



# MONTANA BEAD PREQUALIFICATION Q&A SESSION THREE

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# INTRODUCTIONS

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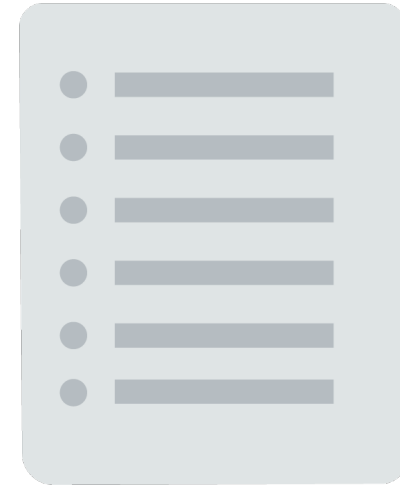
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# BEAD PROGRAM OVERVIEW

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- The Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program (BEAD) is designed to expand high-speed internet access by funding planning, infrastructure deployment, and broadband adoption programs across the country. BEAD is administered by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA).
- The State of Montana was awarded \$628 million in BEAD funding to connect all unserved locations in the state with reliable and affordable broadband



# BEAD PROGRAM OVERVIEW

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The Montana Broadband Office (MBO) will execute the subgrantee selection process across three phases:

## **Map Challenge Process:**

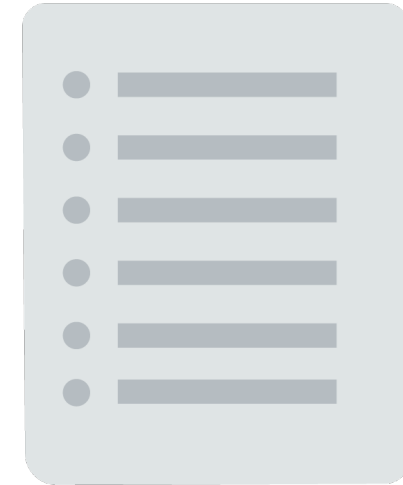
Nonprofits, ISPs, and local governments can submit challenges to the broadband map.

## **Prequalification:**

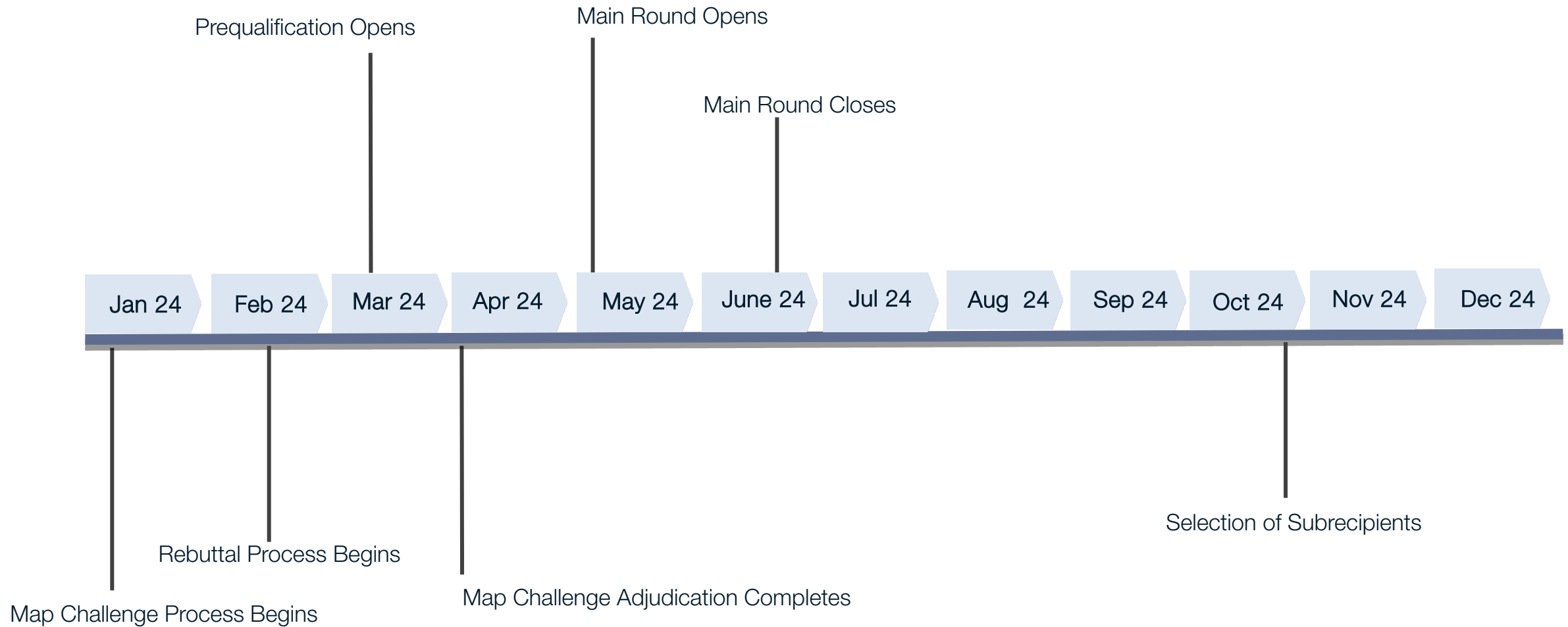
Applicants will submit materials for prequalification to meet the BEAD minimum eligibility requirements

## **Main Round Application:**

Once applicants are prequalified, they are able to complete the main round application with project specific information.



