

State of Kansas Broadband Initiatives Program (BIP) Scoring Matrix

Summary

The State of Kansas will offer applicants to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Utilities Service (RUS) Broadband Initiatives Program (BIP) the opportunity to submit copies of their applications to the State for endorsement. This process is strictly voluntary. Applications submitted will be rated based on the attached scoring criteria and given a designation based on score. Applicants scoring with a minimum of 70 points will be provided a letter of support from the State of Kansas. It will be left to the applicant's discretion whether or not they wish to attach the letter to their final application submitted to RUS. The state will not share rating information directly with RUS.

Only applicants submitting for funding under the BIP program can participate in this opportunity. Applicants that request to be considered for funding under the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) are disqualified from this opportunity, as the State will be in a position to recommend these projects as part of the BTOP evaluation process.

Applicants should review their applications to ensure information required for scoring is included. If this information is not included in the application being submitted to RUS, a supplemental document should be attached for the State's use. Any information that cannot be derived from a submitted application shall receive a score of zero in that particular evaluation. Applicants should also complete the Self-Evaluation Form attached.

Applicants wishing to participate in this process shall submit a completed electronic copy of their application by August 5, 2009 to Carole Jordan, Director, Rural Development Division, Kansas Department of Commerce at cjordan@kansascommerce.com.

Scoring results, and, when appropriate, letters of support, will be returned to applicants by August 11, 2009.

Definitions/Reference

NOFA as referenced in this document refers to the Notice of Funding Availability for the Broadband Initiatives Program and the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program:

<http://broadbandusa.sc.egov.usda.gov/files/BB%20NOFA%20FINAL%2007092009.pdf>.

The terms remote area and rural area are used as they are defined in the NOFA.

As referenced in this document, non-rural means any area that is not within a remote area or rural area.

Unserviced is defined as customers currently without coverage by terrestrial providers.

To determine whether projects are assisting remote, rural, or non-rural geographies, applicants may reference the "Broadband Stimulus Eligibility of Rural and Remote Areas for the State of Kansas" map: http://www.connectkansas.org/mapping/stimulus_map.php.

Evaluation 1 – Unserviced Target Population - % of Total Project (20 points)

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Reflects the degree to which the project is focused solely on unserved customers (those currently without coverage by terrestrial providers).

Point total derived by multiplying the ratio of the unserved customers targeted by the project to the total number of customers (unserved and served) impacted by project against a total of 20 points available.

Example: 4,000 unserved / 5,000 impacted = 0.8 x 20 = 16 points. (*denominator includes everyone served by the project – unserved, underserved, adequately served)*

Evaluation 2 – Unserved Target Population - # of Unserved Impacted (20 points)

- # of Unserved Impacted = 2,000+ = 20 points
- # of Unserved Impacted = 1,000 – 1,999 = 19 points
- # of Unserved Impacted = 500 – 999 = 18 points
- # of Unserved Impacted < 500 = 17 points

Evaluation 3 – Rural Target Population (20 points)

- Project includes only remote areas as defined by NOFA = 20 points
- Project includes rural areas but no non-rural areas = 15 points
- Project overlaps one or more non-rural areas = 5 points

Evaluation 4 – Broadband Speed (15 points)

- FCC Tier 3 - FCC Tier 7 (3 Mbps+) = 15 points
- FCC Tier 2 (1.5 Mbps to <3 Mbps) = 14 points
- FCC Tier 1 (768 Kbps to <1.5 Mbps) = 13 points
- 1st Generation Data or less (< 768 Kbps) = 0 points

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Evaluation 5 – Process and Implementation (25 points)

- Shovel Ready (10 points)
 - Project will start within 120 days of award = 10 points
 - Project will start 121 days or more after award = 0 points
- Local Providers (5 points)
 - Application from provider currently operating in or serving Kansas = 5 points
 - Application from provider not currently in Kansas = 0 points
- Permanent Job Creation (5 points)
 - Permanent job creation clearly will occur, documented = 5 points
 - No permanent job creation or not adequately defined = 0 points
- Scalability (5 points)
 - Project can accommodate higher speeds and capacity over time = 5 points
 - Project has limited scalability = 0 points

Total Possible (100 points)

Overall Commerce Resulting Actions:

- Score of 90-100 = Commerce provides project application “Strong Support” designation.
- Score of 80-89 = Commerce provides project application “Support” designation.
- Score of 70-79 = Commerce provides project application “Moderate Support” designation.
- Score of 0-69 = Commerce does not provide support for the project application.

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Self Evaluation Form

Evaluation 1 – Unserved Target Population - % of Total Project (20 points) _____

Evaluation 2 – Unserved Target Population - # of Unserved Impacted (20 points) _____

Evaluation 3 – Rural Target Population (20 points) _____

Evaluation 4 – Broadband Speed (15 points) _____

Evaluation 5 – Process and Implementation (25 points)

 Shovel Ready (10 points) _____

 Local Providers (5 points) _____

 Permanent Job Creation (5 points) _____

 Scalability (5 points) _____

Total Score _____