



ARConnect

The Arkansas State Broadband Office

Arkansas BEAD Program

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Tranche-3 Questions

1. What are the rules for Tranche-3?

Tranche-3 has the following rules:

- A bid's project area may only include one CBG
- Applicants may bid on a CBG up to three times
- Preliminary selections will have the highest score of the highest technology type
- All technology types, including Alternative Technology, are eligible for preliminary selection
- A reference price threshold will not be imposed as a requirement for preliminary selection. However, applications will still be scored based on the requested subsidy relative to the cumulative reference price of the bid's project area

2. Will applicants receive their Tranche-2 scores prior to Tranche-3 opening?

ARConnect will not release scores to applicants prior to Tranche-3 opening.

ARConnect is committed to preserving the integrity of the program and will not undertake any action that could be construed as providing a competitive advantage to any provider.

Preliminary Selectee Questions

3. When is the deadline for Tranche-1 preliminary selectees to submit the required documentation?

Preliminary selectees have until 11:59 p.m. (CT), April 18 to submit their required documentation.

4. Is environmental documentation required before the subgrant agreement is signed?

No. Environmental documentation is required as part of the permitting process.

ARConnect will release further guidance on this at a later date.

5. If a location in an applicant's preliminarily selected project area is not serviceable, what documentation must they submit as proof?

ARConnect will run a true-up process prior to the Final Proposal submission where providers may submit evidence that a location in their project area is not a broadband serviceable location. Additional guidance will be released at a later date.

6. Is a draft subgrant agreement available for review?

ARConnect is currently drafting the subgrant agreement and will provide a draft for review at a later date.

Letter of Credit Questions

7. What is the required value of the letter of credit or performance bond?
The letter of credit or performance bond must be for an amount not less than 10% of the subaward amount (i.e., the amount of the grant, not the total project cost). For example, if the grant amount is \$1,000,000, then the letter of credit or performance bond must be for \$100,000.

Match Commitment Questions

8. What is the required matching commitment from subgrantees?
Subgrantees must provide a matching commitment of at least 25% of the total project cost unless a waiver is granted by NTIA. In order for a project to be considered for a waiver, ARConnect must submit a request to NTIA that describes the special circumstances underlying the request and explain how the waiver would serve the public interest and effectuate the purposes of the BEAD Program.