Broadband Resource Guide

FEMA REGION IX

May 23, 2022

NOTE: The following resources are identified for general informational purposes only and are compiled with publicly available information or with information provided by sources that are publicly obtainable. Please view this document as only a starting point for individual research. The user should always directly consult the provider of a potential resource for current program information and to verify the applicability of a particular program. This is not a complete roster of all available programs. Resource Reports aren't final policy interpretations nor guarantees of funding and don't constitute an endorsement by FEMA for any particular program or entity.

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Introduction

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide state, local, territorial, and tribal governments with an overview of resources and programs capable of being used to respond and recover from the impacts of COVID-19.

This document is subject to change as new programs are approved, deadlines shift, and organizational guidance documents are released and will continue to be updated and distributed as needed. It is intended for use as a tool for future planning and to promote partnership between resource providers and state, local, territorial, and tribal entities. For the most up to date and accurate programmatic information, interested parties should visit each individual organization's website or work directly with the relevant entity.

Structure

This document sorts resources by primary beneficiary and is sorted by upcoming deadline.

Much of the information provided in this document was exported from FEMA'S MAX-TRAX Disaster Resource Library. For more information on the MAX-TRAX Disaster Resource Library please see the "Additional Resources" section of this document.

Government Funding Resources

R1. FY22 FCC Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)

Resource Type: Benefits

Agency/Organization: Other Independent Agencies

Program Description: The Affordable Connectivity Program is an FCC benefit program that helps ensure that households can afford the broadband they need for work, school, healthcare and more.

The benefit provides a discount of up to \$30 per month toward internet service for eligible households and up to \$75 per month for households on qualifying Tribal lands. Eligible households can also receive a one-time discount of up to \$100 to purchase a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet from participating providers if they contribute more than \$10 and less than \$50 toward the purchase price.

The Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) provides eligible households with a discount on broadband service and connected devices.

On November 15, 2021, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Infrastructure Act) became law. The Infrastructure Act provides \$14.2 billion to modify and extend the Emergency Broadband Benefit Program (EBB Program) to a longer-term broadband affordability program called the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP). The Infrastructure Act directs the Federal Communications Commission (Commission) to undertake a proceeding to adopt final rules for the ACP. On November 18, 2021, the Commission's Wireline Competition Bureau issued a Public Notice seeking comment on the rules and administration of the ACP.

The Infrastructure Act also directs the Commission to effectuate for the ACP specified changes, such as to program eligibility criteria and the program benefit amount, by the effective date, which the Bureau determined to be December 31, 2021.

The Infrastructure Act also provides for a 60-day transition period from the EBB Program to the ACP for households fully enrolled in the EBB Program as of December 31, 2021. Accordingly, the 60-day transition period for the ACP started on December 31, 2021 and will end on March 1, 2022. The ACP also began to accept enrollments on December 31, 2021.

Affordable Connectivity Program | Federal Communications Commission (fcc.gov): https://www.fcc.gov/acp

Total Program Funding: \$14,200,000,000

Max Award: Up to \$30/month toward internet service for eligible households / Up to \$75/month for households on Tribal lands. Plus \$100 voucher toward computer purchase.

Eligibility and Description/Use: Individuals & Households A household is eligible if a member of the household meets at least _one_ of the criteria below:

- * Has an income that is at or below 200% of the [federal poverty guidelines|https://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty-guidelines]; or
- * Participates in certain assistance programs, such as SNAP, Medicaid, Federal Public Housing Assistance, SSI, WIC, or [Lifeline|https://www.fcc.gov/lifeline-consumers];
- * Participates in Tribal specific programs, such as Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance, Tribal TANF, or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations;
- * Is approved to receive benefits under the free and reduced-price school lunch program or the school breakfast program, including through the USDA Community Eligibility Provision in the 2019-2020, 2020-2021, or 2021-2022 school year;
- * Received a Federal Pell Grant during the current award year; or
- * Meets the eligibility criteria for a participating provider's existing low-income program.

