

STATE OF ILLINOIS

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Background and Intent

The State of Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity (DCEO) seeks ideas from fixed broadband providers interested in collaborating with the Illinois Office of Broadband (IOB) to apply for federal Broadband Infrastructure Program (Program) funding through the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). Pursuant to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, Division N, Title IX, Section 905, Public Law 116-260, 134 Stat. 1182 (Dec. 27, 2020), the Program's objective is to provide funding for "covered broadband projects" through "covered partnerships" between states, or political subdivisions thereof, and fixed broadband providers.

See the NTIA Broadband Development Infrastructure Program NOFO for specific program requirements and timelines, as well as additional detail regarding eligible project areas: [NTIA Broadband Infrastructure Grant Program NOFO.Final_.pdf \(doc.gov\)](#).

Submissions of RFI to DCEO

The intent and goal of this (RFI) is to identify potential fixed broadband providers interested in collaborating with State of Illinois, or a political subdivision thereof, toward one or more applications seeking NTIA Broadband Infrastructure Program funds. This RFI is for information and planning purposes only; it neither constitutes a contract nor any promise of a contract. This RFI does not require DCEO to commit to a contract for any purpose.

Informational Webinar

N/A

Responses

Parties are requested to respond to this RFI by submitting an email response to broadband@illinois.gov by 5pm on Friday, July 23, 2021.

Response Format

IOB appreciates and welcomes all ideas. Please provide your response to this RFI in the following format:

Cover Page (per below)

- Provider or Political Subdivision name
- Representative or contact name, title and/or affiliation
- Contact information, including address, phone, and email
- Signature of representative or contact

STATE OF ILLINOIS

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Narrative

Provide a description of the covered broadband project area to be served, confirmation of area eligibility per the NOFO, the technology(ies) to be deployed, the anticipated number of passes, an estimate of total project cost, and the anticipated source of nonfederal matching funds (comprising at least 10 percent of total project costs).

Project Mapping

Include maps in two ways: an image pasted in the text or a PDF included as an appendix; a separate map file (e.g. .shp, .kmz, .kml) included as an attachment.

Provider Financials

Demonstrate, or indicate willingness to demonstrate, financing viability to enable deployment today and long-term operations, such as through one of more of the following:

- Audited financial statements and other documentation to demonstrate financial standing
- Clear identification of match sources and/or proof of financing being available
- Detailed financial statements (cash flow, balance sheet, income statement) for project period (deployment and operational sustainability) – enabling review of capital deployment stage and recurring revenue and operating expenditures
- Identification of key financial risks that could impede sustainability (e.g., revenue shortfalls, cost overruns) and mitigation strategy

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI)

Request for Information Title: **NTIA Broadband Infrastructure Program**

Information Due Date: **July 23, 2021**

Information Due Time: **5:00 pm CST**

Completed by:

Association/Organization Name (if applicable)

Association/Organization Representative Name (or individual's name if no affiliation)

Address

City, State, Zip

Phone Number

Email Address

Association/Organization Representative Signature (or individual's signature if no affiliation)

STATE OF ILLINOIS
REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

RFI Summary

THIS IS A REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI) ONLY. The information provided in the RFI is subject to change and is not binding on DCEO. DCEO has not made a commitment to procure any of the items discussed, and release of this RFI should not be construed as such a commitment or as authorization to incur cost for which reimbursement would be required or sought. All submissions become DCEO property and will not be returned.

DCEO reserves the right to cancel this RFI at any time with or without notice to respondents and without liability.

All information received through this request is subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), but if you include proprietary information, please mark it "confidential" to ensure it remains confidential.