



**Illinois Innovation Network
Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 22, 2022
1:00 – 2:30 PM
Meeting at Humanities Room, iHotel and via Zoom**

Welcome and Introductions

Jerry Blazey, IIN Council Chair, called the meeting to order. Chair Blazey welcomed the group in person and those who participated via Zoom, noting this was the second in-person Council meeting since the start of the pandemic. He gave a special welcome to Lieutenant Governor Stratton who joined via Zoom. He also gave recognition to Gary Kinsel from SIU Carbondale who recently stepped down as SIUC Hub representative. A gift from the IIN was given to Gary as a thank you for his time on the council and continued involvement with various IIN activities and instrumental partner with the NSF Engines proposal.

Jay Walsh, Vice President for Economic Development & Innovation, University of Illinois System joined the meeting late via Zoom. The governor and area Chief Executive Officers are interested in collaborating with IIN to help them attain and retain talent.

An introduction of new team member, Brian Rogers, Director of Research and Program Development. Brian was offered. The IIN will be able to utilize his assistance with proposal development.

Roll call

Suzi Stadel conducted roll call. The following Council members answered present:

Jerry Blazey, Northern Illinois University
Leslie Roundtree, Chicago State University
Denise Cobb, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
Chris Merrett, Western Illinois University
TJ Augustine, University of Illinois Chicago
Mike Bedell, Northeastern Illinois University
Ryan Hendrickson, Eastern Illinois University
Pradeep Khanna, Discovery Partners Institute
Kim Kidwell, University of Illinois Urbana Champaign
Gary Kinsel for Lynn Andersen Lindberg, Southern Illinois University Carbondale
Craig McLauchlan, Illinois State University
Beverly Schneller, Governors State University
Chris Setti, Distillery Labs in Peoria
Bruce Sommer, University of Illinois Springfield
Alex Stagnero-Green, UIC Health Sciences, Rockford

Lt Governor Julianna Stratton, Ex-Officio



Shelly Nickols Richardson, University of Illinois Extension Ex-Officio
Jennifer Foster, Illinois Community College Board, Ex-Officio – joined late

A quorum was met with a majority of membership, eight in person, to fulfill for a hybrid meeting.

Host - University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Welcome

Kim Kidwell, Associate Chancellor for Strategic Partnerships and Initiatives welcomed all those in attendance. She explained the university's unique connection to Research Park and the benefits it provides through partnerships, pilot startups, and commercialization. The Research Park was named the most outstanding Research Park by the Association of University Research Parks. She noted three capital areas currently being worked on by UIUC, computing and big data analytics, health and wellness through our medical school, and the Research Park for developing and expanding an incubator space for growth.

Illinois Broadband Lab Presentation

(Matt Schmit, Deputy Director of Broadband at DCEO discussed the Illinois Broadband Lab and the relationship to the IIN. He introduced the dashboard that is being created (slide deck included and DCEO newsletter).

Digital Dashboard Discussion

Kyle Harfst shared slides and information regarding construction of a digital dashboard. See attached slides.

Jerry Blazey offered the next three agenda items for approval. IIN Staff liaisons reported on each item before having one vote at the end of the discussion for all three appointments.

Approval of Cynthia Faullin as Entrepreneurship Working Committee Chair (Kyle Harfst)

Approval of Robert Patino as Corporate Engagement Working Committee Chair (Jisu Hong)

Approval of Sheila Quirk Bailey as Education & Workforce Development Working Committee Co-Chair (Jeannette Tamayo)

Motion to approve by Bruce Sommer
Seconded by Ryan Hendrickson



Aye: Jerry Blazey, Leslie Roundtree, Denise Cobb, Chris Merrett, TJ Augustine, Mike Bedell, Ryan Hendrickson, Pradeep Khanna, Kim Kidwell, Gary Kinsel, Craig McLauchlan, Beverly Schneller, Chris Setti, Bruce Sommer, Alex Stagnero-Green,

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion carried

Approval of May 26, 2022, Council Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve by Gary Kinsel

Seconded by Craig McLauchlan

Aye: Jerry Blazey, Denise Cobb, Chris Merrett, TJ Augustine, Mike Bedell, Ryan Hendrickson, Pradeep Khanna, Kim Kidwell, Craig McLauchlan, Beverly Schneller, Chris Setti, Bruce Sommer, Alex Stagnero-Green

Nay: None

Abstain: Leslie Roundtree

Motion carried

Public Comment

Kyle Harfst reported that none were received.