Application Deadline: Applications Accepted Continuously:

Application Process: Two Steps to Enroll

- 1. Go to https://acpbenefit.org/ to submit an application or print out a mail-in application.
- 2. Contact your preferred participating provider to select a plan and have the discount applied to your bill.

Some providers may have an alternative application that they will ask you to complete.

Eligible households must both apply for the program and contact a participating provider to select a service plan.

Cost Share: No.

Reference Link: https://acpbenefit.org/

- **R2.** FY22 Rural Innovation Stronger Economy (RISE) Grant Program (10.755)
- **R3.** Business & Industry Guaranteed Loan Program (10.768)
- **R4.** Community Development Block Grant Program: Section 108 Loan Guarantee Program Funding (14.248)
- **R5.** FY20 Neighborhood Networks

- **R6.** Workforce Development in Telecommunication Sector: Apprenticeship Investments in Support of Broadband & 5G (TIRAP)
- R7. American Rescue Plan: FY21 Coronavirus State & Local Fiscal Recovery Fund
- **R8.** Utilities Program: Accelerating Broadband Infrastructure Deployment
- **R9.** Smart Growth: Cool & Connected
- R10. FCC Rural Health Care (RHC) Program
- R11. CA Infrastructure & Economic Development Bank (IBank) California Infrastructure State Revolving Fund (Ongoing)

Philanthropic Funding Resources

R12. T-Mobile Project 10 Million

Resource Type: Material Resource

Agency/Organization: Non-Governmental Organizations

Funding Type: Not identified

Program Description: T-Mobile is giving free hotspots and internet to 10 million eligible households over five years. During congestion, Project 10Million customers may notice lower speeds than other customers due to data prioritization. Video typically streams at DVD quality (480p). To address this urgent need, the Un-carrier has expanded Project 10Million by allowing participating school districts to apply the value of the free program to one of two new plans with MORE data. Schools can choose a 100GB per month option or a fully unlimited plan. The best part is that every district gets free wireless hotspots and access to at-cost laptops and tablets, and they have the flexibility to pick the solution that works best for their district. And it's all still free to students.

Interested school districts can sign up: www.t-mobile.com/p10m

Free Internet for Students: Project 10Million | T-Mobile: https://www.t-mobile.com/brand/project-10-million

Investing in Youth | Empowering Young People (t-mobile.com): https://www.t-mobile.com/content/t-mobile/corporate/responsibility/community/education.html

Total Program Funding: Not Indicated

Max Award: Not Indicated

Eligibility and Description/Use: Local Government & Authority, Public/Private Institutions of Education K-12

School districts apply. Interested school districts can sign up: $\underline{www.t-mobile.com/p10m|http://www.t-mobile.com/p10m}$

Application Deadline: Applications Accepted Continuously:

Application Process:

Interested school districts can sign up: www.t-mobile.com/p10m

https://www.t-mobile.com/business/education/project-10-million?cmpid=TFB_RAD_P_20TENMM_OU0ZJSRRLLM0FYL758187

Hotspot devices and service are distributed across the country.

Cost Share: Not Indicated

Reference Link: https://corporate.comcast.com/impact/project-up

R13. Comcast NBC Universal Foundation - Project UP

Resource Type: Cash Prize or Payment

Agency/Organization: Non-Governmental Organizations

Funding Type: Not identified

Program Description: They imagine a world where everyone has what they need to shape the future. As that world becomes more digital, it's our responsibility to use media and technology to ensure that everyone has the resources and opportunities they need to participate and excel in today's society.

Project UP is their comprehensive initiative to advance digital equity and help build a future of unlimited possibilities. Backed by a **\$1 billion commitment** to reach 50 million people, Project UP encompasses the programs and community partnerships across Comcast, NBCUniversal, and Sky that connect people to the Internet, advance economic mobility, and open doors for the next generation of innovators, entrepreneurs, storytellers, and creators.

Comcast will launch 1,000 Lift Zones nationwide to provide safe spaces for students to access free, high-capacity WiFi by year end.

