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 Pennsylvania’s broadband map is correct to help inform decisions about where to invest to increase affordable, reliable high-speed internet.

Contact
Pennsylvania Broadband Development Authority (PBDA)
ra-dcpbda_bead@pa.gov | 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.

2. Register on the BEAD Challenge Portal.
3. Gather evidence based on the challenge type.
4. Submit the challenge on the BEAD Challenge Portal and wait for a response.

Detailed information about the BEAD Challenge Process and how to submit bulk challenges for multiple locations is available on the PBDA website.