New Business

Jerry Blazey called for any new business.

& Jay Walsh)

- AgTech Catalyzing a Circular Bio-economy in the Heartland was presented by John Reid, Research Professor at UIUC. He discussed their NSF Engines Proposal, Type II. This proposal is an economic engine that catalyzes different region of service that are working together. This Illinois proposal encompasses a ten-year program with \$160 million program which involves Nebraska, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, and Missouri. January 2023 is the proposal deadline. Anyone who wishes to join this endeavor is encouraged to contact John or Kim Kidwell.
- Funding Opportunities were discussed by Jeannette Tamayo and Brian Rogers. The Worker Exchange Program (WEX) can be modified and scaled as needed to encompass all workforce and education opportunities regardless of nature or type of community. There will be continued conversations with mHub for new potential funding opportunities. One highlighted proposal is NSF Regional Engine, Type I, led by GSU as an MSI in partnership with SIUE, SIUC, WIU, CSU, NEIU, NIU, EIU, and UIC. It is to plan for a smart logistics for supply chain distribution. Proposal is due 9/29/22. Brian discussed his IIN role to support administrative proposal activity, to develop and promote new collaborations within the IIN, to provide support to Research and Collaboration Working Committee, administer Sustaining Illinois Seed Grant Program, and to identify funding opportunities. He announced a commercialization development



entrepreneurial fellowship opportunity for first-time individuals with NSF TIP (Technology Innovation and Partnership). Contact Brian if interested.

Jerry mentioned that NSF is looking for reviewers for the Type I and Type II proposals and encouraged each institution to consider assisting with this request.

- Research Conference on Sustainability was discussed by Marcello Sztainberg, NEIU Interim Dean Graduate Studies, Analytics and Research. Flyers and digital reference to a hybrid conference planned for Friday, 10/28/22 8 AM – 3 PM.at NEIU and virtual was offered to the group.
- Sustaining Illinois Seed Grants was reported on by Brian Rogers. He provided statistics for the five previous funding cycles noting 32 funded projects, 930K awarded money, 634K quantified matching, and 1.6 million total project funding. He and Kyle Harfst have been meeting with each Principal Investigator to check on status, collect information on the projects, and learn more about the individuals and their research. An additional 500K of funding has been received as a result of these seed grants. He offered a special thanks to NIU for funding 30K for the Fall 2022 round with 50% match encouraged and a deadline to submit, December 5, 2022. Check the IIN website for more information.

Adjourn: Chair Blazey adjourned at 2:20 PM and noted the next meeting date of November 17 at Eastern Illinois University in-person and virtual.



Cynthia Faullin Bio

As Director of Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Cynthia Faullin oversees the Technology Innovation Lab which provides laboratory and office space to UIC early-stage startups as well as programming and consulting for entrepreneurs who are commercializing research-based technologies.

Prior to joining UIC, Cynthia was the Associate Director of Entrepreneurship at EnterpriseWorks on the UI Urbana-Champaign campus. There she managed the needs of more than 60 technology-based startups. Her earlier work at UIUC focused on undergraduate academic affairs and later career services. Cynthia took a break from the public sector and spent 10 years in commercial real estate development where she was part of a team that specialized in mixed-use development. The opportunity to assist technical startups and affect the economic development of the State of Illinois drew her back to the University of Illinois.

Cynthia is a proud Canadian, and has Bachelor degrees in English Literature and Women's Studies from Queen's University in Kingston Ontario.



Robert Patino Bio

Robert Patino is the Director of Technology Management and Industry Relations at the Southern Illinois University System. In this capacity, he serves to effect the evaluation of technologies and discoveries for patentable subject matter and commercial potential by faculty, staff and students within the SIU System. He also dedicates his efforts to advancing those discoveries through the commercialization pipeline by partnering with 3rd party industry and research partners. These activities help bring novel products to market for the benefit of society while building relationships with industry to promote economic growth and increasing private investments into research. Mr. Patino works to help secure state and federal economic development grants and strives to develop strategic regional and international partnerships to support research, startup company formation and educational opportunities.

