



Broadband Fund Application Guide

Prior to Completing the Application

- Review all information, including policies and statutes, on the Commission's website at: www.nmprc.state.nm.us/broadband-fund.
- For questions, contact the Telecommunication's Bureau contact Mike Ripperger at (505) 490-1556 or mike.ripperger@state.nm.us or Eugene J. Evans at (505) 490-7920 or eugene.evans@state.nm.us

Completing the Application

- Complete all questions in the application. If questions are not relevant to your the project, please note that in your answer you must provide an explanation of your reasoning.
- You may answer questions in the Word document or a separate document that indicates which questions the responses correspond to.
- If the answer to a question is contained in a document or documents that are attached to the application, you may reference the document name, attachment letter, and page numbers on which the information can be found. All information relevant to the question must be identified and easily located.
- If you are unclear about how to answer a question or are uncertain that you provided sufficient information, please contact Telecommunications Bureau's Staff for clarification to prevent a delay in application processing.
- If you are providing information that you believe should be held from public release, please refer to the terms of the protective order in the relevant docket assigned for the year that projects are due. You must mark all documents and the relevant portions of those documents which you believe should not be disclosed according to the terms of the protective order.
- Applicants should submit all application documents on a CD or flash drive in electronic format, using a common file type (Microsoft Office, PDF, Jpeg, etc.) along with any hard

copies required by the Commission. If it is not possible to provide electronic documents, please contact Telecommunications Bureau's Staff.

- Applications should be mailed to:
Attn: Broadband Fund
New Mexico Public Regulation Commission
Records Department
P.O. Box 1269
Santa Fe, NM 87504-1269
Please contact Records Bureau for filing instructions.

Minimum Qualification Review

- After you apply, Commission's Staff will review your application for adherence to the minimum requirements. If Commission Staff decides that your application does not meet the minimum requirements, you will be notified in writing of the Commission Staff's decision and the reason(s) for the decision.

Funding Decision

- (NMAC) 17.11.10.31.G (3) (4) (5) (6) (7). In reviewing the proposed Broadband Fund application, the Commission will consider the following minimum criteria and may consider other factors as appropriate.
 - i. The applicant has demonstrated the project will enhance economic development, telehealth, education, and/or public safety.
 - ii. Downstream and upstream service speeds are offered more than the minimum.
 - iii. The number of matching funds in excess of the minimum.
 - iv. Geographic distribution of grant awards with additional consideration to projects in areas that have not received an award from the Broadband Fund.
 - v. Whether the project will provide services via licensed or unlicensed means of transmission.
 - vi. Whether the project includes network redundancy.
 - vii. The cost-effectiveness of the proposed project's method for expanding broadband service into unserved areas.
 - viii. Whether the applicant has an established record of operation in the area of the grant application.

The Commission will not assign specific numeric values or apply a grading system to the application criteria or the application overall. The Commission will consider the unique qualities of each application in comparison to the other projects submitted in the application cycle to determine the funding order. Due to limited funding, the Commission will likely not be able to fund all projects that meet the minimum requirements. The funding priority and funding determinations are subject to review through the Commission's reconsideration process per NMAC 17.11.10.31 G (5).

After the Commission decides as to which projects will be funded for the application cycle, the applicant and all interested parties will be notified of the decision in the relevant docket.

Post Award Requirements

- Applicants whose proposals are approved by the Commission must abide by the conditions for disbursement of awarded funds per NMAC 17.11.10.31.H (1) (2) (3) (4).