

Vermont Community Broadband Board (VCBB)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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VCBB TO HOLD TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE WORKSHOP FOR POTENTIAL BEAD BIDDERS

Montpelier, Vermont – Vermont Community Broadband Board (VCBB) staff will hold a Technical Assistance Workshop and Office Hours this week to prepare potential bidders for the Vermont Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program. BEAD is a federal program that provides \$42.45 billion to expand high-speed internet access by funding planning, infrastructure deployment, and adoption programs in all states and territories. Vermont's allocation of those funds is almost \$229 million.

The workshop will be Wednesday, December 18, from 11:00 am-12:30 pm, followed by office hours on Friday, December 20, from 11:00 am-12:30 pm. You can find links to attend on the VCBB <u>website</u>.

This workshop will provide an introduction to Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program topics for prospective VT-BEAD subrecipients, including eligible expenses, environmental permitting, matching funds, letters of credit and performance bonds, cyber security and risk management, subrecipient payment structures, subaward monitoring and compliance, reporting, and domestic procurement requirements.

Office hours will address primarily these topics but prospective subrecipients may bring any other questions, which we will answer either in session or via FAQ. This overview workshop will be followed by more in-depth trainings on these issues in January 2025.

If you would like to be added to the VT-BEAD distribution list or if you have any questions, email VCBB.BEAD@vermont.gov. You can find more information on our website.

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