



Revised 8/15/2023

Connect Wyoming ARPA/CPF Program Guidelines

Introduction and Funding Availability

The U.S. Treasury launched the Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund in 2021 and is funded by the American Rescue Plan which provides \$10 billion for eligible governments to carry out critical capital projects that directly enable work, education, and health monitoring, including remote options, in response to the COVID 19 public health emergency. On February 21, 2023, The Capital Projects Fund (CPF) was approved to invest \$70.5 million to expand broadband infrastructure in Wyoming. The Wyoming Business Council Broadband Office will be the administrator of the funds and is further referred to in this document as the Broadband Office.

The Connect Wyoming CPF program for the distribution of CPF funding will be focusing on the deployment of broadband infrastructure to bring access to high-quality internet service to homes, businesses, and communities. Aligned with the U.S. Treasury Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund guidance, fiber-optic infrastructure will be the preferred solution as it provides a future-proof capital investment for bandwidth scalability as technology evolves with future bandwidth requirements. The program's goal is to provide affordable universal access to reliable broadband services with a minimum of 100 Mbps upload and download speeds with low latency in the awarded areas.

The Connect Wyoming CPF program will provide infrastructure funding to improve broadband access to unserved and underserved areas, with all infrastructure to be installed, owned, and operated by the applicant.

This document is subject to change based upon updated ARPA/CPF rules or guidance from the U.S Treasury administering these funds or by the Council as needed. Additional details can be found at: [Capital Projects Fund | U.S. Department of the Treasury](#)

All projects funded by this program must be complete, operational and have fund disbursements completed by December 31, 2026.

ARPA/CPF broadband funds distributed under this program are not subject to chapter rules previously set forth for state funded programs.



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Who is Eligible to Apply

Units of government (e.g., municipalities or counties), tribal governments, non-profits, co-operatives, electric utilities, and any private business entity authorized to be formed under title 17 of the Wyoming statutes, or the laws of another state that are the functional equivalent, which is authorized to transact business in this state and has experience installing broadband infrastructure and providing broadband services and:

1. Which has submitted coverage details of their entire service area in Wyoming prior to the date of their application and met the January 13, 2023, submission date specified by the Council and in the format specified in the State of Wyoming ISP Data Submission Guide document provided by LightBox. ([State-of-Wyoming-ISP-Data-Submission-Guide-v2.0-11.29.2022.pdf \(wyomingbusiness.org\)](#));
2. Which offers mass market retail services by wireline or terrestrial fixed wireless technology over licensed spectrum, which provides the capability to transmit and receive data from all or substantially all internet end points but excluding dial-up internet access service;
3. Shall commit to maintaining any Broadband Infrastructure constructed through funds provided under this program at the applicant's own expense for a 15-year period for Fixed Wireless and a 20-year period for fiber, which will allow for replacement of end of life, obsolete or non-functioning equipment so that the speeds are at or above those committed to in the award, are continued, and reliable service is provided for the period stated. Any successive owner(s) are required to comply for the remaining period;
4. Participates in federal programs that provide low-income consumers with subsidies on broadband internet access services including but not limited to the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) Emergency Broadband Benefit (EBB) program, the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) or other Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) identified eligible programs.



Online Application Access Requests

The application system and the maps used in the application process are credentialed by the vendor to protect the data and confidentiality of the application during the review process. Access will only be granted to eligible applicants. The Broadband Office determines eligibility prior to authorizing the vendors to provide credentials.

Eligible applicants include those listed above and additional units of government: a city, town, improvement and service district, county, or joint powers board; a tribal government of either the Eastern Shoshone or Northern Arapaho tribes of the Wind River Indian Reservation or the cooperative tribal governing body.

Eligible business entities include non-profits, private entities, co-operatives, electric utilities, and other entities that build or operate broadband networks.

Broadband providers currently operating in Wyoming must have met the requirement of item (1) above to be eligible. Credentials to access the online application and the Wyoming Application/Challenge Tool (Map) will be distributed to these providers once the application system and map are operational.

Credential Requests must be emailed to Broadbandoffice@wyo.gov and include the following information:

- a. Name of organization or company.
- b. Type of organization or company, i.e., government, non-profit, tribal government, co-operative, electric utility, private broadband provider, etc.
- c. Name of user.
- d. Email address of user.

If approved, the user will be granted credentials to both the online application and the Wyoming Grant Application/Challenge Tool (map).

No more than two users per eligible entity will be approved.