Project UP (comcast.com)

 $\underline{https://update.comcast.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/33/dlm_uploads/2021/09/Project-Up-One-Pager-Sept-2021.pdf}$

Impact (comcast.com)

Total Program Funding: \$1,000,000,000

Max Award: Funding & Technical Assistance

Eligibility and Description/Use: For-Profit Organizations, Nonprofit Organizations, Public/Private Institutions of Education K-12, Public/Private Institutions of Higher Education

Application Deadline: Applications Accepted Continuously:

Application Process: Check website periodically for updates:

https://corporate.comcast.com/impact/project-up

Cost Share: Not Indicated

Reference Link: https://corporate.comcast.com/impact/project-up

R14. FY22 Comcast RISE Investment Fund (Representation, Investment, Strength & Empowerment) and Marketing & Tech Services Awards

Resource Type: Grant

Agency/Organization: Non-Governmental Organizations

Funding Type: Not identified

Program Description: On November 23rd, 2021 Comcast RISE announced a major expansion of Comcast RISE to all women-owned businesses nationwide, furthering its effort to advance digital equity and help provide underrepresented small business owners with access to the digital tools and funding they need to thrive. Through Comcast RISE we aim to create sustainable impact and give meaningful support to the small businesses who are shaping our communities.

There are separate applications for the marketing and technology services awards and the Comcast RISE Investment Fund. Eligible business owners may apply for either, or both programs.

The next wave of applications for Comcast RISE Marketing & Technology Services opened on January 16, 2022 and will close on June 17, 2022. Click below to apply for Comcast RISE Marketing & Technology Services.

Apply – Comcast RISE

Comcast RISE Announces Major Expansion to All Women-Owned Small Businesses Nationwide Starting in 2022

Comcast RISE – Resources & Tools to Elevate Your Small Business

Total Program Funding: \$11,000,000

Max Award: \$10,000 plus technical assistance

Eligibility and Description/Use: For-Profit Organizations You are eligible to apply for this program if your business:

- * Is at least 51% owned and operated by someone who identifies as Black, Indigenous, a Person of Color, or a Female
- * Is independently owned and operated; and not a franchise location
- * Is registered to conduct business in the US
- * Has been operating for one or more years
- * Is located within the Comcast Business or Effecty service area footprint

Please see Official Rules located at ComcastRISE.com/legal/ http://www.comcastrise.com/legal/

Application Deadline: Jun-17-2022

Application Process: If your business qualifies, you'll have the opportunity to receive marketing consultations, media placements, commercial creative production services, or technology services from Effectv and Comcast Business.

https://www.comcastrise.com/rise-apply/

Cost Share: Not Indicated

Reference Link: https://www.comcastrise.com/

R15. AT&T - Corporate Citizenship

Resource Type: Grant

Agency/Organization: Not identified

Funding Type: Non-Supplemental

Program Description: AT&T invests significant resources to advance education, strengthen communities, and improve lives. Through philanthropic initiatives and collaboration, AT&T and the AT&T Foundation support projects that create opportunities, make connections and address community needs where we - and our customers - live and work. Programs include:

- 1. <u>Job Shadow Program:</u> Provides job shadowing opportunities to students.
- 2. <u>Community Dropout Summits:</u> Held in conjunction with local businesses, education, and government leaders.
- 3. <u>Disaster Relief:</u> When disaster strikes, AT&T employees assist victims and affected communities through corporate giving and assistance, volunteerism, and network preparedness and response.
- 4. <u>AT&T Cares:</u> Program launched to provide volunteerism options and tools for employees.
- 5. <u>AT&T Pioneers:</u> Current and retired employees of AT&T work as volunteers and hold fund raisers for nonprofit.

CA: See also https://about.att.com/story/2020/att_california_covid_19.html for AT&T's response to COVID-19 support in California.

Total Program Funding: Not identified

Max Award: Not identified

Eligibility and Description/Use: Nonprofit Organizations U.S. based nonprofit organizations with federal tax exemption under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Application Deadline: Applications Accepted Continuously:

Application Process: There are no deadlines. Applicants are encouraged to contact their local AT&T office for any applicable application guidelines.

