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RUS-REC-2024-1

The Rural eConnectivity Program

Department of Agriculture

Rural Utilities Service

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General Information

Document Type:	Grants Notice	Version:	Synopsis 10
Funding Opportunity Number:	RUS-REC-2024-1	Posted Date:	Feb 21, 2024
Funding Opportunity Title:	The Rural eConnectivity Program	Last Updated Date:	Feb 21, 2024
Opportunity Category:	Discretionary	Original Closing Date for Applications:	May 21, 2024 Beginning on March 22, 2024, applications can be submitted through the RUS on-line application portal until 11:59 a.m. Eastern on May 21, 2024 . Applications will not be accepted after May 21,2024 until a new
Opportunity Category Explanation:			
Funding Instrument Type:	Other		

Category of Funding Activity:	Business and Commerce Community Development Regional Development	application opportunity has been opened with the publication of an additional NOFO in the Federal Register.
Category Explanation:		Current Closing Date for Applications:
Expected Number of Awards:		May 21, 2024 Beginning on March 22, 2024, applications can be submitted through the RUS on-line application portal until 11:59 a.m. Eastern on May 21, 2024 . Applications will not be accepted after May 21,2024 until a new application opportunity has been opened with the publication of an additional NOFO in the Federal Register.
CFDA Number(s):	10.752 -- Rural eConnectivity Pilot Program	
Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement:	Yes	
		Archive Date: Jun 21, 2024
		Estimated Total Program Funding:
		Award Ceiling: \$25,000,000
		Award Floor: \$100,000

Eligibility

Eligible Applicants:	<p>For profit organizations other than small businesses</p> <p>Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized)</p> <p>Private institutions of higher education</p> <p>Native American tribal organizations (other than Federally recognized tribal governments)</p> <p>Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education</p> <p>County governments</p> <p>Nonprofits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education</p> <p>Public housing authorities/Indian housing authorities</p> <p>Small businesses</p> <p>Special district governments</p> <p>Independent school districts</p> <p>Others (see text field entitled "Additional Information on Eligibility" for clarification)</p> <p>State governments</p> <p>City or township governments</p> <p>Public and State controlled institutions of higher education</p>
Additional Information on Eligibility:	<p>Cooperatives or Mutual Organizations and Limited Liability Partnerships are eligible to apply.</p>

Additional Information

Agency Name:	Rural Utilities Service
Description:	The Rural eConnectivity Program (ReConnect) Program provides loans, grants, and loan/grant combinations to facilitate broadband deployment in rural areas. In facilitating the expansion of broadband services and infrastructure, the

program will fuel long-term economic development and opportunities in rural America.

The ReConnect Program is authorized by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (Pub. L. 115-141), which directs the program to be conducted under the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 901 et seq). The policies and procedures for the ReConnect Program are codified in a final rule, [7 CFR part 1740](#), that was published in the Federal Register on February 26, 2021 (86 FR 11603).

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), a Rural Development agency of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), is issuing a [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#) (NOFO) to announce that it is accepting applications for the ReConnect Program. In addition, the NOFO defines requirements that are determined at the time a funding announcement is published, as outlined in the regulation.

Beginning on March 22, 2024, applications can be submitted through the RUS on-line application portal until 11:59 a.m. Eastern on May 21, 2024. Applications will not be accepted after May 21, 2024 until a new application opportunity has been opened with the publication of an additional NOFO in the Federal Register .

The Agency encourages applicants to consider projects that will advance the following key priorities:

- Assisting rural communities recover economically through more and better market opportunities and through improved infrastructure.
- Ensuring all rural residents have equitable access to Rural Development programs and benefits from Rural Development funded projects.
- Reducing climate pollution and increasing resilience to the impacts of climate change through economic support to rural communities.

All applicants should carefully review and prepare their applications according to instructions in the ReConnect Program Application Guide and program resources. This Program Guide and program resources can be found at <https://www.usda.gov/reconnect/forms-and-resources>. Applications must be submitted through the RUS on-line application system available on the program web site at <https://www.usda.gov/reconnect/>.

Please submit any ReConnect questions or comments using our [Contact Us Form](#).

Link to Additional Information:

[ReConnect Program Website](#)

Grantor Contact Information:

If you have difficulty accessing the full announcement electronically, please contact:

Christopher Proctor
Grantor

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