Robert has a Bachelors Degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Iowa and a Juris Doctorate from DePaul University.

Sheila Quirk-Bailey Bio

Dr. Sheila Quirk-Bailey joined Illinois Central College in July 2016. She brings more than 26 years of community college experience to her role as the fifth president of ICC. Dr. Quirk-Bailey is passionate about engaging the community, aligning programs and services and realizing high levels of outcomes for our students, their families, the workforce and our region. Her particular interest is in working with high schools and businesses to increase college and workforce readiness, as well as expanding the workforce by credentialing adults in areas of regional workforce gaps.

She currently co-chairs the Regional Workforce Alliance, a collective impact organization comprised of business and community leaders, that provides regional focus for developing the workforce utilizing a three-pronged approach. The Alliance addresses the Emerging Workforce (K- 16), Upskilling Workforce (adults with job experience but no post-secondary credential) and Multiple Barriers (adults with multiple barriers to earning a living wage).

Dr. Quirk-Bailey holds a Doctorate in Management in Community College Policy and Administration from the University of Maryland, a master's degree in Communications from Northern Illinois University, and a Bachelor of Science degree in Speech Communication from Bradley University.



Illinois

Office of Broadband

The ILLINOIS BROADBAND LAB: Overview
Illinois Innovation Network Council Meeting

September 22, 2022



Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity

[COVID-19 Resources](#) ▾[Assistance for Businesses](#) ▾[Assistance for Individuals](#) ▾[Assistance for Communities](#) ▾[About Us](#) ▾

CONNECT ILLINOIS

HOME

[Connect Illinois](#)[Low-Cost Broadband](#)[Computer Equity Network](#)[Making Connections](#)[Federal Broadband](#)[Strategic Plan](#)[Digital Equity + Inclusion](#)[Newsletter](#)

MAPS AND DATA

[Drive-Up Wi-Fi Map](#)[Interactive Map](#)[Illinois Century Network](#)[Illinois Broadband Lab](#)

Governor Pritzker is committed to establishing Illinois as a leader when it comes to technology and innovation. Access to broadband is a critical component of staying ahead of the curve and will improve the lives of families, entrepreneurs, farmers and other Illinoisans who rely on high-speed broadband for everything from healthcare to education.

Governor Pritzker launched a statewide initiative in August 2019, [Connect Illinois](#), to expand broadband access across the entire state. Connect Illinois includes a capital investment from Rebuild Illinois, the creation of a Broadband Advisory Council and Broadband Office, and a new program that will provide all Illinois public K-12 students access to high-speed broadband at no charge. The initiative also includes a \$400 million broadband grant program and a \$20 million capital program for the Illinois



Century Network, a high-speed broadband network serving K-12 and higher education institutions, among others.

Illinois Broadband Grant Program

Rebuild Illinois, the Illinois infrastructure program, includes \$400 million to the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity for a statewide broadband deployment grant program. This appropriation will begin to expand access to reliable, high-speed internet service statewide. According to the USDA, fully utilizing digital technologies within the agriculture industry could create approximately \$47 to \$65 billion annually in additional gross benefit for the U.S. economy.

Illinois Century Network

Rebuild Illinois includes \$20 million for the Illinois Century Network (ICN), to repair and expand the broadband network for schools, refresh aged components of the network and expand the existing network, with a focus on the K-12 portion.

The ICN is a high-speed broadband network serving K-12 and higher education institutions, public libraries and museums, state and local governments, and broadband service providers. This appropriation will also allow the ICN to provide internet and intranet connectivity for thousands of sites statewide, ensuring high availability for cloud-based content, disaster recovery services, and data, video, and audio communications. The network owns or leases approximately 2,100 miles of fiber optic cables throughout the state and interconnects with multiple regional public and private networks throughout Illinois.