Applications will be accepted only during a defined period to be established by the Broadband Office. Applications received outside of the defined period will not be accepted.

Eligible Locations

The purpose of the Connect Wyoming CPF program is to facilitate broadband access to unserved and underserved areas with demonstrated need and may include residential, business, and community anchor institution locations. Eligible locations must be,

1. Identified on the **Wyoming Grant Application/Challenge Tool (map)** as Unserved or Underserved and,
2. Meet federal funding criteria by improving opportunities and access to telework, telehealth, facilitating distance learning, and improving public safety; areas of needed improvement highlighted as deficient during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Eligible Projects

Broadband Infrastructure investments which provide broadband access to Unserved or Underserved area(s) which shall be installed, owned, and operated by an Eligible Applicant.

1. Projects that serve Unserved or Underserved area(s) as defined in this program and must not overbuild existing adequate broadband service;
 - a) The Broadband Office will not consider applications for projects in areas with reliable broadband (as defined by NTIA) of at least one hundred (100) Megabits per second (Mbps) download and twenty (20) Megabits per second (Mbps) upload, nor will it consider projects for areas where there are existing enforceable federal or state funding commitments for reliable wireline service at speeds of at least 100 Mbps of download speed and 20 Mbps of upload speed nor will it consider projects in areas which written agreements exist to construct and deliver services at or above this level prior to December 31, 2026.
 - i. NTIA defines "Reliable Broadband Service" as; broadband service that the Broadband DATA Maps show is accessible to a location via fiber-optic technology; Cable Modem/ Hybrid fiber-coaxial technology; digital subscriber line (DSL) technology; or terrestrial fixed wireless technology utilizing entirely licensed spectrum or using a hybrid of licensed and unlicensed spectrum.
2. Include Broadband Infrastructure and equipment costs meeting the following federal funding criteria:
 - a) Middle-mile fiber-optic infrastructure the primary purpose of which is to connect last-mile infrastructure and networks to network service providers; and/or

- b) Last-mile fixed terrestrial infrastructure the primary purpose of which is to provide broadband internet service to end users or end-user devices, including households, businesses, public safety entities and community facilities.
3. All completed projects must reliably deliver minimum speeds of one hundred (100) megabits per second (Mbps) download and one hundred (100) Mbps upload.
- a) In cases where it is not practicable due to geography, topography, or financial cost to meet those standards, projects must reliably deliver at least one hundred (100) Mbps download speed and at least twenty (20) Mbps upload speed AND must be scalable to a minimum of one hundred (100) Mbps download speed and one hundred (100) Mbps upload speed. Such areas must be noted in the application and supporting mapping. Adequate documentation must be submitted by the applicant for the review team to complete the following analysis:
 - b) The scoring criteria weighs fiber networks first. In areas of the state a fiber build is impractical, the application review team will first validate the applicant's claim based on the following criteria:
 - i. Geography: is it impractical or does it require significant additional cost based on the geology within the application area to build a fiber network?
 - ii. Topography: are the land features in the project area prohibitive to traditional fiber optic placing methods for buried or aerial applications based on the physical characteristics of the land.
 - iii. Financial cost: what is the cost of the proposed project vs. the cost of placing fiber in the application area considering additional placing costs associated with the geology and topography validated by the review team.
 - c) If an application is validated by the review team as impractical as described above and the proposed technology does not meet the 100/100 criteria, the next step in the process would be to evaluate the proposed technology, (non-fiber projects must utilize fixed wireless technology over licensed spectrum).

The validation will determine if the technology meets the requirement to deliver 100/20Mbps scalable to 100/100 Mbps and include a review of supporting documentation from the manufacturer detailing its claim. A technical evaluation of applicant's manufacturer supporting documentation including but not limited to, detailed planning and engineering documentation detailing the end user locations identifying the proposed upload, download and latency data and field trial data to include actual upload, download, and latency data as required.

Projects that are validated under the process described above will be scored according to the Connect WY ARPA/CPF scoring criteria to funding availability.

Eligible Costs

1. Construction and Materials.
2. New and rehabilitative construction contracts.
3. Architect and engineering services and legal and professional services, if required by the project.
4. Permitting fees.
5. Acquisition of Broadband Infrastructure equipment.
6. Construction and installation of Infrastructure equipment, to include direct labor costs.
7. Other expenses deemed eligible under the U.S. Department of Treasury Capital Projects Fund.

Ineligible Costs

1. General broadband planning not associated with the project.
2. Ongoing overhead, operating costs, or staff costs to include bonuses of any kind.
3. Political activities or lobbying.

