



Broadband Funding Guide

Department of Agriculture

Federal Agency	Rural Business Service
Agency Overview	USDA Rural Development is committed to helping improve the economy and quality of life in rural America. The agency offers loans, grants and loan guarantees to help create jobs and support economic development and essential services such as housing, health care, first responder services and equipment, and water, electric and communications infrastructure.
Program Name	Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Program (REDLG)
Program Website	https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-economic-development-loan-grant-program
Program Overview	The Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant program provides funding for rural projects through local utility organizations. USDA provides zero-interest loans to local utilities which they, in turn, pass through to local businesses (ultimate recipients) for projects that will create and retain employment in rural areas. The ultimate recipients repay the lending utility directly. The utility is responsible for repayment to USDA.
Program Purpose	<input type="checkbox"/> Planning (e.g., feasibility) <input type="checkbox"/> Smart Cities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Broadband Infrastructure (e.g., construction) <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> Broadband Adoption <input type="checkbox"/> Research <input type="checkbox"/> Digital Skills Training <input type="checkbox"/> Broadband Financing <input type="checkbox"/> Public Computer Access <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Eligible Recipients	<input type="checkbox"/> Libraries <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial/Internet Service Providers <input type="checkbox"/> K-12 Schools <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Profit Organizations <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education Institutions <input type="checkbox"/> Small Businesses <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitals <input type="checkbox"/> Rural Recipients <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety Entities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Electric Utilities/Co-ops <input type="checkbox"/> State and Local Governments <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Institutions <input type="checkbox"/> Tribal Entities <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Agency Contact	Various by state. See agency website.
Funding Type	Loan and Grant

FY2018 Funding Amount	\$43,000,000
FY2019 Funding Amount	
FY2020 Funding Amount	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loan: \$50,506,394 • Grant: \$10,900,000
Additional Information	https://www.rd.usda.gov/sites/default/files/fact-sheet/508_RD_FS_RBS_REDLG.pdf