DIGITAL EQUITY GRANTS

[Communities Rd 1](#)[Communities Rd 2](#)

BROADBAND GRANTS

[Rd 3 NOFO](#)[Rd 3 Application: Overview](#)[Rd 3 Application: Template](#)[Projects Map](#)[Rd 1 Projects](#)[Rd 1 Summaries](#)[Rd 2 Projects](#)[Rd 2 Summaries](#)[Mapping Review](#)[Fedcelerator Framework](#)[FAQs](#)

ADVISORY COUNCIL



ILLINOIS OFFICE OF BROADBAND PROGRAMMING



Infrastructure

- Connect Illinois Broadband Grant Program
- Illinois Century Network | Middle Mile Broadband

Digital Equity + Engagement Programming

- Illinois Connected Communities
- Accelerate Illinois Broadband Infrastructure Planning Program
- Broadband READY (Regional Engagement for Adoption + Digital Equity)
- Computer Equity Network
- Digital Navigators (tbd)



CONNECT ILLINOIS

ACCELERATE ILLINOIS PROGRAM



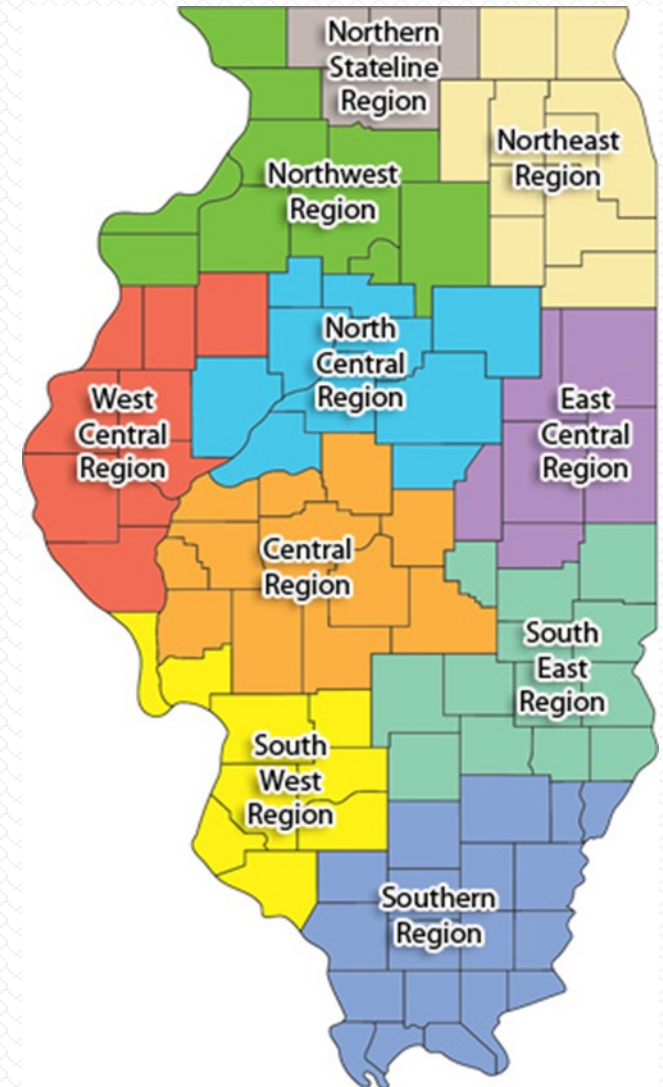
- Accelerate Illinois Broadband Infrastructure Planning Program
 - Local Broadband Planning + Capacity Building
- Program Summary
 - Designed to help local governments determine how to use federal/state funding
 - Two 14-week cohorts, Feb – May 2022 and May – Aug 2022
 - Collaboration with Benton Institute, Heartland Forward, University of Illinois Extension
- Approach
 - No funding | ‘Notice of Collaboration Opportunity’
 - 30+ hrs of expert consultation and facilitation
 - Vision statement
 - Community survey
 - Provider interviews
 - Broadband map analysis
 - Community plan



CONNECT ILLINOIS DIGITAL EQUITY BROADBAND READY PROGRAM



- Regional Engagement for Adoption + Digital Equity (READY)
- Program Summary
 - Drive broadband collaboration for engagement, evaluation, planning, and progress at regional level
 - Align local and regional efforts toward shared goals in broadband access, adoption, and utilization
 - Promote immediate community technology expansion
 - Integrate programming + identify best practices, key digital indicators
- Grant Amount
 - Up to \$50,000 per region
- Project Timeline
 - 1st Cohort: 2021
 - 2nd Cohort: 2022





ILLINOIS BROADBAND LAB

Collaboration on broadband data, mapping, research, and publication driven by the Illinois Office of Broadband, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, University of Chicago, and Benton Institute for Broadband & Society

EXPLORE ILLINOIS BROADBAND

The Illinois Broadband Map

Published June 30, 2021. Please provide feedback [here](#).