Funding Terms and Conditions

1. The Broadband Office may require applicants to have or provide matching funds, or letters of support.
2. The Wyoming Business Council shall provide a uniform Contract for awards made under the Connect Wyoming CPF program. A sample contract can be found at [Wyoming Business Council - Connect Wyoming](#). All awards are contingent on the applicant's acceptance and execution of the Contract and strict compliance with all terms and conditions contained therein. No edits or exceptions to the Contract terms will be accepted.
3. If awarded funds the recipient must agree to report to the State, all information required for the State to meet its obligation and timelines under the U.S Department of Treasury Coronavirus Capital Funds Compliance and Reporting Guidance. A Provider ID is required by Treasury for reporting. Provider IDs are assigned by the FCC as part of the Broadband Data Collection process. For more information go to [Broadband Data Collection \(BDC\) FAQs – BDC Help Center \(fcc.gov\)](#) CPF reporting requirements can be viewed at; [CPF State Guidance \(June 2023\) \(treasury.gov\)](#)
4. The Connect Wyoming CPF Program will provide structured reimbursements for validated grant expenditures submitted. Grantees are expected to submit supporting documentation for expenditures (i.e., invoices, receipts) and proof of payment if requested. Grantees must submit all required legal and contractual agreements/documents prior to funds disbursement.

Grantees may submit payment requests at the following milestones:

- 1) Final design and all permits obtained - Reimbursement allowed for engineering and permit costs:
 - a. Once the final design and permitting milestone is complete, a 20% advance of the total project cost may also be requested.
 - 2) Project Material Reimbursement - Reimbursement allowed for materials purchased specific to individual project.
 - 3) Final Construction - All placing costs associated with the placement of infrastructure.
 - 4) Final payment upon reporting of all data required by the State and Treasury once the system is operational and verified that it met the requirements of the contract.
5. Should actual project costs exceed the proposed/approved budget, grantees will be responsible to complete the proposed project without an increase in the grant award. The Wyoming Business Council reserves the right to partially fund projects that are not completed during the approved project period.
6. The amounts, timing, and conditions of such payments will be determined by Treasury in its sole discretion. Investments in Capital Projects must be carried out in ways that comply with applicable federal laws, including the 2019 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). Among other requirements contained in 2 C.F.R. Part 200, 2 C.F.R. 200.216 implements certain provisions of the NDAA and contains prohibitions on the use of grant funds to procure or obtain certain telecommunications and video surveillance services or equipment provided or produced by designated entities, including certain entities owned or controlled by the People's Republic of China. In addition, 2 C.F.R. 200.471 provides that certain telecommunications and video surveillance costs associated with 2 C.F.R. 200.216 are unallowable.
7. The Broadband Office may identify and require additional financial documentation from an applicant or awardee including but not limited to, a bank letter of credit for match and/or construction loan(s).

Important Dates

Wyoming Broadband Map Completion	March 31, 2023
Map/Application User Training	April 3-7, 2023
Map Challenge Period	April 14 – April 27, 2023
Application Launch	July 24, 2023
Application Period Closes	August 22, 2023
Application Summary and Proposed Award Areas Posted to Wyoming Broadband Map and to the Wyoming Business Council - Connect Wyoming website .	September 21, 2023
Challenge Period Opens	September 22, 2023
Challenge Period Closes	October 5, 2023
Project Awards Announcement	November 4, 2023
Contract Execution	TBD

The timelines are subject to change based on the volume of applications:

1. Application Period – 30 days.
2. Application Summary and Proposed Service Areas for all eligible applications Posted to [Wyoming Business Council - Connect Wyoming](#) – 30 days after application close date.

3. Challenge Period Opens – Upon Application Summary and Proposed Service Area posting on public map.
4. Challenge Period Closes - 2 weeks after Application Summary and Proposed Service Area posting.
5. Project Awards – 30 days after Challenge Period Close.
6. Contract Execution with Awarded Projects – 30 days after final project awards are determined.

Challenge Process

Map and/or application challenges brought by any Broadband Provider will only be considered if the Provider has submitted their data as defined in the State of Wyoming ISP Data Submission Guide [State-of-Wyoming-ISP-Data-Submission-Guide-v2.0-11.29.2022.pdf \(wyomingbusiness.org\)](#) for their entire service area and met the January 13, 2023 submission date.

