



Alaska Statewide Broadband Advisory Board

Alaska Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development

May 2, 2023, at 10:00 AM AKDT to 11:00 AM AKDT

Statewide Broadband Advisory Board 05-02-23 Briefing Note

Consideration of Labor Inputs for Broadband Grant Criteria

Purpose: The Alaska Broadband Office would like recommendations on what expectations to set for sustainable, affordable, and scalable operating costs for a telecommunications provider.

Background: BEAD Grant Criteria

- Primary Criteria: Fixed 75% of Scoring from the Notice of Funding Opportunity
 - Efficient Use of BEAD Funding –How big is the match?
 - Affordability –1Gbps/1Gbps affordable consumer product
 - Fair Labor Practices –Can and will Subgrantees comply with Federal labor and employment laws?
- Secondary Criteria: Will the work be completed by a set date?
- All Other Criteria:
 - Network Design
 - *Operating Costs –Sustainable, Affordable and Scalable*
 - Native Bidders
 - Carrier Neutral and Fair Pricing Practice

Issue: The labor market in Alaska is unique, and the ABO needs advisement for how to interpret “sustainable, affordable, and scalable” for labor operating costs.

Key Questions:

1. Service Levels – Will the provider be:
 - a. Open 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM all departments with afterhours call outs
 - b. Open 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM for customer service, technical departments 24 hours
 - c. Other

2. The Alaska Broadband Office needs loaded* labor rates for:
 - a. Individual Internet Provider –
 - i. Outside Lineperson
 - ii. Outside Tower Technician
 - iii. Inside Electronics Technician
 - iv. Customer Service Representative
 - v. CEO (or equivalent – i.e. General Manager)
 - vi. COO (or equivalent)
 - vii. CFO (or equivalent)
 - viii. Other? (Accounting, Engineering, Network Operations Center Staff – Are these inhouse positions or contracted as needed and for scale)

3. For each of the customer service technical positions above (except COO) what is the minimum number of each staff needed for:
 - a. Minimum
 - b. X per Y households (for example: 2 minimum and an additional staff person for every 1,000 households)
 - c. Other
4. Statewide consortiums for:
 - a. Network Operations Center (NOC)
 - b. Engineering
 - c. Technical Staff
 - i. Outside (poles, towers, etc.)
 - ii. Inside (Power, Electronics, etc.)
 - d. Customer Service
 - e. Other