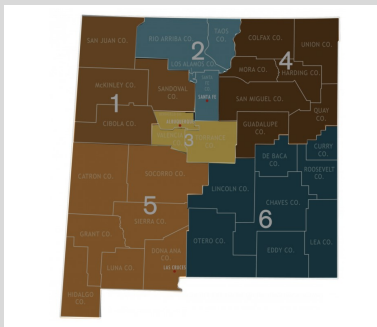




# New Mexico Tribal Broadband News & Updates

Photo by [Theophilos Papadopoulos](#)

May 3, 2023



## New Mexico Regional Broadband Meetings

Join a [Broadband Meeting](#) in your region this spring. Meet state local and officials, learn about broadband initiatives and funding opportunities, share local stories, and participate in development of the statewide New Mexico Broadband and Digital Equity Plans.

**Thursday, May 11, 2023, 9am-1pm**

**Springer, Northeast Region 4**

7 counties: Colfax, Union, Mora, Harding, San Miguel, Quay, Guadalupe.

Hosted in Colfax County at Luna Community College, Springer Campus  
516 Maxwell Avenue, Springer, NM 87747

[Learn More and Register to Attend](#)

**Friday, May 12, 2023, 9am-1pm**

**Las Cruces, Southwest Region 5**

7 counties: Doña Ana, Catron, Socorro, Sierra, Grant, Luna, Hidalgo.

Hosted in Doña Ana County at Doña Ana County Government Center  
845 N. Motel Blvd., Las Cruces, NM

[Learn More and Register to Attend](#)

**Monday, May 15, 2023, 9am-1pm**

**Farmington, Northwest Region 1**

4 counties: Sandoval, San Juan, McKinley, Cibola.

Hosted in Region 1

[Learn More and Register to Attend](#)

**Tuesday, May 16, 2023, 9am-1pm**

**Hernandez, North Central Region 2**

4 counties: Rio Arriba, Los Alamos, Santa Fe, Taos.

Hosted in Rio Arriba County at Hernandez Community Center  
19418 A US-84, Hernandez, NM 87537



## ABQNOG Network Operators Conference Albuquerque May 4, 2023, 9:00am-5:00pm

A technical conference centered on broadband and networking and run by networking professionals to help other networking professionals.

ABQNOG was created to meet other people in the region that run networks, expand your personal network by meeting others in the region and set up presentations on internetworking topics.

### ABQNOG Conference

African American Pavilion  
300 San Pedro Drive Northeast  
Albuquerque, NM, 87108

For more information, click [here](#).

## Internet for All NM Broadband Summit Buffalo Thunder May 24, 2023, 9am - 3pm

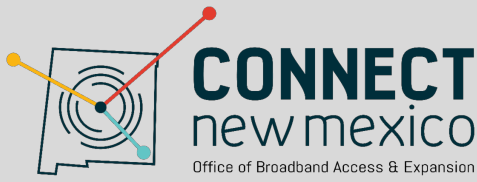
The New Mexico Office of Broadband Access and Expansion (OBAE), Connect New Mexico Council (CNMC), New Mexico Association of Counties (NMC), New Mexico Municipal League of Municipalities (NMML), and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) invite you to the Internet for All: New Mexico Broadband Summit in Santa Fe and the Pueblo of Pojoaque.

This day long workshop will bring together critical stakeholders in New Mexico from the federal, state, tribal, and local governments, industry, and other key collaborators to discuss coordination on broadband efforts as the state prepares to receive significant broadband funds from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

Connecting all people in New Mexico to affordable, reliable high-speed internet is critical to our economic stability and this event will provide an opportunity for us to discuss ways we can work together to efficiently and effectively utilize these federal dollars to the maximum extent.

There is no fee to attend this event. Registration for virtual participation will open on May 3. Lunch will be provided. If you have any special dietary needs, please contact Julia Pulidindi at (202) 748-7878 or [jpulidindi@ntia.gov](mailto:jpulidindi@ntia.gov) by Friday, May 12, 2023.

Click [here](#) for more information and to register.



## Broadband Listening Sessions

Broadband Listening Sessions are open to the public and although an impact area may be highlighted, all community members are invited and

encouraged to participate in any of the virtual Broadband Listening Sessions. Pre-register now to attend one or all of the upcoming virtual Broadband Listening Sessions and help Connect New Mexico!