Cost Share: Not Identified

Reference Link: http://www.att.com/gen/corporate-citizenship?pid=12307

R16. CDC Foundation

Resource Type: Grant

Agency/Organization: Not identified

Funding Type: Not identified

Program Description: CDC is taking aggressive public health measures to help protect the health of Americans against coronavirus, COVID-2019. Funds raised by the CDC Foundation through their Emergency Response Fund will be used to meet emerging needs identified by CDC to help respond to the public health threat posed by this virus. These include additional support for state and local health departments, support for global response, logistics, communications, data management, personal protective equipment, critical response supplies and more.

The CDC Foundation connects the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) with private-sector organizations and individuals to build public health programs that make our world healthier and safer. Since 1995, the CDC Foundation has provided \$300 million to support CDC's

work, launched more than 500 programs around the world and built a network of individuals and organizations committed to supporting CDC and public health. Each CDC Foundation program involves a talented team of experts at CDC and at least one outside funding partner. Sometimes, a program begins with a CDC scientist who has a great idea and wants to collaborate with an outside partner to make it happen. At other times, organizations in the private sector recognize that they can better accomplish their own public health goals by working with CDC through the CDC Foundation.

CDC is a key player in preparing the nation for large-scale public health emergencies- whether terrorist attacks, pandemic flu, or natural disasters. CDC works with its partners at the national and local levels to develop and improve emergency preparedness plans that can be activated the moment disaster strikes. In addition, CDC experts are often among the first on the frontlines of a disaster, monitoring for potential disease outbreaks and assessing damage to healthcare infrastructures. The CDC Foundation has a number of funds and programs designed to support CDC's emergency preparedness and response activities. Please reference the website for program-specific information.

Total Program Funding: Not identified

Max Award: Not identified

Eligibility and Description/Use: For-Profit Organizations, Healthcare Institution, Local Government & Authority, Nonprofit Organizations, State Partnerships forged by the CDC Foundation include traditional philanthropic donor/grantee relationships; collaborative alliances between CDC and a single private sector organization; broad multi-partner initiatives that may include more than one funding stream; and research collaborations involving CDC expertise and laboratory capacity associated with a partner's larger proposal and CDC's public health agenda. Occasionally the CDC Foundation may issue a request for proposals (RFPs) to sub-grant funds received for a specific project. These RFPs will seek: providers of products or services required for a specific CDC Foundation program with CDC; or eligible nonprofit or governmental organizations that wish to participate in a CDC Foundation program addressing a specific health issue.

Application Deadline: Applications Accepted Continuously:

Application Process: The CDC Foundation is not a traditional grant making, endowed foundation and does not accept or respond to unsolicited proposals. RFPs are posted on the website. Deadlines will vary, accordingly. Please reference the website for complete guidelines and restrictions.

Cost Share: No.

Reference Link: https://www.cdcfoundation.org/coronavirus

R17. Cisco Systems, Inc. - Global Impact Cash Grants

Resource Type: Grant

Agency/Organization: Not identified

Funding Type: Non-Supplemental

Program Description: Cisco Global Impact Cash Grants support nonprofit organizations in the U.S. and worldwide with scalable, replicable, and sustainable solutions that use Internet technology to benefit individuals and communities around the world.

- In the Education category, Cisco supports technology-based solutions and education delivery models that improve student performance and engagement in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM).
- The Economic Empowerment category focuses on programs that encourage employment success, entrepreneurship, and long-term self-sufficiency by providing access to skills, knowledge, and financial products and services via technology-based solutions.
- Through the Critical Human Needs category, Cisco grants help overcome the cycle of poverty and dependence by supporting organizations that address the basic needs of underserved communities.

For each of these three investment areas, we will also consider proposals that address environmental sustainability within the context of that investment area. For example, we would consider funding an economic empowerment program that specifically focuses on creating green jobs.

Cisco welcomes applications for Global Impact Cash Grants from community partners who share our vision and offer an innovative approach to a critical social challenge. Organizations can begin the application process at any time.

