



Supplemental Notice to Prospective Participants in Louisiana’s Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Subgrant Process (GUMBO 2.0)

Release Date: October 4, 2024

Version: 4.0

The purpose of this supplemental notice is to provide: 1) a summary of bidding round results to-date; 2) information on the process and timing of the GUMBO 2.0 “direct negotiation” process; and 3) information on the process and timing of the GUMBO 2.0 Alternative Technology subgrant selection process.

1. Summary of Results To-Date

a. Preliminarily Selected SPAs and BSLs

The following list of Sub-Project Areas (SPAs) and eligible Broadband Serviceable Locations (BSLs) were preliminarily selected for awards to providers of Priority or Reliable Broadband Service following evaluation of the bidding results of Round 2 and are not available for direct negotiation or Alternative Technology subgrants:

In total, 1,247 sub-project areas (SPAs) comprising 127,829 eligible Broadband Serviceable Locations (BSLs) have been preliminarily selected as of the end of Round 2. The list can be downloaded from ConnectLA’s website [here](#).

b. Remaining SPAs and BSLs

In total, 606 SPAs comprising 12,007 BSLs either 1) did not receive bids during Round 1 or Round 2 or 2) could not be preliminarily selected due to a conflict with a higher-scoring selected application. The list can be downloaded from ConnectLA’s website [here](#).



2. “Direct Negotiation” Process

On October 14, 2024, at 8am CDT, as required by Louisiana’s approved Initial Proposal, ConnectLA will commence a “direct negotiation” process to identify qualifying providers of any technology type to serve the remaining BSLs. Consistent with section 3 of this Supplemental Notice 4.0, any Priority or Reliable Broadband Service providers potentially interested in direct negotiation should be aware that ConnectLA will pursue GUMBO 2.0 awards to Alternative Technology providers if necessary to achieve the 100% coverage goal of the BEAD program.

ConnectLA will use the [Application Portal](#) from Round 1 & 2 as a convenient mechanism to run an orderly direct negotiation process as follows:

- Any interested parties who are not pre-qualified, including but not limited to Alternative Technology providers as described in Section 3 below, should contact ConnectLA to obtain access to the portal via email at connect@la.gov **no later than 12:00pm CDT Thursday, October 10, 2024.**
- Reference Funding Amounts (RFAs) will be increased for all SPAs from Round 1 levels if they were not already increased in Round 2. These updated RFA levels will be made available in advance of the opening of the Direct Negotiation process.
- Once direct negotiation opens, your organization's authorized representatives can log into the Application Portal using the same username and password information utilized during Round 1 and Round 2.
- Direct negotiations will begin with the submission of offers for available SPAs following the same procedures for application submission as Round 1. Such offers are binding if provisionally selected for award.
- All offers submitted during the direct negotiation round must include full scoring information. The state will not, however, make selections solely on scoring and deconfliction rules as was the case for Rounds 1 and 2. Instead, the state will either (a) provisionally select an offer for award, or (b) engage in direct negotiations to reach mutual agreement on a revised offer that the state can provisionally select for award. In determining whether to accept an offer or engage in negotiation to revise an offer, the state will seek to maximize the number of locations covered by available and revised offers to provide Priority and Reliable Broadband Service in light of all options available for a given SPA and the relative scores of similar applications.
- **The direct negotiation window will open on Monday, October 14, 2024, at 8am CDT and close on Thursday, October 17, 2024, at 7:59am CDT. Interested parties must submit their offers during this window. ConnectLA reserves the right to engage in negotiations past the close of this window with any provider that makes an offer while the window is open.**

3. Alternative Technology Subgrant Selection

ConnectLA also is hereby initiating the Alternative Technology subgrant selection process described in NTIA's proposed BEAD Alternative Broadband Technology Policy Notice (Policy Notice) [here](#).

We encourage Alternative Technology providers to review the Policy Notice and start their preparations. Per the Policy Notice, "[t]he term 'Alternative Technologies' describes any broadband access technology that terminates at the end user's location or premises and does not qualify as Reliable Broadband Service, including ULFW and LEO, but meets the BEAD Program's minimum technical requirements of speeds of not less than 100 Mbps for downloads and 20 Mbps for uploads and latency less than or equal to 100 milliseconds." Policy Notice at 5.

As described in section 1.b above, ConnectLA has published the final list of SPAs and BSLs that were not preliminarily selected following completion of Round 2. This list can be found at [here](#).

ConnectLA has consulted the available Federal Funding Map and internal resources and has determined that there are no enforceable federal, state, or local commitments to deploy Alternative Technologies to any of the listed locations. If, however, any existing Alternative Technology providers believe that ConnectLA's review of the available information is incorrect in this regard, or if they already currently meet or have future plans to meet BEAD program requirements to deliver service to any of the listed locations via the use of alternative technologies as specified in section 3.2 of the Policy Notice, they must provide such notice via email to ConnectLA at connect@la.gov by 5:00pm CDT on October 15, 2024.

Any Alternative Technology provider that meets the October 15 notice deadline will have until 5:00pm CDT on Friday, November 15, 2024, to demonstrate to ConnectLA "(1) whether the existing Alternative Technology provider possesses the financial and managerial capacity to deliver service meeting the BEAD Program's technical requirements to all locations in the project area, and (2) whether the existing Alternative Technology provider has the technical and operational capacity to deliver service meeting the BEAD Program's technical requirements to all locations in the project area. While the existing Alternative Technology provider seeking to meet the requirements of Case 2 does not have to comply with the qualifications for BEAD subgrantees described in Section IV.D of the BEAD NOFO, Eligible Entities must consider factors relevant to financial, managerial, technical, and operational capacity that affect the ability of the provider to adequately serve the locations in question." Policy Notice at 8. ConnectLA will release additional guidance regarding the information an Alternative Technology provider must produce for ConnectLA's consideration no later than 5:00pm CDT on Tuesday, October 15, 2024.

Version history

Supplemental Notice Version	Release date
1.0	March 14, 2024
2.0	July 29, 2024
3.0	August 9, 2024
4.0	October 4, 2024