Click on the links below to pre-register and receive the zoom link for each virtual Broadband Listening Sessions.

Wednesday, May 10 - 12:00 – 1:00 pm  
[Local and Regional Governments](#)

Friday, May 19 - 12:00 – 1:00 pm  
[Community Anchor Institutions](#)

Friday, May 19 - 1:30 – 2:30 pm  
[Health Centers, Health Alliance \(CAIs\)](#)

Monday, May 22 - 12:00 – 1:00 pm  
[Digital Equity Organizations/ Covered Populations](#)

Friday, May 26 - 12:30 – 1:30 pm  
[Digital Equity Organizations/Covered Populations](#)

Tuesday, May 30 - 12:00 – 1:00 pm  
[Workforce Development](#)

Wednesday, May 31 - 12:00 – 1:00 pm  
[Workforce Development](#)

Wednesday, May 31 - 1:30 – 2:30 pm  
[Local and Regional Governments](#)

Monday, June 5 - 12:00 – 1:00 pm  
[Internet Service Providers](#)

Thursday, June 8 - 12:00 – 1:00 pm  
[Internet Service Providers](#)

Friday, June 9 - 12:00 – 1:00 pm  
[Tribal Governments and Agencies](#)

Monday, June 12 - 12:00 – 1:00 pm  
[Business & Economic Development](#)

Wednesday, June 14 - 12:00 – 1:00 pm  
[Business & Economic Development](#)



## Funding Opportunity Deadline June 20, 2023

The newly announced Broadband Technical Assistance (BTA) [Funding Opportunity Announcement](#) (FOA) has been published in the Federal Register. The \$20 million available for BTA is made possible by funding the USDA Rural Utilities Service (RUS) received in the [Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act](#) (IIJA) (Pub. L. 117-58).

Broadband Technical Assistance refers to activities that support broadband expansion into rural areas and may include:

- Project planning and community engagement
- Financial sustainability
- Environmental compliance
- Construction planning and engineering
- Accessing federal resources
- Data collection and reporting

The RUS is accepting applications from broadband technical assistance providers, recipients, and entities proposing projects that would support the growth or expansion of a broadband cooperative that would serve rural communities. Applications must be submitted through <https://grants.gov> by 11:59 PM Eastern on **June 20, 2023**.

Visit the [Broadband Technical Assistance](#) website for resources and more information including:

- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
- Application Guide
- BTA Map
- Application Forms and Resources

Please submit any Broadband Technical Assistance questions using the [Contact Us Form](#).



## National Tribal Telecommunications Association (NTAA) Tribal Broadband Summit YouTube Channel

Thank you to those that participated in the last NTAA Summit event. We have our own YouTube channel! You can see some of the videos from the Summit on NTAA's YouTube channel. Take a look, click [here](#).

The summit focused on helping tribes identify funding sources, build/maintain/monetize a network and plan for the future of broadband. The summit included workshops, in-depth training sessions, and opportunities to learn from experts.

The purpose of NTAA is to provide a forum for tribally owned companies and those who work in the telecommunications industry, to share knowledge and opportunities, discuss effects of regulation and address issues affecting tribal telcos and customers on tribal lands.

Click [here](#) for more information, and to become a member.

# NM Tribal Working Group

## Join the Meeting, Become a Member!

The Tribal Working Group is committed to ensuring New Mexico tribes are actively part of the historic broadband initiatives that will enhance tribal communities access to education, healthcare and economic development. You are invited to join the meetings.

### Mission of Tribal Working Group

*To assist and support New Mexico Tribes in developing and deploying broadband infrastructure through tribal consultation and engagement that leads to expanded access to health care, education and economic opportunity and includes strategies for access to funding, technical assistance, project management support, workforce development and sustainability in ways that protect tribal sovereignty.*

### NM Tribal Broadband Working Group Meetings

- Every other Wednesday at 12:00pm, MT
- <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86256047626?pwd=MXdrVDJrdXFqVkNjVVVpc2U2aU1RQT09>
- **Next Meeting May 10, 2023**

If you are interested in becoming a member of the [Tribal Working Group](#), please send an e-mail to: [connectnmcouncil@state.nm.us](mailto:connectnmcouncil@state.nm.us). In the body of your e-mail, please include a brief statement of interest, including your experience relating to the work group's mission. Also, let us know how best to contact you about the status of your membership request. The Council appreciates your interest!