Fixed wireless on unlicensed spectrum and satellite coverage areas will not be considered in the map or application challenge process as they were not considered in the determination of served, underserved or unserved on the Wyoming Broadband Maps.

Any challenge must provide adequate detail and supporting documentation, determined by the Broadband Office, for the challenge to be considered.

A response from the Broadband Provider or applicant being challenged will be due (7) calendar days after the Council provides written notice that a valid challenge has been made.

Map Challenge Process

Adequate detail specific to map challenges/corrections and will be accepted only during a defined period to be established by the Broadband Office. The map challenge process and data requirements are defined in the Map Challenge Process Document available on the [Wyoming Business Council - Connect Wyoming](#) web page.

Application Challenge Process

Any application challenge must provide adequate details and supporting documentation, determined by the Broadband Office, for the challenge to be considered. The Challenger may be required to provide additional data defined by Broadband Office to substantiate their challenge. Application challenges will be accepted only during a defined period to be established by the Broadband Office.



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1. The Broadband Manager or their designee shall acknowledge receipt of the challenge with the challenging party in writing within seven (7) calendar days.
2. Challenges will be evaluated by the Broadband Office, who may seek additional information from the challenging party.
 - a. Challenges may be dismissed by the Broadband Office in the event the challenging party fails to provide any requested information within (5) calendar days.
3. Challenged applicants shall be contacted by the Broadband Office for additional information and be given an opportunity to respond. A response from the Broadband Provider or applicant being challenged will be due (7) calendar days after written notice that a valid challenge has been made.
4. A determination on the challenge shall be communicated to the challenging party as well as the challenged applicant in writing as soon as practical, but not more than thirty (30) days from the date the challenge was acknowledged.
 - a. Challenges shall either be upheld, dismissed, or modified based on the Broadband Office review.

Email all required documents to the Broadband Manager at broadbandoffice@wyo.gov or deliver by physical delivery to 214 W. 15th, Cheyenne Wyoming 82001.

Company Name:

Contact Name:

Contact Number:

Contact Email:

Detailed explanation of your application challenge is being submitted:

The challenger must provide the location(s) data obtained from the [Wyoming Grant Application/Challenge Tool \(ISP Map\)](#) in the format described below.

Submit one file per application being challenged.

Each challenge data file must contain records of each location being challenged in a Comma Separated Value (CSV) format and match the specification provided below. This is the only format that will be accepted.

All fields must be included in the file upload, and all values must conform to the descriptions, codes, or formats identified for each field. The file must include a header row where the field names match those listed in the document.

Each Challenge submission must also contain a shapefile (.shp file) identifying the challenge area. Please note: all GIS shape files must be submitted in .zip files.

Polygon dataset (Draw boundary around locations being challenged)

- *NOTE: Boundary should be a complete shape and not be a multi-part polygon (e.g., a group of polygons)*

Instructions on how to download the location data from the [Wyoming Grant Application/Challenge Tool \(Map\)](#) are provided in the Wyoming Broadband Grant/Application Tool Training Guide and the ISP Training Webinar found here: [Wyoming Business Council - Connect Wyoming](#).

NOTE: Blue highlighted areas are required fields to be populated by the challenging provider.

Field	Description	Data Type	Example Value	Mandatory (M) / Optional (O)
ID /ObjectID	ESRI generated ID	String	123456	M
Full Address	Full address	String	123 N Main St W CASPER WY 12309- 1234	M
Serviceability	Serviceability value associated to location	String	2022Q4	M
Version ID	Version ID associated to LightBox SmartFabric	String	2022Q4	M
Address LID	Unique LightBox Address ID	String	0603703HXWJ4UG9 86Z0MGL	M
Address	The house number, street prefix direction, prefix type, street name, suffix type, street suffix direction all formatted as a single line. Do not include unit information in this field – unit info should go in "unit" field (refer below).	String	123 N Main St W	M

Unit	The unit type and unit number (if applicable).	String	Apt 3A	M
City	The preferred locality of the address as assigned by the postal system and associated with the postal code.	String	Casper	M
State	2 letter state abbreviation.	String	WY	M
Zipcode	The country specific code for postal sorting, ZIP5 or ZIP 9.	String	12309 or 12309-1234	M
County	County Name	String	Natrona	M
Country Code	Country Code (US)	String	US	M
Classification	Classification (Business, Residential, etc)	String	Business	M
Assessment Land Use	Land use Classification (derived from Assessor data)	String	Boarding House	M
Address Type	Column that contains parent categories for Community Anchor Institution (CAI) values: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● School ● Hospitals ● Health/Medical ● Government Building ● Public Safety 	String	School	M

