



CONNECT new mexico

Office of Broadband Access & Expansion

MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM
New Mexico Governor

DREW LOVELACE
Acting Broadband Director

STUDENT CONNECT NOTICE OF ASSISTANCE GRANT AWARD

COMMNET WIRELESS, L.L.C. – STUC-25-009 – CHIMAYO STUDENT BROADBAND PROJECT

FEBRUARY 21, 2025

Findings and Conclusions:


1. The New Mexico legislature appropriated \$25,000,000 from the general fund to the Connect New Mexico Fund to the Office of Broadband Access and Expansion (OBAE) to establish and implement a grant program for broadband infrastructure public school projects, as set forth in the 2021 General Appropriation Act at Section 17(B)(1) of Chapter 140 of Laws 2021.
2. The expenditure deadline for the funding source is June 30, 2025.
3. The delay inherent in a merit-based program would delay meaningful mitigation of the existing threat to the educational development of students in New Mexico.
4. In accordance with the appropriation, and the Assistance Grant rules found at § 1.12.21.10 NMAC, OBAE established the Student Connect Grant Program.
5. Through Student Connect grants, OBAE may award financial assistance grants for projects that will connect unserved and underserved public school students within rural communities.
6. On December 16, 2024, Commnet Wireless, L.L.C. submitted an application to connect 173 unserved and underserved student households within Española Public School District by June 30, 2025. Connected student households will receive broadband connectivity at no cost for three (3) calendar years.
7. The Application was submitted with the support of the Espanola Public School District.
8. OBAE determined that Commnet Wireless, L.L.C. is the only entity who can satisfy the program requirements in a timely, correct, and cost-effective manner.

Award:

Awardee:	Commnet Wireless, L.L.C.
Project:	Chimayo Student Broadband Project
Amount:	\$1,260,500.00
Budget End Date:	June 30, 2025

Disclaimer:

1. This notice of award is issued by the Office of Broadband Access and Expansion. The award shall be provided through a binding legal grant agreement, to be executed between the State of New Mexico and the grant awardee (hereinafter referred to as "Awardee") identified in this notification. This notice of award does not constitute a grant agreement, does not constitute a guarantee or commitment by the State of New Mexico to enter into such an agreement, and shall be non-binding on the State of New Mexico.
2. The award will be governed by New Mexico state statutes, including the State of New Mexico Procurement Code. Awardee will be required to comply with all State of New Mexico statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the grant agreement. Any additional requirements imposed on the Awardee will be outlined in the grant agreement, including any required financial and performance reporting.
3. OBAE will monitor Awardee to ensure the award is used for authorized purposes, in compliance with State of New Mexico statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the award included in the Agreement, to ensure that the award performance goals are achieved.

DocuSigned by:

3E27EC45E7C4438

Drew Lovelace
Acting Director
Office of Broadband Access and Expansion
Drew.Lovelace@connect.nm.gov
(505) 795-1672

2/21/2025

Date