



**BROADBAND
OFFICE**



Accelerated Deployment Grant Program (ADGP)

Informational Webinar

South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff | February 2, 2023

Questions and Answers

FAQ form: <https://arcg.is/1WS89i>

South Carolina Act 244 (H. 4408)

"....The grant program may include an opportunity to reimburse a portion of construction costs, incurred on or after March 15, 2021, related to the expansion of broadband during the pandemic...."

What are Accelerated Projects?

- 1) **SC Broadband residential construction to unserved areas that was:**
 - ✓ Not operational on **March 15, 2021**
 - ✓ In process and/or initiated on/after **March 15, 2021**
 - ✓ Complete and operational by **June 30, 2022**
- 2) **Construction was funded exclusively using private investment**
- 3) **Unserved Areas are defined by ADGP Eligibility Map (Sept. 2021)**
 - ✓ This map represents FCC Form 477 June 30, 2021 construction
 - ✓ Available as PDF map, XLS of Census Blocks (<https://ors.sc.gov/broadband/investments/state/adgp>), and ESRI shapefile
- 4) **ORS will award approximately \$25,000,000**
- 5) **Applicants must document the network was operational by June 30, 2022**
- 6) **Grantees will be required to submit complete invoice and payment backup for all work completed during March 15, 2021 through June 30, 2022**

Additional information can be found at: <https://ors.sc.gov/broadband/investments/state/adgp>

Eligible Applicants/ Projects

Must be Internet Service Provider (ISP) that:

- Offers **residential service** and has previously **filed**:
 - ✓ **FCC Form 477 (June 30, 2022)** with SCBBO
- Currently participates directly, or with partner, in:
 - ✓ **FCC's Affordable Connectivity Plan (ACP)**
- Provide an **affordable high-speed Internet plan**
 - ✓ **Without** income requirements
- Have made service available to **homes**
 - ✓ Unserved areas based on the SCBBO Sept. 2021 Eligibility Map
- Constructed **wireline** service capable of 100 Mbps symmetric (down/up)

ADGP Details

- **One application per ISP, may include multiple projects**
- **GIS Line Work** (for all work completed during the performance period) separated by Project will be screened against ADGP Eligibility Map to determine what percentage of the project's Line Work was constructed within Eligible Census Blocks
- That percentage will define how much of the project's eligible total costs will qualify for reimbursement
- The sum of the eligible portion of all submitted projects will create the funding pool and determine the final reimbursement percent that is **equal across projects and ISPs** (not to exceed 50% and/or \$9,999,999 to a single ISP)

Application Components

- 1) Applicant Information
- 2) Project Summary 1
- 3) Project Summary 2 (if needed)
- 4) Project Summary ... (as needed)
- 5) Consolidated Project Costs

<https://ors.sc.gov/sites/ors/files/Documents/Broadband/Accelerated%20Deployment/ADGP%20Grant%20Application%20and%20Budget%20Summary.xlsx>

Section 2.2 - Construction/Installation Period				
Construction Start Date				
Construction End Date				
Installation Start Date				

2.3 - Additional Information

If the proposed Project is in an area that is subject to an existing federal or state funding commitment for reliable speeds of 100/20 Mbps, explain why there was an identified need for additional broadband investment that was not met by existing federal or state funding commitments.

Section 2.4 - Project Costs				
Tab	Expense Category	Qty	Rate	Amount
Other Expenses	Contracting Services - Engineering			
Other Expenses	Contracting Services - Construction			
Other Expenses	Permitting			
Other Expenses	Railroad Crossing			
Other Expenses	Other			
Materials & Supplies	Fiber			
Materials & Supplies	Cabinets / OLTs (Optical Line Terminal)			
Materials & Supplies	ONTs (Optical Network Terminal)			
Materials & Supplies	Conduit			
Materials & Supplies	Handhole			
Materials & Supplies	Pedestals			
Materials & Supplies	Pole Attachments			
Materials & Supplies	Other Materials & Supplies			
Materials & Supplies	Sales Tax			
Total				\$ -

Section 2.5 - Funding Source		
Description	Fund Source Name	Amount
Applicant-Provided Funding		\$ -
Third-Party Funding Source (if applicable)		\$ -
Third-Party Funding Source (if applicable)		\$ -
Third-Party Funding Source (if applicable)		\$ -
Total Project Cost		\$ -

ADGP Timeline

Event	Date
Eligibility Map, Grant Application, and Guidelines Published on the ORS Website	1/23/2023
Application Period Opens	1/30/2023
ADGP Webinar	2/2/2023
Application Period Closes	2/28/2023
Submitted Applications Posted on the ORS Website / Comment Period Opens	3/3/2023
Comment Period Closes	3/17/2023
Application Review / Selection	3/31/2023
Funding Agreements Sent to the Companies	4/7/2023
Funding Agreements Returned to the ORS	4/21/2023
Grant Award	4/28/2023
Submit all backup to ORS for review	5/11/2023
Project Completion /Submit Application for Disbursement to ORS	6/30/2023
US Treasury Reporting Due	6/30/2024

