

2021 ConnectMT Program Scoring Chart (Approved and Revised as of 1/28/22)

(130 points possible)

**1. Matching Funds: (15 points maximum)**

a. % tribal / local government / school district contributed of total eligible project costs		Points
1-9%		1
10-19%		2
20-29%		3
30% or more		5
b. % broadband deployment allocation requested of total eligible project costs		Points
30% or less		5
31% to 50%		2
51% to 79%		1
80% or more		0
c. % applicant funds used for total eligible project costs		Points
50% or more		5
40% to 49%		2
21% to 39%		1
20% or less		0

**2. Passing Counts of locations: (20 points maximum)**

a. # passed vs current served locations (households, businesses, farms, anchors)

	25%	50%	100%
Frontier	10	15	20
Unserved	10	12	15
Underserved	5	7	10

3. Speed Thresholds of project: (30 points maximum)

Upload /download speeds (mbps)	Points
a. 100/20 up to 99/99 with scalability to 100/100	
100% (of project)	20
75%	15
50%	10
25%	5
b. 100/100 or higher	
100%	30
75%	20
50%	10
25%	5

4. Use of Existing Infrastructure: (30 points maximum)

- a. Use of existing rights of ways and easements: 5 points
- b. Use of existing fiber optics middle mile infrastructure: 5 points
- c. colocation of existing & new facilities for public safety communication networks: 10 points
- d. use of new construction project funds for middle mile open access: 10 points

5. Timeframe to Complete Project: (5 points maximum)

- a. up to 2 years: 5 points
- b. over 2 years up to 3 years: 3 points

6. # of Montana Jobs Created or maintained relative to county(ies) of project area: (10 points maximum)

- 1% or more increase in jobs created: 10 points

**7. Equity and Affordability: (20 points maximum)**

- a. Free public access offered at community center for broadband service for 3 years: 2 points
- b. Monthly subscriber fees included for low-income residents: 2 points
- c. 30% or more of residential locations at or below poverty level: 2 points
- d. 30% or more of residential locations receiving WIC: 1 point
- e. % of unemployment of area above national average: 2 points
- f. 20% of residential locations receiving free school meals: 1 point
- g. Construction of new broadband service access for currently unserved and underserved health care facility locations as community anchor institutions that provide telehealth services: 10 points