The Illinois Broadband Map

Published May 31, 2022. Please provide feedback [here](#).

ACCESS

STATISTICS

GRANT ELIGIBILITY

☒

Connect Illinois Round 2 Project Grants

☒

Connect Illinois Round 1 Project Grants

☐

USDA ReConnect - Funded

100% Grant

50/50% Loan/Grant

☐

Rural Digital Opportunity Fund-Phase 1 Winning Bid Areas

Phase 1 Winning Bid Areas

Authorized Area (as of 03/15/22)

Winning Bid

Defaulted Area (as of 03/16/22)

☐

Round 3 Grant Eligibility

Proposed Areas

GENERAL

FEDERAL

STATE PROJECTS

</

The Illinois Broadband Map

Published May 31, 2022. Please provide feedback [here](#).

ACCESS STATISTICS GRANT ELIGIBILITY

☐ Connect Illinois Round 2 Project Grants

☐ Connect Illinois Round 1 Project Grants

☐ USDA ReConnect - Funded

☐ 100% Grant

☐ 50/50% Loan/Grant

☐ Rural Digital Opportunity Fund-Phase 1
Winning Bid Areas

☐ Phase 1 Winning Bid Areas

☐ Authorized Area (as of 03/15/22)

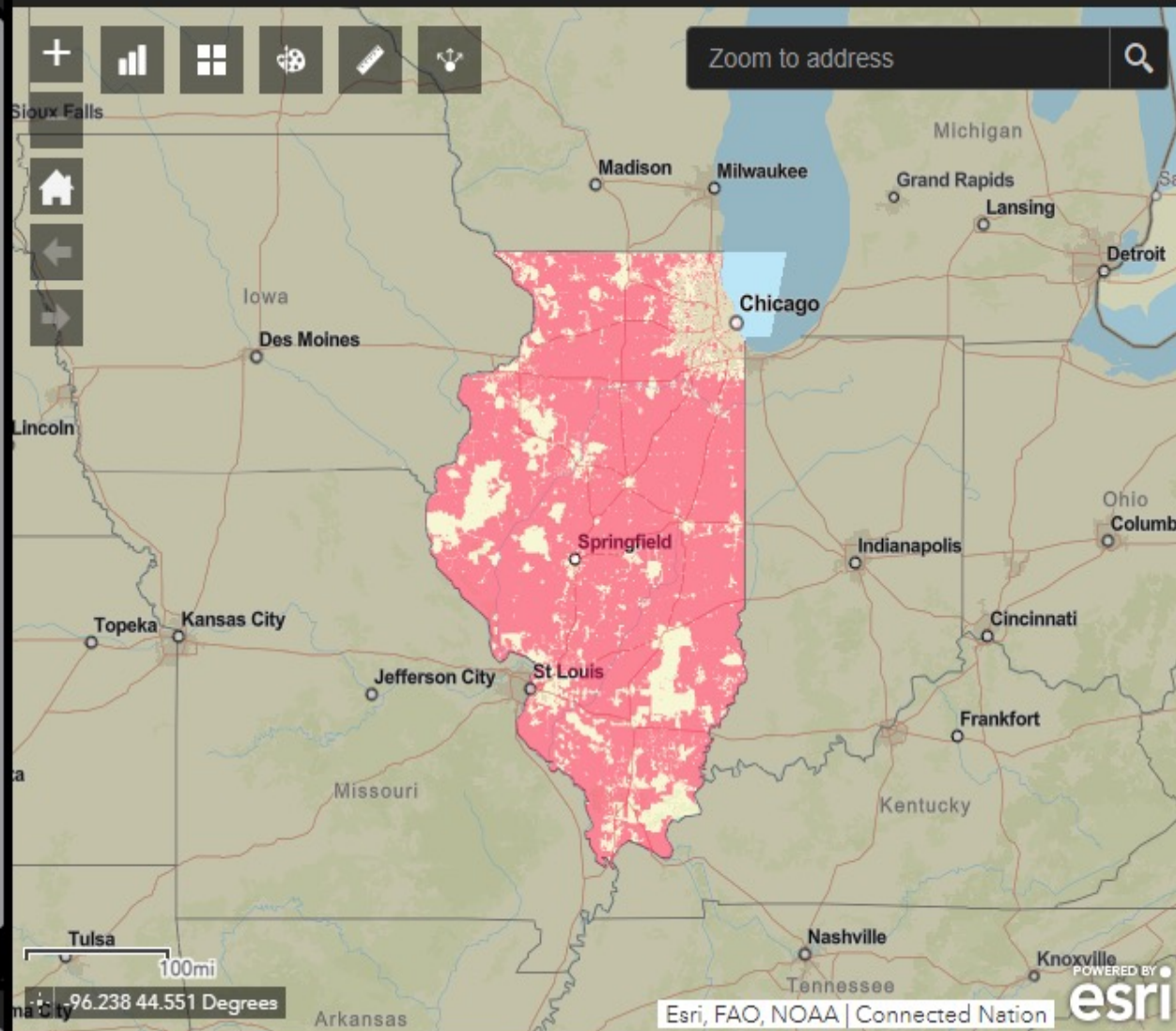
☐ Winning Bid

☐ Defaulted Area (as of 03/16/22)

☒ Round 3 Grant Eligibility

☐ Proposed Areas

GENERAL FEDERAL STATE PROJECTS



Speed Test Adoption Funding



Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity
OFFICE OF BROADBAND
JB Pritzker, Governor



Take the Speed Test!

Download static maps for counties,
school districts, and congressional
districts at the
[Illinois Broadband Lab](#)

Legend Query/Locate Add Data

Round 3 Grant Eligibility

Proposed Areas

☒ Lacking 100M/20M Wireline, Prior State Grants and ReConnect Program Areas



INFRASTRUCTURE ACT* CREATES ~\$65B IN BROADBAND FUNDING

NTIA will administer ~\$48B of this new funding

BEAD

\$42.45B