Comm Anchor Inst	Column to capture more distinct Community Anchor Institution (CAI) values (such as): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● K-12 Public Schools ● Community College ● University ● Trade School ● Health Center ● Hospitals ● Fire Stations ● Police Stations ● Government Building (County) 	String	K-12 Public Schools	M
Federal Government Program (USDA ReConnect)	Flag where address is associated to federal funding data (ReConnect)	String		M
Federal Government Program (FCC USAC)	Flag where address is associated to federal funding data (USAC)	String		M
Building	Building Name	String		M
Longitude	X-coordinate	String	-104.453	M
Latitude	Y-coordinate	String	25.897575	M
x	Map coordinate of address location (is located here in the table when downloading via County CSV files)		-12469479.0855964	M
y	Map coordinate of address location (is located here in the table when downloading via County CSV files)		5876858.29954947	M

Challenge Provider	Name of Internet Service Provider (ISP).	String	<ISP Name>	M
Challenge Bizrescode	<p>Assign an enumerated character indicating whether the service at the location is business-only, residential-only, or offered to both business and residential customers.</p> <p>Values include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● B = Business-only service ● R = Residential-only service ● X = Business and Residential service 	Enumerated String	B	M
Challenge BSL Flag	<p>Indicates whether a location is a Broadband Serviceable Location (BSL) or not.</p> <p>BSL values must be one of the following numeric codes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● False = 0 ● True = 1 	Boolean Integer	0	M
Challenge Technology	<p>Indicate the technology used to offer service to this address. The value must be one of the following codes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 10 = Copper Wire ● 40 = Coaxial Cable / HFC ● 50 = Optical Carrier / Fiber to the Premises ● 71 = Licensed Terrestrial Fixed Wireless ● 72 = Licensed-by-Rule Terrestrial Fixed Wireless ● 0 = Other 	Integer	50	M

Challenge Maxspeed Down	<p>Provide the maximum advertised download speed value (Mbps) for the address as a value (#).</p> <p>Examples (but not limited to):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 6 (represent 6Mbps download speed) ● 100 (represents 100Mbps download speed) 	Float	100.0	M
Challenge Maxspeed Up	<p>Provide the maximum advertised upload speed value (Mbps) for the address as a value (#).</p> <p>Examples (but not limited to):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 1.5 (represent 1.5Mbps upload speed) ● 20 (represents 20Mbps upload speed) 	Float	20.0	M
Challenge Latency	<p>The offered service is low latency, defined as having round-trip latency of less than or equal to 100 milliseconds based on the 95th percentile of measurement.</p> <p>Values must be one of the following codes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 0 = False ● 1 = True 	Boolean Integer	1	M
Challenge ISP Serviceability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Serviceability value that ISP believes should be associated with address based on the provided speed value 	String	Served	M

Challenge Category Code	Code identifying the category or type of Fabric challenge. - Value must be one of the following codes: 1. Incorrect Serviceability	String	1	M
Challenge Contact Name	Full name of the entity's challenge data contact.	String	Mike Broadband	M
Challenge Contact Email	Email address of the entity's challenge data contact. - Value must match valid email address format, e.g.: atom@domain.tld.	String	jane.broadband@mygovt.gov	M
Challenge Contact Phone	Phone number of the entity's challenge data contact. Value is optional and may be null. Value must match valid U.S. phone number format: 000-000-0000, if not null.	String	888-225-5322	M
x	ESRI map coordinate (column created by exporting data using Eligible Locations tool)	String	- 12257089.1808794	M
y	ESRI map coordinate (column created by exporting data using Eligible Locations tool)	String	5244060.87882158	M

NOTES:

- **Depending on how the data is downloaded from the Wyoming Grant Application/Challenge Tool (ISP Map), please note that the fields may be in a slightly different order – this will not affect the submission to the State of Wyoming.**

Application Process

Each proposed service/project area must have its own application, and applicants shall submit no more than one (1) application per proposed service/project area. **All location/service area data submitted in the application must be obtained from the [Wyoming Grant Application/Challenge Tool \(ISP Map\)](#).**