***All dates reflect no later than**

<https://ors.sc.gov/sites/ors/files/Documents/Broadband/Accelerated%20Deployment/ADGP%20Grant%20Application%20Guidelines.pdf>

ADGP Project Submission – Point of Entry

ISP must submit:

- ✓ Fill out data access request form <https://bit.ly/3DvZRY3> if not previously completed
- ✓ Grant Application and Budget Summary (Microsoft Excel Format)
- ✓ GIS Data (Geodatabase or Shapefile for **each** project)
 - ✓ Fiber/Cable Lines
 - ✓ FCC BSL Structure Points passed
- ✓ Signed Affidavit

ADGP Project Evaluation and Reimbursement Calculations

GIS Data

- Cable/Fiber Line work separated, by Project
- FCC BSL Structures, by Project (to verify homes and businesses who have access)
- Screened against Sept. 2021 Eligibility Map to determine the percentage of project work constructed within Eligible Census Blocks



Calculate Percentage of Eligible Project Costs

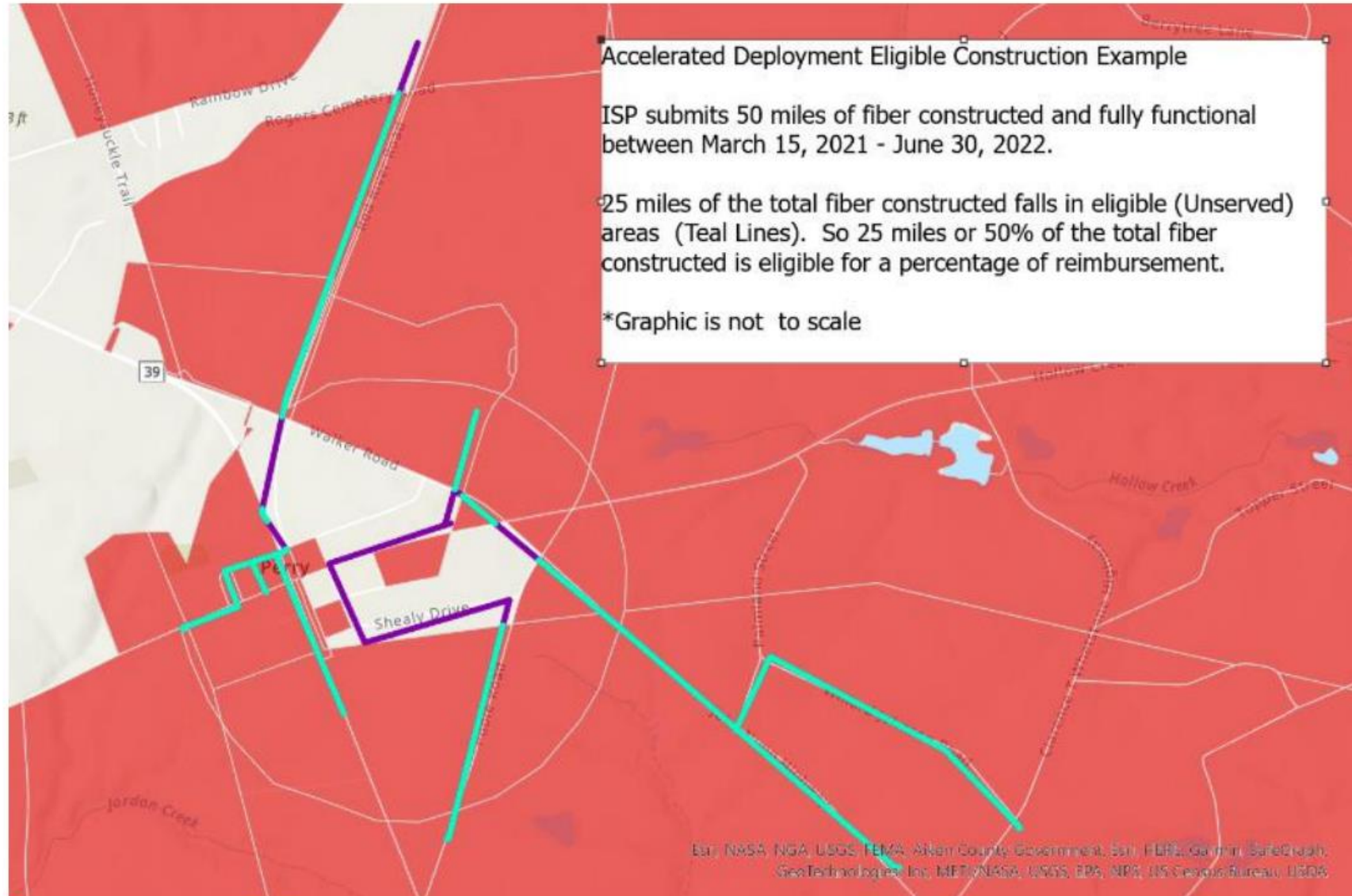
- The percentage of line work in Eligible Census Blocks will determine percentage of project that is eligible for reimbursement
- List of Eligible and Ineligible costs can be found in ADGP guidelines