Title I - Broadband Equity, Access & Deployment Program

Formula-based grant program for U.S. states and territories. BEAD aims to close the access gap for unserved & underserved areas of the country.

**DIGITAL
EQUITY**

\$2.75B

Title III – Digital Equity Act

Three programs, established for planning & implementation of programs that promote digital equity, support digital inclusion activities, and build capacity related to the adoption of broadband.

TRIBAL

\$2.00B

Title II - Tribal Connectivity Technical Amendments

Furtheres current Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program by investing an additional \$2B to fund broadband adoption and infrastructure projects.

**MIDDLE
MILE**

\$1.00B

Title IV - Enabling Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure

Provides funding to extend middle mile capacity to reduce cost of serving unserved and underserved areas and enhance network resilience.

FCC to administer ~\$14B

\$14.2B

For Affordable Connectivity Program, which will replace the EBB program

USDA to administer \$2B

\$2.0B

Via the Rural Utilities Service

Private Activity Bonds

\$600M

\$600M

Authorizes State/local gov'ts to use private activity bonds for rural broadband

* Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Division F, Pub. L. 117-58 (Nov. 15, 2021)

Note: funding amounts inclusive of all administrative set-asides

Select BEAD program details

Eligible entities

- 1 All 50 States, District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico
- 2 Other Territories: U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Example eligible uses of funds