Program webpage(s):

https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/about/csr/community/nonprofits/global-impact-cash-grants.html https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/about/csr/community/nonprofits.html

Total Program Funding: Not identified

Max Award: The maximum request amount for first-time grant recipients is \$75,000.

Eligibility and Description/Use: Nonprofit Organizations Global Impact Cash Grants go to nonprofits and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that address a significant social problem.

Application Deadline: Applications Accepted Continuously:

Application Process: Cisco accepts applications year-round from eligible organizations. All applications must be completed using our online application form. Cisco will not consider incomplete proposals or paper-based applications.

An initial information form is used to determine whether your organization will be invited to complete a full application. A request from Cisco to submit a full proposal application does not constitute a guarantee of funding.

Cost Share: No

Reference Link: https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/about/csr/community/nonprofits/global-impact-cash-grants.html

R18. Coquille Economic Development Corporation - Tribal One Broadband

Resource Type: Technical Assistance

Agency/Organization: Non-Governmental Organizations

Funding Type: Not identified

Program Description: Tribal One Broadband (T1B) provides comprehensive IT, telecom and fiber optic network solutions and integrated control systems (ICS) for businesses and governments throughout the country. Tribal One's redundant network was the first and only metropolitan Ethernet service in Coos Bay and North Bend. Utilizing state of the art solutions, Tribal One is able to provide Fiber-To-The-Premises solutions as well as traditional and enhanced TDM and DSL services.

- Inside Building and Outside Plant Structured Cable and Wireless Infrastructure Design
- Build Telecommunications Systems Operations
- Photovoltaic Solar
- Industrial Control Systems/SCADA

Tribal One Broadband was established in 2002 as a division of the Coquille Economic Development Corporation (CEDCO).

Total Program Funding: Not identified

Max Award: Not identified

Eligibility and Description/Use: Agricultural Producers, For-Profit Organizations, Healthcare Institution, Local Government & Authority, Nonprofit Organizations, State, Territory, Tribe Broadband Project Portfolio: [https://www.tribal.one/portfolio broadband/]

Application Deadline: Applications Accepted Continuously:

Application Process: To begin the process please email them at: info@tribal.one

Cost Share: Yes Each project contract will carry different protocols and requirements.

Reference Link: https://www.tribal.one/pages/services_broadband/

R19. Foundation for Rural Service - Virtual Living Room

Resource Type: Grant

Agency/Organization: Non-Governmental Organizations

Funding Type: Non-Supplemental

Program Description: FRS grant program that blends rural technology, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) resources and local support to encourage veteran use of advanced medical technologies. Virtual Living Room saves veterans travel time and costs while enabling connections to skilled physicians and other providers in the VA medical system such as telehealth and other online resources. Communities are eligible if they are located more than an hour away from a VA clinic or hospital.

Program webpage:

https://www.frs.org/virtuallivingroom

Total Program Funding: Not identified

Max Award: Not identified

Eligibility and Description/Use: Local Government & Authority, Nonprofit Organizations, State Applicant must partner with a local Veterans Affairs association.

Application Deadline: Applications Accepted Continuously:

Application Process: Step 1: Access your Community's Need

Step 2: Contact Your Local VA

Step 3: Locate a Venue Step 4: Bring It All Together

Step 5: Apply for the FRS Virtual Living Room Grant Funding

Step 6: Share Your Story *Cost Share:* Not Identified

Reference Link: https://www.frs.org/virtuallivingroom

R20. Human-I-T - Low-Cost Internet & Digital Training

Resource Type: Technical Assistance Agency/Organization: Not identified

Funding Type: Not identified

Program Description: **human-I-T** provides low-income individuals and nonprofits with technology, internet, and digital training. By reusing instead of recycling electronics, the team transforms E-Waste into opportunities for underserved communities, while promoting digital inclusion and online access. They work with corporations, government entities, nonprofits, and general public to achieve this goal.

Total Program Funding: Not identified

Max Award: Not identified

Eligibility and Description/Use: Individuals & Households, Nonprofit Organizations, Public/Private Institutions of Education K-12, Public/Private Institutions of Higher Education, State, Territory, Tribe

Application Deadline: Applications Accepted Continuously:

Application Process: Request Low-Cost Internet: https://www.human-i-t.org/request-internet human-I-T can assist low-income households in all 50 states.