Calculating Reimbursement

The percentage of reimbursement will be based on the ceiling amount of funds available for the ADGP divided by the eligible total amount of funding requested from each applicant relative to the total eligible expenses requested in eligible 'unserved' areas across all accepted applications.

Illustrative Example



Illustrative Example across multiple ISP project submissions

For easy calculations and example purposes only: Available ARPA Accelerated Deployment Funds = \$10,000,000

ISP	Project	Total Project Cost	% total linear miles of Fiber in Eligible CB	Eligible Total Project Cost	% ORS ARPA Reimbursement	ORS ARPA Reimbursement
ISP 1	ABC-01	\$ 5,000,000	50%	\$ 2,500,000	31%	\$ 772,798
ISP 1	ABC-02	\$ 11,000,000	75%	\$ 8,250,000	31%	\$ 2,550,232
ISP 2	DEF-01	\$ 10,000,000	60%	\$ 6,000,000	31%	\$ 1,854,714
ISP3	GHI-01	\$ 9,000,000	80%	\$ 7,200,000	31%	\$ 2,225,657
ISP3	GHI-02	\$ 12,000,000	70%	\$ 8,400,000	31%	\$ 2,596,600
Total Eligible Project Costs				\$ 32,350,000		\$ 10,000,000*

$$\text{Reimbursement \%} = \frac{\text{Available ARPA Accelerated Deployment Funds}}{\text{Sum of Eligible Total Project Costs across all Eligible Projects}}$$

Other Phases in the Timeline

Comment Period – 3/17 Allows ISPs or any interested party to raise issues or comments regarding an application submitted for grant funding

Application Selection Period – 3/31 SCBBO to screen all projects

Grant Award Period – 4/28 SCBBO issues authorizations

Grantee to Submit All Backup – 5/11

All invoices and proof of payment

Evidence the network is functional

Project Closeout – 6/30

Locating Documents

The image shows two screenshots of the ORS website. The top screenshot displays the main navigation menu with 'Broadband' selected. Below the menu, three categories are shown: 'Broadband Office', 'Investments', and 'Mapping and Data'. 'Broadband Grant Notifications' and 'State Investment Programs' are circled in yellow and green respectively. Callout boxes point to a search bar and the 'Broadband Grant Notifications' link. The bottom screenshot shows the 'State Investment Programs' page, specifically the 'Accelerated Deployment Grant Program' section, with a breadcrumb trail and a 'Learn more' link.

Search ORS

Sign up for all notifications!

Pathway for Grant Docs

Investments

Broadband Grant Notifications

State Investment Programs

Mapping and Data

SC Digital Drive

Data Request to Providers

Need Internet Survey

Home » [Broadband](#) » [Investments](#) » State Investment Programs

State Investment Programs

Accelerated Deployment Grant Program

The 2023 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund ("SLFRF"), Accelerated Deployment Grant Program (ADGP), seeks to compensate a portion of those construction costs for the expansion of broadband infrastructure to households, business, and communities in the State that were unserved.

[Learn more](#)

[Total Broadband Funding by Company and County \(PDF\)](#)

[Broadband Infrastructure Funding in South Carolina- October 2021 Update \(PDF\)](#)

Questions and Answers

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Thank you!



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ISP Data Confidentiality

2021-2022 Provisions Ratified by SC General Assembly

- *Excerpt from Section 73.7 – “In order to facilitate the provision of information necessary to this task, all information provided by a broadband service provider or other entity providing information for the purpose of creating a South Carolina broadband map shall be maintained by the Office of Broadband Coordinator and any other agency as confidential, proprietary, and a trade secret as defined in Section 30-4-40 of the 1976 Code, and subject to exemption from disclosure under state and federal law.”*

2022 HB 4408 Section 12 Paragraph B

- *“(B) The Office of Broadband Coordinator shall maintain as confidential all individual company-designated proprietary information. All such individual proprietary information is exempt from the provisions contained in S.C. Code Sections 30-4-10, et seq., the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.”*