

Broadband Funding Timeline 2026-2027

Key dates and windows for tribal broadband funding

Date / Window	Program	What happens
June 17, 2026	TBCP Round 3	NOFO released: \$540M for tribal deployment, adoption, and affordability
September 17, 2026	TBCP Round 3	Application deadline
FY2026 windows	USDA Community Connect and DLT	About \$44M combined for rural connectivity and telehealth/distance learning
Through 2026	BEAD	Benefit of the Bargain subgrants finalized; construction ramps in most states
2026-2027 (watch)	BEAD savings	Decisions expected on redeploying roughly \$21B in program savings
Spring 2027	TBCP Round 3	Rolling award announcements begin
Not announced	USDA ReConnect Round 6	No new round announced; monitor USDA Rural Development

Planning Backward from the TBCP Deadline

By this date	You should have
Late July 2026	Tribal resolution, SAM.gov/UEI current, application team assigned
Mid August 2026	Needs assessment and service-area data complete; project scope fixed
Early September 2026	Budget, narrative, and letters of support in final review
September 15, 2026	Application submitted, 48 hours of buffer before the portal deadline

How to Stay Current

Program dates move. Subscribe to BroadbandUSA program updates and your State Broadband Office newsletter, and check the FCC National Broadband Map before any application to confirm your service-area data. Numu monitors every federal window on behalf of client tribes and can provide deadline alerts as part of any engagement.

References

- National Telecommunications and Information Administration. (2026). *Notice of funding opportunity: Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program Round 3*. https://broadbandusa.ntia.gov/sites/default/files/2026-06/NTIA_TBCP3_NOFO.pdf
- BroadbandUSA. (2026). *Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program*. National Telecommunications and Information Administration. <https://broadbandusa.ntia.gov/funding-programs/tribal-broadband-connectivity>
- U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development. (2026). *Community Connect grants*. <https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/telecommunications-programs/community-connect-grants>
- National Telecommunications and Information Administration. (2026). *Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program*. <https://www.ntia.gov/funding-programs/high-speed-internet-programs/broadband-equity-access-and-deployment-bead-program>
- U.S. Department of Agriculture. (2026). *ReConnect loan and grant program overview*. <https://www.usda.gov/sustainability/infrastructure/broadband/reconnect-loan-and-grant-program>

DRAFT FOR REVIEW. Prepared by Numu Communications LLC, July 2026. Federal program rules, deadlines, and funding levels change; verify all details against the current notice of funding opportunity or agency guidance before relying on this document. Contact: info@numu.tech | +1-888-686-5830 | www.numu.tech