



February 19, 2010

NTIA'S SECOND ROUND OF BROADBAND STIMULUS FEDERAL FUNDING

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration ("NTIA") issued recently its rules for the second round of stimulus funding for broadband projects. NTIA has allocated \$2.6 billion for this second funding round. Below please find a summary of the projects that will be funded and the allocated funds.

NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP)

NTIA's \$2.6 billion in funds have been allocated in the following programs and amounts:

1. Comprehensive Communities Infrastructure projects
 - A. \$2.35 billion in available funds
 - B. The goal of these projects is to connect key community anchor institutions (e.g., libraries, hospitals, community colleges, universities, and public safety institutions).
 - C. Grants will be between \$5 million and \$150 million

2. Public Computer Center projects
 - A. \$150 million in available funds
 - B. The goal is to expand access to broadband service and enhance broadband capacity at public libraries, community colleges, and other public institutions.
 - C. Grants will be between \$500k and \$15 million

3. Sustainable Broadband Adoption projects
 - A. \$100 million in available funds
 - B. The goal is to provide broadband education, training and equipment, particularly to vulnerable population groups where broadband technology has traditionally been underused.
 - C. Grants will be between \$500k and \$15 million

The NTIA plans to accept applications from **February 16, 2010 to March 15, 2010**, and announce all awards by September 30, 2010 (there has been a request by local governments to extend the March 15, deadline). Any potential applicants that want to apply for these federal funds need to act fast. The grants are very competitive and usually those that apply early have a better chance. Also, the NTIA has awarded grants in the first round to private/public partnerships, so such options should be carefully considered.

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