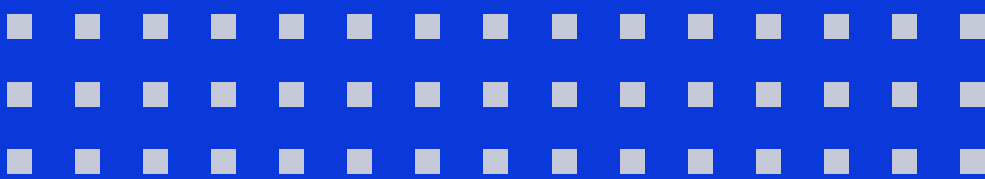




Navigating the BEAD Program

4) Post-Award Operation and Compliance Phase

January February March April May June July August September October November December



PHASE 4: POST-AWARD COMPLIANCE AND EXECUTION

Adhere to Grant Requirements

Ensuring compliance with grant requirements is crucial to the success of your project and long-term funding sustainability.

1. Thoroughly Review the Grant Agreement

Carefully examine the terms, conditions, and compliance requirements outlined in the grant agreement. Ensure all internal teams understand their responsibilities, from technical compliance to financial tracking.

2. Establish Compliance Frameworks

Implement processes to meet regulatory requirements across reporting, labor standards, and environmental compliance:

- **Reporting Requirements:** Set up internal processes for regular reporting, including quarterly and annual updates to the SBO.

→  **Reach out to Calix** for more information on our automated network performance and reportability.

- **Labor Standards:** Ensure all construction and deployment activities comply with state and federal labor laws, including wage requirements and fair labor practices.
- **Environmental Regulations:** Review all environmental compliance obligations, particularly if your project impacts protected areas. Address environmental documentation requirements early to avoid compliance issues.

3. Plan for Permitting and Right-of-Way Coordination

Obtain the necessary permits, secure rights-of-way, and coordinate with utilities to prevent delays. Work with environmental agencies to expedite any additional permitting needs and adhere to local regulations.

4. Meet Workforce Development Requirements

To fulfill BEAD’s workforce goals, ensure your team includes trained personnel or establish partnerships with training providers to build a skilled workforce. Consider workforce diversity and inclusivity programs to enhance compliance.



Execute a Flawless Network Build and Turnup

Proper execution of the network build is key to achieving projects goals and delivering on commitments.

1. Execute Construction and Deployment According to Plan

Begin the network buildout as outlined in your project timeline. Follow technical standards as proposed in your application to maintain compliance and meet quality expectations.

2. Implement Quality Control and Risk Management

Conduct regular inspections and quality checks to ensure the infrastructure meets all technical specifications and safety standards. Identify potential risks, such as weather delays or equipment shortages, and create contingency plans to keep the project on track.

3. Maintain Open Communication with State Authorities

Keep state broadband offices updated on milestones, potential challenges, and project changes. Clear communication can help manage expectations and ensure you stay compliant with the grant’s terms.



Establish Strong Reporting and Accountability

Strong reporting practices are essential to maintain compliance and secure funding throughout the project lifecycle.

1. Track Key Performance Metrics (KPIs) such as:

- **Buildout Milestones:** Document progress on network construction and expansion.
- **Service Delivery Speeds:** Measure speeds delivered to customers and compare them with the promised levels in your application.
- **Customer Adoption Rates:** Track the number of new subscribers, particularly in underserved areas.

2. Ensure Comprehensive Financial Reporting and Audits

Maintain detailed financial records and submit regular reports as required by the BEAD program. Work with auditors to ensure all expenditures meet the grant’s financial compliance standards, especially for in-kind matches and capital expenditures.

3. Submit Compliance Documentation

In addition to KPIs and financial reports, submit any required compliance documentation, such as environmental impact reports, workforce certifications, and cybersecurity plans.

Plan For Long-Term Operations and Maintenance

Planning for the network's long-term viability ensures the sustainability and success of the project beyond initial grant funding.

1. Develop a Long-Term Maintenance and Upgrade Strategy

Create a plan for ongoing network maintenance, regular equipment upgrades, and technical support. Factor in the costs of long-term maintenance to ensure continued service quality.

2. Integrate Digital Literacy and Adoption Programs

To maximize the impact of broadband access, plan digital skills training and inclusion programs, focusing on underserved communities. Partner with community organizations or digital literacy groups to deliver training and support.

3. Plan for Sustainable Operations and Local Partnerships

Build a local support network to assist with ongoing operations. Engage community leaders and stakeholders to foster strong relationships and community support for broadband use.

4. Create a Resource Hub for Ongoing Support

Include links to relevant sections of your webpage, such as compliance guides, digital adoption resources, and FAQs, to provide ongoing guidance and resources for your team and the community.





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