet their needs | • **State Planning:** $60M formula funding program to develop digital adoption and use plans  
  • **State Capacity:** $1.44B formula funding program to implement plans & promote digital inclusion  
  • **Competitive:** $1.25B to implement digital inclusion activities | • Developing & implementing **digital adoption and use plans**  
  • Awarding funds to other **entities** for their digital adoption and use plans  
  • Providing digital literacy and **digital skills education**  
  • Facilitating adoption of **high-speed Internet** | Activities are focused on meeting the needs of specific populations, including:  
  • **Low-income** households  
  • **Aging** populations  
  • **Incarcerated** individuals  
  • **Veterans**  
  • People with **disabilities**  
  • People with **language barriers**  
  • **Racial/ethnic** minorities  
  • **Rural** inhabitants |

**DAU Plan Development Process**

- **Digital Adoption and Use Plan**  
  *Fall 2023*  
  Develop current state understanding of, and develop activities to address, digital inclusion needs.

- **Digital Equity Capacity Grant**  
  *Est. Early 2024*  
  Submit grant application that includes digital inclusion activities identified in the Digital Adoption and Use Plan.

- **Plan Implementation**  
  *2024-2029*  
  States have five years to carry out the approved activities.

*The State of Florida will be using the term “Digital Adoption and Use Plan” in place of “Digital Equity Act Plan”*
Every stakeholder plays an integral role in the development and implementation of these programs

Community Organizations
- Attend in-person meetings during planning phase to provide feedback
- Serve as thought partner as states design their outreach strategies
- Advocate for community interests across programs

Individuals
- Attend in-person meetings during planning phase to provide feedback
- Participate in digital skill and literacy courses funded by programs

Local Governments
- Collaborate with states to develop DAU plan and during BEAD planning
- Apply for federal Digital Equity Capacity and competitive grants

Community Anchor Institutions
- Benefit from BEAD funding for faster Internet
- Apply for federal Digital Equity Competitive Grant
- Advocate for community interests across programs

Tribal Government
- Coordinate, consult and partner with states during BEAD and DAU planning
- Apply for federal Digital Equity Capacity grants

Telecom Providers
- Provide feedback on hurdles (regulatory, financial, etc.) to expanding broadband
- Apply to be a BEAD subgrantee

Note: Telecom providers may include government-owned entities
Group Discussion (15 min)
What do members of your community use the Internet for?
What are the barriers your community members face when trying to access the Internet?
What kind of support or programs would help you connect and get the most benefit from Internet access and technology?
Let’s dive deeper into how members of your community access the Internet and digital devices

**Key Characteristics**

- **Age:** 72
- **Race / Ethnicity:** Black / African American
- **Household Size:** 1
- **Income:** FPL >100%
- **Language:** English
- **Covered Population:** Rural; Aging

Linda is 72 years old and lives alone in a rural part of the state. She has a desktop computer in her home, but she knows only the very basics of how to use it. She has Internet, but the service is unreliable when she tries to have video calls with her daughter and grandchildren. She is not sure how to use many of the functions of the computer and she is not savvy when it comes to understanding all the services or benefits available to her by being digitally connected.

**What services or programs might help Linda get the most benefit from being digitally connected?**
Let’s dive deeper into how members of your community access the Internet and digital devices

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Age:</strong> 31</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Race / Ethnicity:</strong> Hispanic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Household Size:</strong> 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income:</strong> FPL &lt;100%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Language:</strong> Spanish</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Covered Population:</strong> Language barrier; Low-income</td>
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Diego is 31 years old and recently lost his job. He is seeking a new job as soon as possible because his wife stays at home to take care of their young child. They do not have any Internet at home, but Diego does own a smart phone. Diego needs to update his resume before he starts applying for new positions. However, because Diego has limited English proficiency, he will need assistance updating his resume – in addition to needing access to a computer with Word and reliable Internet service.

Where can Diego go to get the device access and resume help that he needs?
Let’s dive deeper into how members of your community access the Internet and digital devices

### Ellen

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Age:</strong> 24</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Race / Ethnicity:</strong> White</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Household Size:</strong> 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income:</strong> FPL &lt;100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Language:</strong> English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Covered Population:</strong> Disabled; Low-income</td>
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Ellen is 24 years old and lives with her mother. Ellen was born blind but is able to get help from her mother as she manages her disability. She and her mother do not have Internet at home and Ellen does not own a digital device of any kind. Ellen would like to apply for her first job as a customer service representative. However, she is not sure how to go about the job application process – researching jobs, submitting an application, or doing an interview.

**Where can Ellen get the digital devices and training she needs to apply for jobs?**
We are hosting public meetings and webinars across the State of Florida this summer

Regional Public Meetings

1. Big Bend Technical College / July 6 @ 5:30PM EST
2. Gulf Coast State College / July 7 @ 2:30PM EST
3. Collier County South Regional Library / July 10 @ 5:30PM EST
4. Miami Dade College / July 11 @ 11:00AM EST

Webinars

1. Friday, July 14, 2023 @ 10:30AM EST
2. Monday, July 24, 2023 @ 2:00PM EST
3. Wednesday, July 26, 2023 @ 2:00PM EST

Scan the QR code or visit floridajobs.org for more information:
Thank you!

Please contact Broadband@deo.myflorida.com with any follow-up questions or feedback.