Training & Courses: Once an application is accepted access is gained to an online course to use anytime: https://www.human-i-t.org/request-digital-literacy

Cost Share:

Reference Link: https://www.human-i-t.org/

R21. Robert Wood Johnson Foundation - Grants Program

Resource Type: Grant

Agency/Organization: Non-Governmental Organizations

Funding Type: Non-Supplemental

Program Description: "At the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, we believe that good health and health care are fundamental measures of our success as a nation.". RWJF, has four areas of focus, including: Health Systems, Healthy Children/Healthy Weight, Healthy Communities, Health Leadership. The vast majority of their funding is to nonprofit organizations and public agencies.

RWJF awards most grants through Calls for Proposals (CFPs). All seven program areas issue CFPs from time to time. The Pioneer Portfolio accepts unsolicited proposals, however, for projects that suggest new and creative approaches to solving health and health care problems. Examples of previously funded projects include: service demonstrations; gathering and monitoring of health-related statistics; public education; training and fellowship programs; policy analysis; health services research; technical assistance; communications activities; and evaluations.

Total Program Funding: Not identified

Max Award: \$300,000

Eligibility and Description/Use: For-Profit Organizations, Local Government & Authority, Nonprofit Organizations, State, Territory Public agencies; universities; and U.S. based nonprofit charitable organizations with federal tax exemption under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Application Deadline: Applications Accepted Continuously:

Application Process: The RWJF Pioneer Portfolio welcomes proposals for unsolicited grants at any time and issues awards throughout the year. Deadlines for other grant programs vary. Please reference the website for complete guidance and restrictions.

Cost Share: Not Identified

Reference Link: https://www.rwjf.org/content/rwjf/en/how-we-work/grants-and-grant-

programs.html

Information Resources

R22. NTIA Map: "Indicators of Broadband Need"

Resource Group and Type: Online Tool or Toolkit

Department/Agency: Department of Commerce

Funding Type: Not identified

Program Description: The Indicators of Broadband Need map was created by the United States Department of Commerce, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). The map uses several different data sources to show information on broadband availability within the United States. Layers in this map were created using data sourced from the American Community Survey collected by the U.S. Census, Measurement Lab (M-Lab), Ookla, Microsoft and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). In addition, there is a layer in the map that displays the locations of higher education institutions eligible as Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) under NTIA's Connecting Minority Communities grant program. There is also a layer that shows areas designated as American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Areas by the U.S. Census in 2020. A description of each data set is provided as well as information on how to download the county, census tract and census block level data used in the map.

Map link: Indicators of Broadband Need (arcgis.com)

- ACS Internet Connectivity Variables Boundaries
- ACS Poverty Status Variable Boundaries

R23. MAX-TRAX Disaster Resource Library

Resource Type: Informational

Agency/Organization: (USDHS) Department of Homeland Security (FEMA specific)

Program Description: The Disaster Resource library in MAX-TRAX (https://trax.max.gov/secure/Dashboard.jspa?selectPageId=14902) is a repository for resources from the COVID-19 supplemental funding as well as steady state financial and technical resources that can be searched, filtered, and exported into templated reports. The Library and the MAX-TRAX project itself are accessible to relevant recovery partners to assist with regional impact collection, scoping preliminary recovery strategies, and objectives and help drive coordination of assistance.

Eligibility and Description/Use: Government employees at all levels of government may request access to MAX-TRAX provided they have an active MAX.gov account.

Application Deadline: Application Accepted Continuously

Application Process: If you would like to request support or additional information, including obtaining a MAX.gov account or access to the user groups, please reach out to the MAX-TRAX Service Desk (traxsupport@max.gov) or register for a MAX.gov account at https://portal.max.gov/portal/home.

Reference Link: Covid-19 Resource Library Dashboard; https://trax.max.gov/secure/Dashboard.jspa?selectPageId=23306

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