1. Applicants may submit applications for multiple proposed service/project areas.
2. Applications shall be received only during the application period(s) specified by the Broadband Office.
3. Applications which do not include all the minimum required information shall be afforded seven (7) calendar days from notification to correct the deficiency. Applications which remain deficient after this period shall be disqualified.
4. Complete applications shall be evaluated by a committee to include the Broadband Office and other participants as deemed necessary and according to the information provided by the applicant and scoring matrix outlined in the application.
5. In situations where the Broadband Office receives multiple applications for any single project area, applications proposing fiber-optic infrastructure shall be afforded priority over applications proposing fixed wireless infrastructure on licensed spectrum.
 - a. Applications proposing similar technology will be scored according to cost and demonstrated ability to complete the project.
 - b. In situations where the Broadband Office receives multiple applications for any single project area proposing comparable infrastructure, priority shall be afforded to the applicant proposing the fastest broadband speeds.
 - c. Priority shall be given to projects that achieve last-mile connections or support new and/or improved last-mile service.
 - d. Priority shall also be given to projects that involve broadband networks owned/operated/affiliated with local governments, non-profits, and co-operative providers with less pressure to generate profits and with a commitment to serving entire communities.
6. The review committee shall rank eligible project applications with a recommendation of “fund” or “do not fund” and could include partial funding of an application area.
7. All funding decisions shall be at the sole and final discretion of the review committee.

Application Scoring Criteria

Connecting Wyoming: 35 points possible

- Number of residential living units exist within the proposed project area. What percentage of these are unserved and/or underserved?
 - Download location data for application area from ISP Map
 - Filter on Serviceability column (using unserved and underserved values)
 - Filter on Classification column for Residential, Unknown/Other, blank locations and/or
 - Filter on Assessment Land Use. Include residential, residential/agriculture, residential improvement, and unknown
 - Include all units in the count (i.e., apt 1,2,3, unit 1,2,3 or lot 1,2,3) if duplicate addresses appear and/or are multifamily or mobile home parks.

- Number of Business locations (businesses, government buildings) in project area. What percentage of these are unserved and/or underserved?
 - Download location data for application area from ISP Map
 - Filter on Serviceability column (using unserved and underserved values)
 - Filter on Classification column for Business locations
 - Include all units if duplicate addresses appear and are multi business structures

- Number of Community Anchor Institutions/Community Support facilities (school, library, hospital, non-profit senior center) in project area. What percentage of these are unserved and/or underserved?
 - Download location data for application area from ISP Map
 - Filter on Serviceability column (using unserved and underserved values)
 - Filter on address type to obtain number community anchor institution (CAI) locations
 - Include all units if duplicate addresses appear and are a multi structure/unit CAI location
 - You can add additional community anchor institutions and community support organizations not shown on the map to your submission. You must include the full address and a description of the organization for it to be considered.

- You are required to itemize all business, community anchor, and community support organizations on your application.

- Is this project owned/operated/affiliated with local governments, non-profits, and cooperative providers? i.e., City, County or district municipalities, nonprofit as defined by tax status, electrical cooperatives.

Connecting Wyoming 35 Points:

	Answer	Segment	Points	Point Scale
Total Residential living units in project area Percent Unserved <25/3 Percent Underserved >25/3 <100/20 Total must equal 100%.	Total units:	10 Points Maximum		
				<=50% = 4, >50 - <100%= 7, 100% = 10
				<50% = 2, >=50 - <100%= 4, 100% = 6
	Total:			
Total Business locations in project area (businesses, government buildings) Percent Unserved <25/3 Percent Underserved >25/3 <100/20 Total must equal 100%.	Total units:	10 Points Maximum		
				<=50% = 4, >50 - <100%= 7, 100% = 10
				<50% = 2, >=50 - <100%= 4, 100% = 6
	Total:			
Total Number of Community Anchor Institutions/Community Support locations in project area (school, library, hospital, non- profit) Percent Unserved <25/3 Percent Underserved >25/3 <100/20 Total must equal 100%.	Total units:	10 Points Maximum		
				<=50% = 4, >50 - <100%= 7, 100% = 10
				<50% = 2, >=50 - <100%= 4, 100% = 6
	Total:			
Total of all units Served:				
Is this project owned/operated/affiliated with local governments, non-profits, and	YES/NO	5 Points Maximum		No = 0, Yes = 5
		Segment Score:		

Proposed Solution: 35 points possible

For all locations potentially served by this project:

- What percentage will be served by fiber?
 - Specifically, fiber to the home or business unit.
- What percentage will be served using fixed wireless terrestrial technology?
 - Specifically fixed wireless technology utilizing licensed spectrum. Unlicensed spectrum projects will not be considered.
- What percentage will be served using a hybrid solution?
 - Hybrid - fiber to coaxial/copper technology - fiber to licensed spectrum.
- What percentage will be served with a 100 Mbps symmetrical solution?
 - If the solution proposed exceeds 100 Mbps symmetrical, please specify the actual download and upload speeds proposed.
- What percentage will be served with a 100 Mbps download / 20 Mbps upload scalable solution?
 - Demonstrate that the installed broadband infrastructure is scalable to speeds of at least 100 Mbps download and 100 Mbps upload. This information must be certified by either the manufacturer of the equipment to be utilized and uploaded with your application.