## The Affordable Connectivity Program

### Households May Receive \$30-\$75/month Discount on Internet Service

The **Affordable Connectivity Program** (ACP) is a U.S. government program run by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) program to help low-income households pay for internet service and connected devices like a laptop or tablet.

Households are likely eligible if income is below 200% of the Federal Poverty Line, or if a household member currently receives a government benefit like SNAP, Medicaid, SSI, WIC, Pell Grant, or Free and Reduced-Price Lunch.

If a household is eligible, they could receive:

- Up to a \$30/month discount on internet service
- Up to a \$75/month discount if household is on qualifying Tribal lands
- A one-time discount of up to \$100 for a laptop, tablet, or desktop computer (with a co-payment of more than \$10 but less than \$50)
- A low cost service plan that may be fully covered through the ACP\*

### How you can help

The Education Superhighway has created customizable ACP promotional materials and toolkits for **community leaders** and for **school districts** to launch ACP promotional campaigns. But you don't need to launch your own campaign to make a difference. If you know people who might be eligible, consider reaching out with information on **whether they qualify**



## New High-Speed Internet Guide Highlights Unprecedented Funding to Support Underserved Communities

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development announced a new [guidebook](#) for states and organizations to consider when deploying high-speed Internet service projects. The guide will help Public Housing Authorities, Multifamily Owners and Operators, and Tribes understand the mechanics of these two programs and the role they can play in ensuring that funds come to their neighborhoods – both urban and rural.

This resource provides guidance to Public Housing Authorities (PHAs), HUD-Assisted communities and other stakeholders wondering how this funding will benefit their communities and what role they can play in ensuring that funds do come to their neighborhoods.



## Connect New Mexico Connecting Our Communities

Connect New Mexico is a community-driven and community-focused resource to gather and share benchmark data and support local and regional community efforts to plan, fund, and implement broadband initiatives that provide reliable, affordable, high-speed broadband for all in New Mexico.

They honor the many community organizations, agencies, and individuals working to support Broadband for New Mexico, and invite you to get involved.

### Connect New Mexico Council Working Groups

- Connect New Mexico Grant Program
- Digital Equity & Inclusion (Chair: Eli Guinnee)
- Mapping, Data & Evaluation (Chair: Peter Mantos)
- Regional Planning & Community Engagement (Chair: Katherine Crociata)
- Tribal Working Group (Chair: Godfrey Enjady)
- Permits, Poles, and Attachments (Chair: Ovidiu Viorica)

If you are interested in becoming a member of any of these groups, e-mail: [connectnmcouncil@state.nm.us](mailto:connectnmcouncil@state.nm.us).

Check out their [website](#), and sign up for the [newsletter](#)!

### Resources

- [New Mexico Office of Broadband Access & Expansion \(OBAE\)](#)
- [Connect New Mexico Broadband Grant Program](#)
- [NM Broadband Speed & Quality Testing](#)

## NTIA Advancing Internet For All Mapping Challenge Continues

In order to meet the urgency of this moment to connect the unconnected, NTIA will continue to target June 30 as the date by



which they will allocate each state and territory's BEAD Program funding for high-speed Internet service. NTIA and the FCC have worked closely with states to assist them in the process of improving the [National Broadband Map](#) to achieve this goal.

**NTIA encourages states to continue to submit challenges to this map**, which is meant to be a living document. Continued improvements will move us that much closer in making Internet for All a reality. Read the complete blog [here](#).

**Digital Equity Assistance Materials :**

- [Grant List](#)
- [Hi-Speed Internet Page](#)
- [Asset Mapping Guide](#)
- [NTIA's Digital Equity Act Program technical assistance materials](#)
- [What is Permitting?](#)
- [Environmental & Historic Preservation Checklist for BEAD](#)
- [Environmental & Historic Preservation Factsheet](#)
- [Digital Equity Guide for States](#)
- [Digital Equity Plan Template](#)
- [Digital Equity Plan External Best Practices](#)
- [Digital Equity Needs Assessment Guide](#)
- [Internet for All Webinars](#)

## New Mexico Tribal Broadband

Previous New Mexico Tribal Broadband Newsletters are available [here](#).