

ReConnect Program

What does this program do?

ReConnect provides loans, grants, and loan-grant combinations to bring high-speed internet to rural areas that lack sufficient access.

Funds can be used to build, improve, or acquire facilities and equipment needed for high-speed internet service.

We also encourage private-sector investments in broadband infrastructure to get high-speed internet service to rural homes, businesses, and essential community facilities that support public safety, health care, schools, libraries, business and industry, and agricultural operations.



ReConnect Website

Who can apply?

Eligible applicants include:

- Cooperatives or mutual associations
- Corporations, limited liability companies, or limited liability partnerships
- State, local, and Tribal governments, and their affiliated organizations
- A U.S. territory or possession

What is an eligible area?

To be eligible, an area must meet two criteria:

1. The area must be rural.
2. Ninety percent of households must lack sufficient access to broadband service.

What is considered “rural?”

Service areas cannot be located in cities, towns, or incorporated areas with populations greater than 20,000, or in urbanized areas adjacent cities or towns with populations greater than 50,000.

You can use our mapping tool (available at this link: [usda.gov/reconnect](https://www.usda.gov/reconnect)) to help determine your project’s eligibility.

How can funds be used?

ReConnect funding can be used to:

- Build or improve facilities capable of delivering broadband service to every premises in the PFSA at the same time

- Purchase an existing system that does not currently provide sufficient broadband access
- Offset portions of approved pre-application expenses, including environmental reviews

How do we apply?

You can submit your application through USDA Rural Development’s online application system, available at this link: [usda.gov/reconnect](https://www.usda.gov/reconnect).

Who can answer questions?

We generally host webinars and workshops during open application windows. You can find additional information at [usda.gov/reconnect](https://www.usda.gov/reconnect).

Your Telecommunications General Field Representative (GFR) also can help. A list of GFRs is available at this link: <https://tinyurl.com/RUSGFR-T>

What governs this program?

- The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-141 - available at this link: tinyurl.com/PL-115-141)
- 2021 ReConnect Program Final Rule, available at this link: tinyurl.com/RUS-RC-FinalRule

NOTE: Because information changes, always consult official program instructions or contact your local USDA Rural Development office for help. A list is available at this link: tinyurl.com/RDStateOffices. You will find additional RD program resources at rd.usda.gov. Information about other USDA programs and services is available at this link: ask.usda.gov. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.