

QUESTION: Is there a timeline for when the BEAD awards will be announced and the timeline for the steps that follow?

ANSWER: The timing of the selection process depends on the timing of actions by NTIA and potential applicants. The application deadline has been extended to December 20. The review process is bound by the submission of applications and the submission of the Kansas' Final Proposal, with several steps and timelines required. For example, Section 2.4 of the Kansas Initial Proposal Volume 2 states, "Once the submission window has closed, KOBD will review the applications to ensure all required documentation has been submitted. Any missing or incomplete information will be documented, and one written request will be sent to the applicant requesting cure within three calendar days." And, in the case of new enforceable commitments, "all applications for that Project Funding Area will be notified and given 14 calendar days to resubmit, withdraw, or attest that no BEAD funds will be used for BSLs covered by the previous commitment." Furthermore, KOBD shall determine the Extremely High-Cost Threshold, identify projects by prioritization, score applications, and develop recommendations for each proposal. "These recommendations, along with a summary of the grant scoring and results for all subgrantees, will be provided to the Grant Review Committee. This committee will review the scoring rubric results and recommendations presented by KOBD to produce the list of named awardees, the awarded amount for each Project Funding Area, and the unsuccessful applicants, and will describe their rationale for each award. Following approval of projects by the Grant Review Committee, all decisions and documentation will be shared with the Governor's office. After the executive leadership review, all grant round results will be submitted to NTIA through the BEAD-FP. Grant award winners and unsuccessful applicants will be notified by KOBD when allowed by the NTIA."

Per the BEAD NOFO and NTIA approval of Kansas' Initial Proposal (Volumes 1 and 2), Kansas' Final Proposal is due April 22, unless KOBD requests, and NTIA approves, an extension. Following the announcement of provisionally selected subgrantees and approval of the Final Proposal, the next steps would include contracting and other subgrantee submissions described in the NTIA Subgrantees Guidance.

QUESTION: A previous FAQ referencing the [BEAD Letter Of Credit \(LOC\) Waiver](#) requirements indicated the performance bond option 'must be in a value of no less than 100 percent of the sub-award amount'. Must this 100% value be maintained for the entirety of the grant period or will KOBD allow subgrantees to reduce the amount of the Letter of Credit/Performance Bond upon completion of defined service milestones?

ANSWER: KOBD shall allow subgrantees to reduce the amount of the Letter of Credit (LOC) or performance bond upon completion of defined service milestones, per NTIA [BEAD Letter Of Credit \(LOC\) Waiver](#) guidance.

The ***initial*** amount of the performance bond must be in a value of no less than 100 percent of the sub-award amount, per Section 2.2 of the BEAD Letter of Credit (LOC) Waiver (and the inapplicability of Section 2.4, as discussed in FAQ Q#22 from 11/12/2024) and a LOC must be in a value of no less than 25 percent of the sub-awarded amount, per the BEAD NOFO. However, Section 2.3 waives the requirement that "*[i]n no event, however, shall the letter of credit have a value of less than 25 percent of the sub-award amount...*" if this waiver of that requirement is "...conditioned on the requirement that the subgrantee obtain a new letter of credit in a reduced amount upon achievement of specific deployment milestones...". Section 2.3 also explicitly extends the ability to reduce the amount to performance bonds "...by a commensurate amount as subgrantees meet the same service milestones."

While NTIA guidance allows KOBD to specify the milestones that need to be completed for a subgrantee to avail themselves of a reduction to their LOC or performance bond, KOBD could

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specify that a subgrantee may obtain a new letter of credit (or performance bond) or renew its existing letter of credit (or performance bond) to reduce its value in accordance with, by way of example, the following limitations:

- Upon demonstrating to the satisfaction of KOBD that it has completed the buildout of 40 percent of locations to be served by the project, a subgrantee may obtain a new letter of credit (or performance bond) or renew its existing letter of credit (or performance bond) so that it is valued at no less than 20 percent of the award amount.
- Upon demonstrating to the satisfaction of KOBD that it has completed the buildout of 60 percent of locations to be served by the project, a subgrantee may obtain a new letter of credit (or performance bond) or renew its existing letter of credit (or performance bond) so that it is valued at no less than 15 percent of the award amount.
- Upon demonstrating to the satisfaction of KOBD that it has completed the buildout of 80 percent of locations to be served by the project, a subgrantee may obtain a new letter of credit (or performance bond) or renew its existing letter of credit (or performance bond) so that it is valued at no less than 10 percent of the award amount.
- Upon demonstrating to the satisfaction of KOBD that it has completed the buildout of 100 percent of locations to be served by the project, a subgrantee may terminate its letter of credit (or performance bond) under the terms set forth therein.

QUESTION: In your pre-registration application question 35.a., you require audited financial statements for the most recent two years. Can you approve a pre-registration application with pending audited financial statements with a date certain to have those sent to you?

ANSWER: Yes. KOBD would allow a pre-registration application with unaudited financials as well as a pending audit with an agreed-upon date for submission if the unaudited financials are from FY'2023 and the applicant certifies that it will provide financial statements from the prior fiscal year that are audited by the agreed upon date of submission. The BEAD NOFO states, "[i]f the potential subgrantee has not been audited during the ordinary course of business, in lieu of submitting audited financial statements, it must submit unaudited financial statements from the prior fiscal year and certify that it will provide financial statements from the prior fiscal year that are audited by an independent certified public accountant by a deadline specified by the Eligible Entity" (pg. 73).

QUESTION: Would KOBD allow a pre-registration application with unaudited financials as well as a pending audit with an agreed-upon date for submission?

ANSWER: Yes. KOBD would allow a pre-registration application with unaudited financials as well as a pending audit with an agreed-upon date for submission if the unaudited financials are from FY'2023 and the applicant certifies that it will provide financial statements from the prior fiscal year that are audited by the agreed upon date of submission. The BEAD NOFO states, "[i]f the potential subgrantee has not been audited during the ordinary course of business, in lieu of submitting audited financial statements, it must submit unaudited financial statements from the prior fiscal year and certify that it will provide financial statements from the prior fiscal year that are audited by an independent certified public accountant by a deadline specified by the Eligible Entity" (pg. 73).

QUESTION: Can you describe a bit more about what is expected in the business plan item h 'Location of Field Personnel'? Is this simply a list of the location of Field Personnel? p. 45 of Vol. 2 is the only reference to this item. It states, "Location(s) of field personnel involved in installation and repair of the proposed project network and estimated "windshield" time for response (to demonstrate adequate operational support." Any additional clarification you can provide?

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ANSWER: In accordance with section 2.4.11 of Volume 2, KOBD requires applicants to submit business plans and related analyses to demonstrate the sustainability of each proposed project. As noted in the Project Application Guide: While not the sole basis of scoring, the files submitted for #146 Business Sustainability Plan may augment #149 Technical Capability, which is the basis of scoring up to 18 points. The “location of field personnel” may be addressed by explaining the general distance field personnel would have to travel to the project area, describing how the location of field personnel (whether from field offices or remote-working locations) helps to ensure timely installations and repairs, and estimating the amount of travel time (windshield time) versus working on the install or repair. This file, #146, should help demonstrate adequate operational support.