# 2024 PROGRAM TIMELINE



# PREQUALIFICATION OVERVIEW

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## ➤ Purpose

- Prequalification is the first phase in a multi-phase application process to select subrecipient as part of the BEAD program. The purpose of prequalification is to evaluate whether applicants meet minimum eligibility criteria to receive BEAD funding and make the main round application available only to those entities that meet those criteria.

## ➤ Timing

- The prequalification round is now open. All providers who intend to submit subgrantee applications during the main round are required to participate. After successfully passing the prequalification process, an applicant can then apply for the main round.



# UNDERSTANDING REQUIREMENTS

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## ➤ Subgrantee Eligibility Requirements

To receive BEAD funding, subgrantees must:

1. Meet mandated financial requirements
2. Have provided broadband service in The State of Montana for at least 1 year
3. Propose a project that will provide 100/20 service to all locations within service area within 4-year timeline
4. Can comply with all requirements mandated by NTIA and the State of Montana

## ➤ Prequalification Application Requirements

The BEAD NOFO explicitly outlines the requirements to meet the minimum eligibility criteria for the program:

1. *Financial Capability*: Certifications and documentation, Letter of credit compliance statement, Audited financial statements, interim financial statements
2. *Organizational Capability*: Key management resumes, Organizational charts, Certification of operational readiness, Evidence of prior service, Compliance with regulatory filings
3. *Certifications and Compliance*: Adherence to federal, state, and local laws, Compliance with occupational safety regulations



# CHECKLIST FOR SUBMISSION

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## Materials to Prepare for Prequalification:

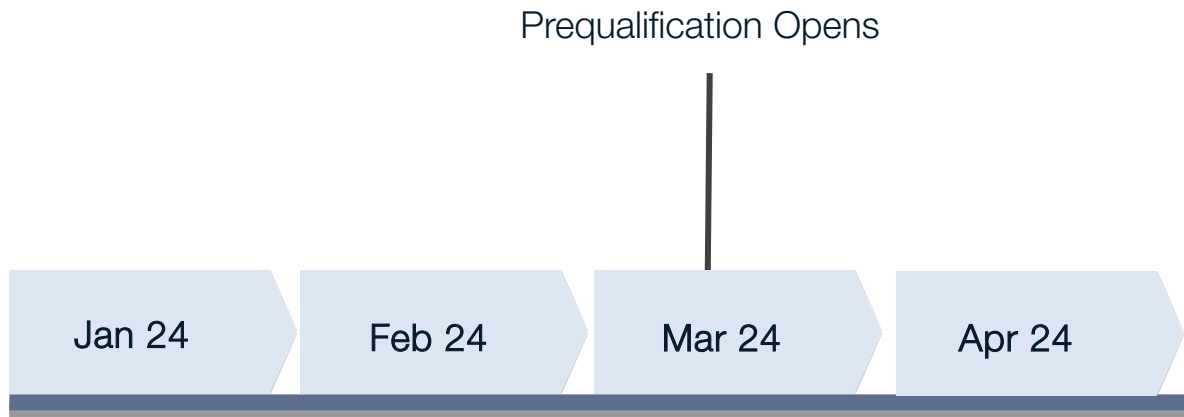
- ✓ Identify AOR and key application contacts
- ✓ Company Name, Address, TIN, Contact Information
- ✓ Gather financial statements and other documentation
- ✓ Identify key managerial staff, update resumes and organizational charts
- ✓ Confirm active registrations with SAM.gov and the State of Montana
- ✓ Identify projects of similar size and/or scope for past performance
- ✓ Ensure accurate ownership documentation
- ✓ Review [BEAD NOFO](#), [MT Initial Proposal Volume 2](#), and [relevant regulations](#)





# PREQUALIFICATION TIMELINE

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Comprehensive Technical Assistance Schedule			
Component	Topic	Anticipated Date	Mode
Prequalification	Q&A	3/29/2024*	Webinar

\*All dates are estimated and subject to change\*



# PREQUALIFICATION Q&A

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# Q&A



# PROGRAM CONTACTS

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BEAD Program Information: <https://connectmt.mt.gov>

Initial Proposal Volumes 1 and 2: <https://connectmt.mt.gov/IIJA/Funding>

Frequently Asked Questions: <https://connectmt.mt.gov/IIJA/FAQ>

Technical Assistance Email: [ConnectMTTechAssistance@mt.gov](mailto:ConnectMTTechAssistance@mt.gov)

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