Community Connect Grants provide funds to deploy broadband in eligible rural areas where sufficient broadband doesn't yet exist. These grants also make free community broadband access available in crucial facilities such as public schools, libraries, and first responder stations.

Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants fund medical and educational technology equipment to support telemedicine and distance learning in eligible rural areas.



USDA's telecommunications loans, grants, and technical assistance programs are available in predominantly rural areas. Eligibility requirements vary by program.

You can learn more by visiting our broadband webpage at <u>usda.gov/broadband</u>. You can also contact the telecommunications General Field Representative that serves your state. A list is available at this link: <u>rd.usda.gov/contact-us/</u>telecom-gfr.

rd.usda.gov 1 (800) 670-6553 (toll free)



USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

PA-2238 | September 2022



USDA Rural Development

Rural America's
Partner to Expand
Broadband Access

Together, America Prospers

Affordable high-speed broadband access is a modern-day necessity, vital to rural American prosperity. It supports small businesses, rural manufacturers, and agricultural production, and helps level the playing field for rural American households, schools, businesses, first responders, and health care centers.

Getting — and keeping — the people of rural America connected with reliable, high-speed internet helps bring new ideas and innovations to the rest of our country. That's why high speed internet programs are an important part of our partnership with rural communities.



Telecommunications Programs

ReConnect Loans and Grants: Direct loans, grants, and loan and grant combinations provide funding to construct, improve, and expand broadband service to rural and Tribal areas lacking sufficient broadband service.

Telecommunications Infrastructure Loans:

Direct and guaranteed loan financing to help construct, improve, and expand telecommunications service — including broadband — in rural areas.

Rural Broadband Access Loans:

Direct and guaranteed loan financing to help construct, improve, and expand broadband service — including voice and video services — in eligible rural areas.