

## **MASSACHUSETTS BROADBAND INSTITUTE**

### **Notice of BEAD Pre-Qualification Process**

**August 27, 2024**

The Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program is a federal grant program overseen by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), that aims to expand high-speed internet access to unserved and underserved areas nationwide. Of the \$42 billion in federal funding allocated to the BEAD Program, Massachusetts was awarded \$147 million principally intended to expand broadband to unserved and underserved locations. The Massachusetts Broadband Institute (MBI) is responsible for managing the BEAD Program and determining sub-grant award selection on behalf of the state.

MBI will administer a pre-qualification process for the BEAD Program. This process will support the review and approval of subgrantee applications to certify that potential applicants meet the minimum necessary qualification requirements. Potential BEAD applicants are strongly encouraged but not required to prequalify for BEAD deployment projects. Applicants that elect not to participate in the prequalification process will still be subject to a full review of qualifications during the funding round(s) that they participate in.

The pre-qualification process will open on September 26, 2024, and will be conducted in accordance with the procedures set forth in [Volume II of the BEAD Initial Proposal for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts](#), as approved by NTIA. Interested parties will be able to access the BEAD Pre-Qualification Guide and the Application through the MBI website at [broadband@masstech.org](mailto:broadband@masstech.org).

#### **Information that will be requested as part of the pre-qualification process will include:**

- Financial capability
- Managerial capability
- Technical capability
- Compliance with applicable law
- Operational capability
- Information on ownership
- Information on other public funding
- EHP and BABA compliance
- Labor standards and protection
- Cybersecurity Compliance
- Supply chain risk management compliance