



ARConnect

The Arkansas State Broadband Office

Arkansas BEAD Program

Frequently Asked Questions Document 12

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Application Questions

1. When will applicants be able to start using the application portal?
An application portal workshop is being planned for the week of December 9th. A user guide for the application portal will also be released prior to the opening of Tranche-1.
2. Will the “in review” process for applications occur during the two-week application window or after the application period has closed?
Application triage will occur during the 2-week application period.
3. What is required regarding the letter of credit?
During the application, applicants must provide an attestation that a Letter of Credit or Performance Bond is required for the grant agreement. While applicants do not need the actual Letter of Credit or Performance Bond at the time of application, it is recommended they start preparing for it as soon as possible. For bids that are preliminarily selected at the end of the bidding process, ARConnect must receive a commitment letter from a qualified financial institution or performance bond issuer. The actual Letter of Credit or Performance Bond is needed when it is time to execute the grant agreement.
4. Is there a CSV template to upload CBGs to an application?
Yes, a CSV template will be available in the application portal to upload CBGs.
5. How will the results and decisions of other state BEAD programs impact Arkansas’ program?
The result and decisions of other states will not impact how Arkansas runs its BEAD Program.
6. What determines the final commitment for an ISP that has bid? Is it simply winning a bid at any point or is there confirmation with the ISP that they have won and the ISP accepts the project? Are we committed to the project by placing a bid in Tranche-1 or Tranche-2 or is there a final agreement after the bidding process?
It is the expectation of the state that the submission of an application represents a commitment by the applicant in the event the application is selected. Applicants should not submit applications that they would not be willing or able to fulfill. The final commitment will take the form of a signed subgrant agreement between the applicant and the state, after the state’s Final Proposal has been approved by NTIA.

7. Looking at the most recently available locations it appears that there are still several areas showing to be unserved or underserved, but we know are in fact served above the baseline. How is the state going to address these locations during the application period?

NTIA is expected to provide a true up mechanism over the life of the grant. However, applicants should prepare to serve all eligible BSLs on the finalized list.

Milestone Reimbursement Questions

8. If ARConnect approves a grant project budget and schedule and the subgrantee can complete the project under-budget, is the subgrantee entitled to 100% of the agreed-upon grant amount upon completion?

Arkansas is executing a true fixed amount subaward process. Therefore, the subgrantee is entitled to the full grant amount.

Technical Assistance Session Questions

9. Are session recordings available?

Technical Assistance and Webinar sessions are not recorded. However, all materials covered in the sessions are posted on the [ARConnect website](#).

10. Are questions asked in sessions available?

Yes, all questions are tracked and are answered in subsequent FAQ documents. Answers put forth in the FAQ documents should be considered the official answers to questions.