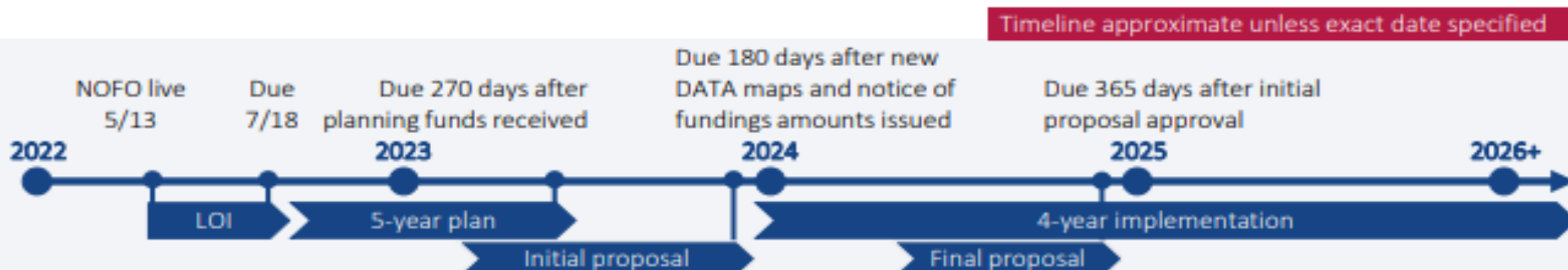
- 1 Planning for the deployment of high-speed Internet, including conducting research, collecting data, outreach, and training
- 2 Deploying or upgrading Internet in unserved or underserved areas or improving service to community anchor organizations
- 3 Installing Internet and Wi-Fi in multi-unit residential buildings
- 4 Adoption and digital equity programs
- 5 Workforce development programs and vocational training

Ways to get involved

Eligible entities must conduct coordination with local governments, Tribes, community orgs, and individuals within their jurisdiction. Members of the public are encouraged to contact U.S. states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and territories to learn about more ways to get involved.

Timeline

BEAD



Select Digital Equity programs details

Three federal grant programs

- 1 State Planning Program: A \$60M formula grant program for states, territories, and tribal governments to develop digital equity plans.
- 2 State Capacity Program: A \$1.44 billion formula grant program for states, territories, and tribal governments. It will fund an annual grant program for five years in support of digital equity projects and the implementation of digital equity plans.
Note: US territories other than Puerto Rico and Tribal / Native entities have separate funding allocations and different programmatic requirements for the State Planning and Capacity Programs
- 3 Competitive Program: A \$1.25 billion competitive grant program. It will fund an annual grant programs for five years to implement digital equity projects. Several types of entities can apply for these funds.

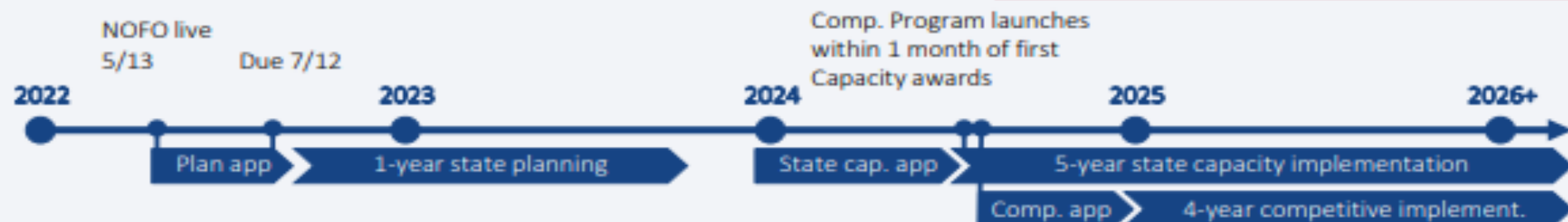
Example eligible uses of funds

- 1 Develop, implement, and oversee digital equity plans
- 2 Make awards to other entities to help in developing digital equity plans
- 3 Improve the online accessibility and inclusivity of public resources
- 4 Implement digital equity plans and digital inclusion activities
- 5 Provide digital literacy and skills education to covered populations
- 6 Facilitate the adoption of high-speed Internet by covered populations

Timeline

Timeline approximate unless exact date specified

Digital Equity





ILLINOIS BROADBAND LAB

IGA



- Statement of Work:

