



Nearly \$800,000 in state grants awarded to counties, pueblos and other entities to help deploy broadband

The state Office of Broadband Access and Expansion (OBAAE) has announced eight awardees that will receive state grants as part of the Grant Writing Engineering and Planning program (GWEP). The state has allocated \$5 million to help tribes, local governments and cooperatives get grants to help them provide broadband to unserved areas.

The GWEP program grants will be used by the awardees for such things as grant writing, engineering and planning. These grants can also be used to attain other grants, like the federal Broadband Equity Access and Deployment program.

All GWEP awards are assistance and not merit grants, and the money must go toward infrastructure. Internet Service Providers are not eligible to apply for GWEP dollars.

Here are the awardees for Round 1:

Village of Pecos	\$100,000
Valencia County	\$100,000
Pueblo of Isleta	\$100,000
San Ildefonso Services, LLC	\$100,000
Pueblo of Laguna	\$100,000
Pueblo of Jemez	\$100,000
Otero County	\$100,000
Luna County	\$99,000

OBAAE's Grant Writing, Engineering and Planning program is urging tribal governments, local governments, rural telephone cooperatives and rural electric cooperatives to submit for assistance grants.

To submit for a grant, click here: <https://obae.submittable.com/submit>

For more information about GWEP, click here: <https://connect.nm.gov/obae-funding.htm>