Proposed Solution 35 Points:

	Answer	Weight of points in	Points	Point Scale
What percentage will be served by fiber to the unit/home?		Maximum = 60%		0=0, >=1% - <34% = 3, >=34% - <67% = 9, >=67% - <100%=15, 100%=21
What percentage will be served using licensed fixed wireless technology?				0=0, >=1% - <34% = 2, >=34% - <67% = 6, >=67% - <100%=8, 100%=12
What percentage will be served using a hybrid solution? (Hybrid fiber-coaxial/copper technology and or hybrid of fiber - licensed spectrum)				0=0, >=1% - <34% = 1, >=34% - <67% = 2, >=67% - <100%=6, 100%=8
Total must equal 100%	Total:			
What percentage will be served with a 100 Mbps or greater symmetrical solution?		Maximum = 30%		<=50% = 3, >50 - <100% = 7, 100% = Max
What percentage will be served with a 100 Mbps download / 20 Mbps upload scalable solution?				<=50% = 2, >50 - <100% = 3, 100% = 4
Total must equal 100%	Total:			
Please specify the actual download speeds proposed.	Speed:	Maximum = 5%		100 = 0, 101-500 Mbps = 1, >501Mbps = Max
Please specify the actual upload speeds proposed.	Speed:	Maximum = 5%		<100Mbps = 0, 101 - 500 Mbps = 1, >501 Mbps = Max
				Segment Score:

Project Readiness and Administration: 30 points possible

- What is the total project cost?
 - As defined in Chapter 4 rules – eligible project costs
- Percent cash match provided by the applicant.
 - Percent of applicant funds used for total eligible project costs.
- Does this project use existing rights of ways and easements held by applicant?
- Does the applicant already have all the required permits for this project?
- Does this project use existing owned or leased fiber optic middle mile infrastructure?
- Timeframe to complete the project (years)

Project Readiness and Administration: 30 points:

	Answer	Weight of points in	Points	Point Scale
What is the total eligible project cost?	\$ = XX			
Percent cash match provided by the applicant? (% applicant funds used for total eligible project costs)	% of above = XX	60%		0% - <5% = 0, >=5%-10% = 5, >10%-20% = 7, >20-30% = 9, >30-40% = 11, >40-50% = 13, >50% = 18
Requested Grant amount?				
Does this project use of existing rights of ways and easements held by applicant?	YES/NO	10%		No = 0, Yes = 3
Does the applicant already hold all required permits for this project?	YES/NO	10%		No = 0, Yes = 3
Does this project use existing owned or leased fiber optic middle mile infrastructure?	YES/NO	10%		No = 0, Yes = 3
Timeframe to complete the project (years)		10%		by 12/31/2024 = 3, by 12/31/2025 = 2, by 12/31/2026 = 1
		Segment Score:		
		Total Score:		

Required Project Information

In addition to the application evaluation listed above, the following information and application certification will be required. The Broadband Office may require additional technical details to be provided by an applicant during the evaluation period.

1. Project Narrative: (This is not a substitute for clear, concise, and complete information provided in other fields requested on the application). This will be published as the application summary on the public facing map.
2. Location of the project and map: The applicant must include a map in PDF format, of the proposed project area and a complete list of addresses (CSV file) that will be served by the project. Challenge fields should be left blank with application submission. A map of a last mile project should include the service area boundaries and include place names, boundaries, buildings, road/street names or other features that clearly identify the project coverage area. For middle mile projects, the map should indicate the location of the middle mile facilities that will be placed. In addition to the PDF version of the map which must be provided in the application submittal, the map may also be provided as a shapefile. See section 4 or the State of Wyoming ISP Data Submission Guide document. [State-of-Wyoming-ISP-Data-Submission-Guide-v2.0-11.29.2022.pdf](#)
3. Describe broadband infrastructure: The equipment types and amount of broadband infrastructure to be deployed for the project including specific project costs. i.e., Design/engineering, permitting, equipment, construction/labor. Include initial speeds to be achieved.
4. Describe the price of the service to be provided. Include details of both monthly and one-time charges for installation and equipment.
5. Applicants must participate in the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) to be eligible to receive funding from this program. Describe in detail your company's participation in the program, the methodology used to determine affordable pricing and whether the application of ACP will reduce the monthly fee to an amount less than the average monthly service fee for that community.
6. Applicants Experience: Provide evidence demonstrating the applicant's experience and ability in building, operating, and managing broadband service networks.
7. Historical Financial Statements: Financial statements shall include balance sheets, income statements, and statements of cash flow, or equivalent forms based on the type of organization. Provide 3 years of unqualified CPA compiled, reviewed, or audited historical financial statements.

