

QUESTION: Will KOBD accept evidence of “No-BEAD” locations from non-applicant ISPs? If so, will that be spelled out in the forthcoming separate process details?

ANSWER: KOBD will not accept evidence of “No-BEAD” locations from non-applicant ISPs.

QUESTION: Do providers need to provide a Build America, Buy America (BABA) letter as part of their application? Please let us know.

ANSWER: In accordance with section 2.4.5 of Volume 2, “Subrecipients must meet the requirement that all iron, steel, manufactured products (including fiberoptic communications facilities), and construction materials used in the proposed project or other eligible activities are produced in the United States unless a waiver is granted. In determining whether a product is produced in America, sub-recipients must comply with definitions included in Section 70912 of BABA,” but such certification is required of subgrantees rather than with submitted applications. During the contracting period, KOBD will ensure that subgrantees “obtain all necessary federal, state, and local governmental permits and approvals for the proposed work.”

QUESTION: We are a LOE provider interested in participating in the Kansas BEAD program. After reviewing your Volume II Proposal, we want to clarify whether we should submit a pre-qualification application to participate as it looks as if Kansas is refraining from considering LEO broadband services, despite the fact that we are eligible to participate under the BEAD rules. Is this an incorrect reading?

ANSWER: Registration is required for all organizations applying for the Kansas BEAD Program. Kansas has adjusted our Volume 2 to include alternative technology.

QUESTION: We are a contractor working with a client who is applying for BEAD. By mistake, there are two pre-qualification applications started. We would like to use only one of the applications. Is there a way to delete the duplicate?

ANSWER: Registrations that are only in the "Draft" status may be abandoned, or ignored. If registrations were submitted, and one registration has yet to be "accepted" then the registrant may ignore any requested revisions and it will eventually be denied automatically. If both have already been "accepted" then when the registrant starts a project application, they will be asked to select one of their registration numbers; the applicant may ignore whichever registration it considers the duplicate.

QUESTION: I completed re-submitting our Kansas BEAD Pre-Registration, but I have a concern that it did not process correctly. The reason I say this is because I first received the error message, “This record is locked.” Please let me know what I should do from here.

ANSWER: For KDC Grant Portal Technical Issues, please email the Salesforce helpdesk at kdc_salesforce.admin@ks.gov as instructed in the Registration Guide. Once inquiries that were sent to the KOBD email, kdc_BEAD@ks.gov, are identified as being technical issues, they are forwarded to the Salesforce email for resolution, but this may result in a delay.

QUESTION: I'm not sure what to enter for pricing for 1/1 Gbps for a Hybrid Project since it's not being offered. It is a required field and numerical only. I cannot enter N/A, and it is misleading to enter \$0.00. Would you mind submitting this question for me?

ANSWER: While KOBD cannot answer application questions for applicants, you are advised to enter as many 9s (the number nine) as possible to proceed in the portal. Please also ensure that all files with information about service levels and pricing are clear and consistent with regard to the proposed service that would be made available. On the whole, this will indicate to reviewers that the no such gigabit service level is offered even though the proposed project includes fiber technology.

QUESTION: We intend to submit BEAD applications for approximately 50 contiguous PFAs. However, we understand that each application can only have a maximum of 10 contiguous PFAs. As we are a new entrant in Kansas, our business plan and analysis are such that it only makes business sense for us to move forward if we were to win all of the PFAs. Our question is, because of the dependency, can we submit all PFAs in one application or do you want us to submit 5+ applications with the design and business plan broken apart but that all the applications would still be dependent on each other? We suspect it would be most helpful to see the overall scale/business plan of all of the PFAs together in our application given this is the only viable strategy for us. Can you please advise?

ANSWER: In accordance with section 2.4.6 of Volume 2, KOBD defined project areas in a way that would “to allow for like-to-like comparisons of competing proposals.” KOBD recognizes the desire for applicants to indicate project dependencies, which applicants can indicate in their Sustainability and Capability files. While applicants are allowed to include up to ten PFAs per application, please indicate in your application files about the dependencies on other proposed projects where applicable. KOBD also added a final question for each application, “#163. If the potential separation of PFAs within the application is deemed necessary by KOBD, is this application negotiable? Selecting, “Yes,” indicates the application could remain viable if one or more PFAs are potentially removed. Selecting, “No,” indicates the application would not be viable unless all PFAs remain included.”

QUESTION: Regarding the match waiver; #140 prompts us to include the waiver amount in the match amount, however, that reduces the requested grant amount which is confusing. The grant amount does not include the waiver amount - will it be paid on that? And then the delta to be paid later? Additionally, is a waiver to be listed in matching funds sources under "other"?

ANSWER: A match waiver would be requested to reduce the amount of the Total Project Cost to be covered by the Match Amount. Please be sure that the #137 Total Project Cost includes all costs, including what would have been covered by the Waiver Amount. “#139 Net Requested Grant Amount is automatically calculated as Total Project Cost minus Match Amount, which already includes the Waiver Amount.” If the Grant Amount calculates too low, it could be that the Project Cost is missing some costs. Any awarded funds would account for approved waivers, but these various amounts and calculations are necessary for calculating BEAD program requirements such as Match Percentage.

QUESTION: The project application guide page 16 question 147 reads that the information for each category must be entered for "each of the first five years of operation". The Kansas BEAD Initial Proposal Volume 2 in section 2.4.11.d (pg 43) states KOBD will require a post-construction business operations budget "for the five years following the end of construction". Can you please confirm that the figures are to begin with the first year that construction/the project is completely finished rather than the first year funds are received.

ANSWER: In line the Kansas vol 2, awarded applicants will need to provide 5 years of operations budget following the completion of construction of the project.