# Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program (BEAD)

**BEAD Challenge Process** 

#### **Overview**

The Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program aims to help everyone in America get affordable, reliable high-speed internet by funding infrastructure deployment programs and adoption programs. In June 2023, Pennsylvania received \$1.16 billion in BEAD funding to assist in the expansion of high-speed broadband infrastructure across the state.

As a recipient of BEAD funds, the Pennsylvania Broadband Development Authority (PBDA) is required to conduct a BEAD Challenge Process. This will validate and finalize the Broadband Serviceable Locations (BSLs) and Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs) eligible to be served by BEAD funded networks. Any changes made to BSL data during this challenge process will be based on evidence submitted by qualified participants.

## Who Can Challenge

- Local government
- Nonprofit organizations
- Internet Service Providers (ISPs)

### **Benefits**

- Identify Broadband Serviceable Locations (BSLs) and Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs) that are eligible for BEAD funding.
- Make sure <u>Pennsylvania's broadband map</u> is correct to help inform decisions about where to invest to increase affordable, reliable high-speed internet.

#### **Contact**

Pennsylvania Broadband Development Authority (PBDA) <a href="mailto:ra-dcpbda\_bead@pa.gov">ra-dcpbda\_bead@pa.gov</a> | 1.866.466.3972 **broadband.pa.gov** 



## How to Submit a Challenge

The full challenge process is scheduled to take 90 days, with the challenge period open for 30 days from April 24, 2024 to May 23, 2024.

There is a four-step process for submitting a challenge.

- Read the step-by-step Pennsylvania <u>BEAD</u>
   <u>Challenge Process Resource Guide</u> on how to use the BEAD Challenge Portal.
- 2. Register on the BEAD Challenge Portal.
- 3. Gather evidence based on the challenge type.
- 4. Submit the challenge on the <u>BEAD Challenge</u> Portal and wait for a response.

Detailed information about the <u>BEAD Challenge</u>

<u>Process</u> and how to submit bulk challenges for multiple locations is available on the <u>PBDA</u> website.