



ARConnect

The Arkansas State Broadband Office

Arkansas BEAD Program

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EHP Questions

1. As Subgrantees do their initial EHP screening in APPEIT, is ASBO looking to receive the outputs from the tool? Or is ASBO going to hold off until they have the shapefiles to run in ESAPTT?

ASBO does not need the outputs from APPEIT. Subgrantees should review results with their environmental consultant and use the outputs to inform their network design that is required as part of the project profile.

2. What level of detail should Subgrantees be prepared to provide for the project descriptions and profiles?

ASBO will provide Subgrantees with templates that mirror the inputs required in ESAPTT to minimize additional work and eliminate non-critical information from submissions. Generally, the project profile must:

- describe what the project is,
- provide a physical description of the site and surrounding area, and provide maps and photographs,
- describe where the project is proposed and provide a detailed outline of the route the project will use, and
- describe how the project will be implemented.

Consult the template once provided for specific requirements and work with your environmental consultant to complete the required information.

3. How much of the project profile will be handled by ASBO? How much information will Subgrantees need to provide?

ASBO will enter the information provided by Subgrantees into ESAPTT. Subgrantees are responsible for providing all information required for NEPA review submission in ESAPTT. Therefore, it is essential that Subgrantees engage with an environmental expert to prepare the required materials. ASBO will provide templates to assist in compiling the required information.

Subgrant Agreement (SGA) Questions

4. Arkansas received Final Proposal approval from NTIA and NIST. Does that mean SGAs can be signed?

No, not yet. ASBO is updating draft subgrantee agreements to reflect Final Proposal SACs. Once updates are complete, ASBO will share the latest version of the SGA for provisional subgrantee comment and review. The Arkansas state legislature also needs to authorize AR BEAD grant funding. Once ASBO receives authorization,

SGAs can be executed with provisional subgrantees. ASBO has 6 months to execute SGAs from the issuance date of the Notice of Award Amendment.

5. What do provisional subgrantees need to prepare to sign an SGA?
Provisional subgrantees will need to demonstrate compliance with program requirements at the time of SGA signing. This will include updating and verifying some of the information provided during the pre-qualification and application process. ASBO will send specific details about SGA requirements and timelines directly to provisional subgrantees shortly.

Grant Disbursement Questions

6. Do subgrantees need to submit reimbursements for project funding disbursements?
Funds are disbursed based on project milestones. Subgrantees are not required to submit receipts to ASBO for reimbursement; however, subgrantees are required to maintain a record of receipts. As a reminder, subgrant awards are fixed amounts that are disbursed to awardees as they meet the defined project milestones. For more information on BEAD grant disbursement, please refer to [this presentation](#) available on the Arkansas BEAD Program website.
7. When can subgrantees receive their first milestone disbursement?
Subgrantees are eligible for the first milestone disbursement once the SGA is signed & certified and all milestone requirements have been met and verified by ASBO. ASBO will provide details on milestone disbursements in an upcoming TA session.
8. What are the qualifications for meeting the permitting milestone? Do I self-certify permit progress? Do I have to wait for all permits to be approved?
The second disbursement milestone has two main requirements:
 - NTIA decision document approval of NEPA review
 - Evidence of completed applications for all required permitsASBO will receive notification of the NTIA decision on NEPA review. For permit updates, subgrantees will upload evidence of application submission for all permits identified during EHP review via the portal. ASBO will provide additional guidance on permitting in an upcoming TA session.