8. A breakdown showing the amount of federal or state loans, grants, or aid for Wyoming broadband projects for which you have received written notification of funding. Include ACAM, CARES, Re-Connect and RDOF, or other similarly proposed federal funding from January 1, 2020, to present.
 - a. Believes it is eligible;
 - b. Has applied; or
 - c. Has received.

Certification of the Application

An application must include a certification of the following:

1. The project will be completed on or before December 31, 2026;
2. The individual submitting this application has authority or has been authorized to act on Applicant's behalf;
3. The statements contained in the application are true, complete, and accurate to the best of their knowledge;
4. The applicant's coverage, speed, and proposed project area maps and related data submitted to the Wyoming Broadband Map as required by program rules are true, complete, and accurate to the best of their knowledge as of the date the information was supplied;
5. The applicant certifies that, to the best of the applicant's knowledge, the project proposed under this application does not overbuild any location(s) where a reliable connection capable of 100 Megabits per second (Mbps) download and 20 Megabits per second (Mbps) upload currently exists, nor does it overbuild locations for which written agreements to deploy broadband infrastructure at this speed or greater prior to December 31, 2024, exist;
6. Applicant will not discriminate against any person on the basis of age, color, disability, marital status, national origin, race, religion, or sex in the programs or services for which the Applicant is receiving American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds;
7. Applicant is not engaged in any activity that is illegal under federal, state, or local law;
8. Applicant has not been suspended or disbarred from receiving federal funds;
9. Applicant understands they may be subject to additional federal requirements, including single audit requirements, other audits, or other federal requirements;



10. The Applicant certifies the costs outlined in this application are neither the subject of - nor have they been reimbursed by - any other grant(s) or award(s) whether state or federal;
11. Funds awarded pursuant to this application shall be used to fund projects which create and retain local jobs and/or result in purposeful outcomes, including distance learning, telehealth, public safety, commerce, and overall well-being;
12. The Applicant understands and acknowledges that failure to comply with state and/or federal program rules and/or the terms of any Contract(s) awarded under this program may result in the Wyoming Business Council (Council) requiring a total or partial refund of the awarded funds and may affect Applicant's eligibility for future funding under this or other Council programs;
13. The Applicant understands that the award of any contract(s) under this program is contingent upon the appropriation of funding by the U. S. Department of Treasury and assumes any risk of loss in submitting application(s) under this program;
14. The Applicant understands that knowingly making a false statement may result in the Wyoming Business Council requiring a total or partial repayment of awarded funds, and may result in other fines or penalties;
15. The Applicant further certifies the information provided in this application and the information provided in all documents and forms is true and accurate in all material respects. Applicant understands and acknowledges that knowingly making a false statement to obtain funds is punishable under the law, including, but not limited to, under 18 USC 1343 by imprisonment of not more than thirty (30) years and/or a fine of up to \$1,000,000.00 and Wyo. Stat. Ann. 6-3-402 by imprisonment for not more than ten years and/or a fine up to \$10,000.00;
16. The applicant has read and understands the certification statements above and certify to them in submitting this application.

Version	Edited by	Date	Notes
1.0	Broadband Office	6/1/2023	
2.0	Broadband Office	6/28/2023	Updated Eligible Projects 1a, Funding Terms-Provider ID and revised CPF reporting/compliance document link, public facing statement to project narrative, updated financial statements requirement,

			business and community anchor institution language, added data download instructions, clarify scoring.
3.0	Broadband Office	7/12/2023	Important Dates
4.0	Broadband Office	7/31/2023	Eligible Projects 3.a.i added. Treasury detailed justification requirement.
5.0	Broadband Office	8/15/2023	Eligible Projects 3.a – c correction/addition evaluation process.