

## Deadline for broadband challenges is April 18th

The State of New York has received more than \$664 million in federal funding to expand high-speed broadband infrastructure to homes and businesses. The ConnectALL program will provide grants to extend broadband infrastructure to unserved and underserved locations statewide with the goal of providing internet to all New Yorkers. Only locations that have been officially designated as unserved or underserved will be eligible for these grants.

Those locations are currently identified <u>on a map that can be found by clicking here</u>. Hudson Valley Pattern for Progress is working with the state to facilitate challenges to the map in the Mid-Hudson Region. Local governments and nonprofits are eligible to submit challenges.

## This is your last chance to identify homes and businesses that will be eligible for these federal broadband grants!

Local governments and nonprofits should take the following steps to maximize eligibility in their areas:

- 1. Spread the word about the challenge process to your residents. Public comment is open until April 11. Homeowners and business owners can submit documentation to prove their lack of service.
- 2. Visit <a href="https://register.broadband.ny.gov/register/bead">https://register.broadband.ny.gov/register/bead</a> to register to be an eligible challenger. You will be asked to provide basic contact information and the EIN of your municipality or organization. The state's ConnectALL office will confirm your registration.
- **3.** Local governments and nonprofits can log into the Challenge Portal starting on March 19 to submit challenges. The state has published a <u>user guide</u> with detailed instructions for submitting challenges.
- **4.** Upload supporting evidence related to the challenge. For more information about supporting evidence, see the supporting evidence guide below.

Local governments and nonprofits should also review the map for community anchor institutions where people might go to access the internet in your communities. (Libraries, colleges, community centers, etc.) If these important locations do not show up on the map, challengers may also submit information about them.

More information at www.pattern-for-progress.org/portfolio/connectall

SUPPORTING EVIDENCE GUIDE FOR ELIGIBLE CHALLENGERS	
Type of Challenge	Acceptable Supporting Evidence
Community Anchor Institution (CAI) Location A location is incorrectly identified as a non-CAI.  Community Anchor Institution (CAI) Service CAI Does Not Have Access to 1 Gbps Service.	<ul> <li>Official name of the institution</li> <li>The type of CAI, selecting from the eligible list of CAI categories</li> <li>Registration documents</li> <li>Contact information for the institution</li> <li>Attestation that this location does not currently have access to 1 Gbps/1Gbps broadband service.</li> <li>Service information including current service provider, type of technology, and speed of the current plan.</li> <li>evidence of recent bill/invoice, photo of the provider</li> </ul>
Availability The broadband services reported as available at your location on the map are not actually available.	<ul> <li>gateway, or other evidence to support the challenge</li> <li>Screenshot of the provider's webpage.</li> <li>Correspondence with the provider (Letter, email, text message, voicemail transcript).</li> <li>Documentation of a phone call or in-person interaction with the provider.</li> <li>Lack of suitable infrastructure (e.g., no fiber on pole).</li> </ul>
The actual speeds reported at your location on the map fall below the BEAD Program's eligibility thresholds. Less than 25Mbps is considered unserved. Between 25-100Mbps is considered underserved.	<ul> <li>A minimum of three speed tests conducted on three different days.</li> <li>Each speed test must include the time and date of the speed test, IP address, name and address of the customer, certification of the speed tier the customer subscribes to, and agreement to share the above information with local governments and nonprofits participating in the challenge process.</li> <li>Speed tests must be performed on a laptop or desktop computer within immediate proximity of the residential gateway, using the speed test tool embedded in ConnectALL's Challenge Portal or an NTIA-approved speed test application (i.e., Ookla, M-Lab, Cloudflare, or Netflix).</li> </ul>
Latency The actual round-trip latency of services available at your location exceeds 100 milliseconds.	<ul> <li>A minimum of three speed tests conducted on three different days.</li> <li>Each speed test must include the time and date of the speed test, IP address, name and address of the customer, certification of the speed tier the customer subscribes to, and agreement to share the above information with local governments and nonprofits participating in the challenge process.</li> <li>Speed tests must be performed on a laptop or desktop computer within immediate proximity of the residential gateway, using the speed test tool</li> </ul>

Data Cap The services available at your location have a data limit below 600 GB/month.	<ul> <li>embedded in ConnectALL's Challenge Portal or an NTIA-approved speed test application (i.e., Ookla, M-Lab, Cloudflare, or Netflix).</li> <li>Screenshot of the provider's webpage.</li> <li>Correspondence with the provider (Letter, email, text message, or voicemail transcript).</li> <li>Documentation of a phone call or in-person interaction with the provider</li> <li>Terms of Service / Service Description.</li> <li>End-user contract or offer.</li> </ul>
Technology The type of technology (ex: Fiber Optic, Cable, Etc.) reported as available at your location on the map is incorrect.	<ul> <li>Screenshot of the provider's webpage.</li> <li>Correspondence with the provider (Letter, email, text message, or voicemail transcript).</li> <li>Lack of suitable infrastructure (e.g., no fiber on pole).</li> </ul>
Business Service Only The services reported on the map are available to Businesses only, not Residents.	<ul> <li>Screenshot of the provider's webpage.</li> <li>Correspondence with the provider (Letter, email, text message, or voicemail transcript).</li> <li>Documentation of a phone call or in-person interaction with the provider</li> <li>Terms of Service / Service Description.</li> <li>End-user contract or offer.</li> </ul>
Enforceable Commitment Unserved or underserved locations have existing federal, State, or local funding that should make those locations ineligible for BEAD.	<ul> <li>Details about the commitment's upload speed, download speed, latency, and type of service.</li> <li>Authorization letter and/or executed agreement with funding entity</li> <li>List of funded locations included in the award.</li> </ul>