- TASK 1: University shall provide support for activities necessary for the administration of the Connect Illinois Broadband Grant Program and related federally funded programming
 - *SUBTASK 1 – SUPPORT AND SUSTAIN BROADBAND READY PROGRAM TO ALIGN WITH DIGITAL EQUITY ACT REQUIREMENTS*
 - *SUBTASK 2 – DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION OF DIGITAL EQUITY PROGRAMS*
 - *SUBTASK 3 – CONTRIBUTE AND COORDINATE DATA, RESEARCH, AND PUBLICATION*
- TASK 2: University shall provide support for activities necessary for the administration of the State Digital Equity Planning Grant
- TASK 3: University shall provide support for activities necessary for the administration of the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Planning Grant



ILLINOIS BROADBAND LAB

NEXT STEPS



- Procure management consulting firm
- Hire Broadband Deployment and Digital Equity directors
- Begin planning, outreach, data collection, etc. for:
 - State Digital Equity Plan
 - Five-Year Action Plan
- Build full team
 - University researchers
 - New hires
 - Consultant(s)



QUESTIONS?

Matt Schmit | Chair
Illinois Broadband Advisory Council
Director | Illinois Office of Broadband
Dept of Commerce & Economic Opportunity
broadband@Illinois.gov



DIGITAL DASHBOARDS

**IIN Council Meeting
September 22, 2022**

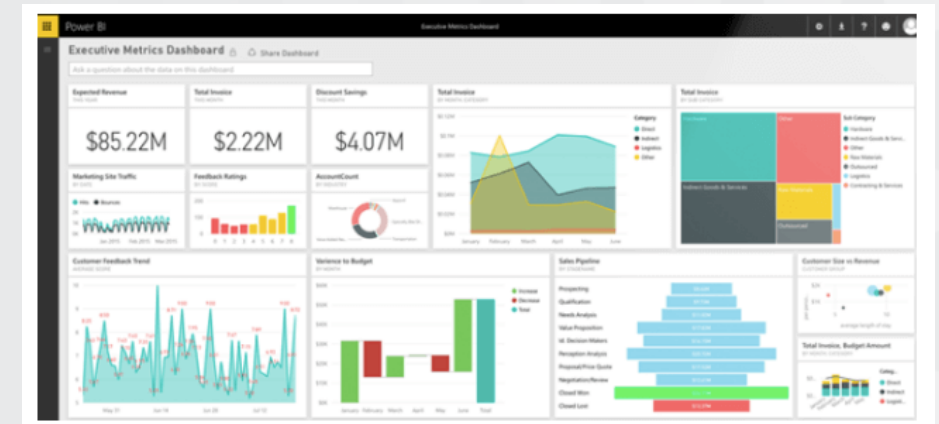
Digital Dashboard

A business intelligence tool that allows business leaders to track, analyze and report on Key Performance Indicators and metrics.



IIN Dashboard Indicators

- Boston Consulting Group Economic Impact Statements
- Strategic Plan
- Working Committee Activities
- Funded Projects



BCG Economic Impact Statement Indicators

- Total government/other research grant expenditures
- Total industry-focused expenditures
- Start-ups housed at incubator in given year
- Total number of enrolled students, made possible by IIN funding
- Total number of students completing internships, made possible by IIN Funding

Strategic Plan Indicators (examples)

- A set of communication tools that individual hubs may utilize to increase awareness & understanding of the IIN's role
- An increase in competitive funding awarded to IIN members
- Formation of formal communities of practice and pilot programs around innovation, education, and economic development

Working Committee Indicators (examples)

- Advocacy and Policy: Amount of capital funding expended
- Corporate Engagement: Number of student projects (senior design) and participating institutions
- Education and Workforce Development: Workforce grant proposals submitted
- Entrepreneurship: Inventory of Entrepreneurship & Innovation Courses across the IIN
- Research & Collaboration: Sustaining Illinois Seed Grant leveraged follow-up funding

Funded Project Indicators – Services to Develop and Launch the Illinois Climate and Equity Jobs Act Workforce Training Programs

- Submitted by IIN through UIUC Smart Energy Design Assistance Center
- Task 1: Clean Energy Training Program Assessment and Curriculum Development (Inventory Development, Curriculum Development, Stakeholder Outreach)
- Task 3: Workforce Development Programs – Policy, Planning, Research Analysis, and Evaluation