



**Mississippi Broadband Equity, Access, and  
Deployment (BEAD) Program**

Letter of Intent (LOI)

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

October 2024

(Version 1)

**1. Is the submission of a LOI required in order to submit an application for BEAD funding?**

Yes, in accordance with the Broadband Expansion and Accessibility of Mississippi (BEAM) administrative rules – *Rule 2.2.3 BEAD Program Grant Procedures*, a LOI must be filed in order to submit an application for BEAD funds unless waived by BEAM for good cause shown.

**2. When will the LOI process begin?**

The BEAM office will open the web-based portal for the acceptance of LOIs beginning on November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024, and will close the acceptance of LOIs on December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**3. What information needs to be provided with my entity's LOI?**

The LOI Guide posted on October 8, 2024, provides a comprehensive listing of the information that will be requested from prospective applicants. The LOI Guide can be found [here](#).

**4. Does the submission of a LOI bind the entity to submit an application in the areas selected through the LOI?**

No, the submission of a LOI is a prerequisite to applying for BEAD funds, but the applicant is not limited to the areas selected through the LOI, nor is the applicant required to make an application in each of the areas selected through the LOI.

BEAM strongly encourages prospective applicants to exclusively submit LOIs for project areas to which it intends to submit applications.

**5. Will the entity be asked to provide any additional information following the submission of a LOI?**

During the review of your submission, additional information may be necessary to verify the eligibility of the entity for BEAD funding. In the event that this information is needed by BEAM, a member of the program administration team will reach out to the point of contact listed in the LOI submission.

**6. Are commitment letters (whether for the Letter of Credit or Performance Bond) required upon submission of the LOI?**

No, commitment letters for the Letter of Credit or Performance Bond are not required at the LOI phase of the application process but will be required with the submission of a BEAD application. Prospective applicants are strongly encouraged to include the applicable letter with the submission of the LOI.

**7. Is the MAGIC vendor ID required upon submission of the LOI?**

No, a MAGIC vendor ID is not required at this stage. However, obtaining a MAGIC vendor ID will be required prior to the execution of a subaward for the selected subgrantees.

**8. Is an applicant's actual Cyber Security Plan required upon submission of the LOI?**

Yes, a prospective applicant must submit a cyber security plan during the LOI submission process. The plan must meet all requirements as set forth in the BEAD Notice of Funding Opportunity ([NOFO](#)) in section IV.C.2.c.vi. Additional resources for the cyber security plan are linked here:

[Cybersecurity and Supply Chain Risk Management and Providing Internet for All](#)

[NIST Cybersecurity Framework](#)

**9. Is an applicant's actual Supply Chain Risk Management plan required upon submission of the LOI?**

Yes, a prospective applicant must submit a supply chain risk management plan during the LOI submission process. The plan must meet all requirements as set forth in the BEAD Notice of Funding Opportunity ([NOFO](#)) in section IV.C.2.c.vi. Additional resources for the Supply Chain Risk Management plan are linked here:

[Cybersecurity and Supply Chain Risk Management and Providing Internet for All](#)

[Key Practices in Cyber Supply Chain Risk Management: Observations from Industry](#)