

Community Connect Grant Program



Closing: June 29, 2026

Application process

This site is a work in progress. Go to www.grants.gov to apply, track application status, and subscribe to updates.



Award

\$17,000,000

Program Funding

5

Expected awards

\$100,000

Award Minimum

\$5,000,000

Award Maximum

Funding opportunity number:

RDRUS-CC-2026

Cost sharing or matching requirement:

Yes

Funding instrument type:

Grant

Opportunity Category:

Discretionary

Opportunity Category Explanation:

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Category of Funding Activity:

Business and commerce

Community development

Regional development

Category Explanation:

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History

Version:

3

Posted date:

May 13, 2026

Archive date:

July 29, 2026

Agency: Rural Utilities Service

[Assistance Listings](#): 10.863 -- Community Connect Grant Program

Last Updated: May 13, 2026

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Description

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The Community Connect Grant Program provides financial assistance to eligible applicants that will provide service at or above the Broadband Grant Speed (100 Mbps down and 20 Mbps up) to all premises in rural, economically-challenged communities where broadband service (10 Mbps down and 1 Mbps up) does not exist. The deployment of broadband services on a “community-oriented connectivity” basis stimulates economic development and provides enhanced educational and health care opportunities in rural areas. RUS will give priority to rural areas that demonstrate the greatest need for broadband services, based on the criteria contained in the regulation and Application Guide.

The regulation for the Community Connect Grant Program can be found at 7 CFR part 1739.

All applicants should carefully review and prepare their applications according to instructions in the FY 2026 Community Connect Grant Program Application Guide (Application Guide) and program resources. This Application Guide can be found at <https://www.rd.usda.gov/community-connect>. Expenses incurred in developing applications will be at the applicant’s own risk. Applications will be submitted through the online application system available on the program web site. The application system will open for accepting Community Connect applications on May 13, 2026. Applications must be submitted by no later than 11:59 a.m. Eastern Time, June 29, 2026. Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted.

Eligibility

Eligible applicants

Government

- Special district governments

- City or township governments
- Federally recognized Native American tribal governments
- County governments
- State governments

Nonprofit

- Nonprofits non-higher education without 501(c)(3)
- Nonprofits non-higher education with 501(c)(3)
- Other Native American tribal organizations

Business

- Small businesses
- For-profit organizations other than small businesses

Additional information

Grantor contact information

Description

Scott D Steiner Supervisory Electronics Engineer

Email

Community Connect Help Desk Email Box

community.connect@usda.gov

Documents



File name	Description	Last updated
Community Connect Guide _FY26_FINAL.pdf	CC 2026 Application Guide	May 13, 2026 05:14 PM UTC

File name	Description	Last updated
CCG NOFO FY 26 corrected.pdf	Community Connect 2026 NOFO_corrected	May 14, 2026 07:29 PM UTC

Link to additional information

[Community Connect Program Website](#)

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