

# **Broadband Acceleration Grant Program, Year 3 (BAG 3.0)**

## **Updated Program Guidance**

### **July 18, 2023**

Please see the updated guidance below for the BAG 3.0 Program:

#### **Use the Federal Communications Broadband Data Collection Fabric (FCC BDC) Version 2 When Preparing All Application Location ID Data**

Use the FCC BDC Version 2 when preparing all location ID information as defined in the “Determination Of The Available Broadband Service” section, starting on page 20 of the program guidelines. Do not use FCC BDC Version 3 when submitting BAG 3.0 application files as it is being used to collect updated service availability information for service provider filings by September 1, 2023. The FCC BDC Fabric Version 3 will not have updated service availability information associated with any location ID updates included in Version 3 and will therefore create inaccurate and incomplete service availability information if used.

#### **“Existing Broadband Service Availability Data for Proposed Service Area” File And Associated Data Is No Longer Required**

The “Existing Broadband Service Availability Data for Proposed Service Area” information as documented on page 22 is no longer required for the application. As such, files with the “BAG3\_OrgName\_GeographicIdentifier\_ExistingProposedEvidenceData” structure will no longer be needed. Applicants do not need to develop or submit this information. This section will be removed from the application form. **Note:** The “Required Broadband Service Availability Data For Existing Service Areas” file, found on page 23 of the program guidelines, which documents a provider’s service availability within all of Kansas **is still required**.

#### **Aligning Application Locations To Be Served, Location IDs, And Applicant Match Locations Passed**

When submitting a BAG 3.0 application, ensure that the total locations to be served equals the total number of location IDs within the Applicant’s Proposed Service Area Data file. The locations passed within the applicant match tool also need to equal the total number of location IDs. An example is provided below for an application that will serve 150 locations in a proposed service area:

- Application total locations to be served (households + businesses + education institutions + healthcare organizations + libraries + municipal organizations) = 150
- Total location IDs within “Applicant’s Proposed Service Area Data” file = 150
- Applicant Match locations passed = 150

All three categories (application total locations to be served, total location IDs, and applicant match locations passed) must equal the same number for an application.

KOBD understands that there still may be some location ID inaccuracies within the FCC Broadband Data Collection (BDC) Fabric and that there may be more or fewer locations to be served as compared to service provider's proprietary GIS tools or other available evidence. However, the program is aligning to the FCC BDC tool for location IDs. To ensure all location IDs within a proposed service area are reflected in the "Applicant's Proposed Service Area Data" file, providers should include **both** Broadband Serviceable Locations (BSLs) **AND** non-Broadband Serviceable Locations (non-BSLs) location IDs. Non-BSL location IDs should be included as those are typically associated with businesses, education institutions, healthcare organizations, libraries, and municipal organizations which are part of the application's total locations to be served.