

BEAD Challenge Process FAQs

- **What email should be used to contact OSB during the challenge process?**

Contact us at osb.bead@maryland.gov.

- **Will the Power Point be available for attendees?**

The PowerPoint and recorded webinar will be posted on our website.

- **Has the approved V2 been published on the DHCD website for providers to review?**

Yes, the final edits of IPV1 and IPV2 have been posted on our website.

- **Will there be a way to submit bulk challenges?**

Yes, files including multiple locations of the same type of challenge may be submitted together. There is a file size limit of 50 mb.

- **Is there a list of eligible non-profits that can be challengers?**

Yes, the list of categories of CAIs is in our user guide on our website. This list is also in our approved IPV1.

- **Will multiple users from one entity be able to register on the portal individually?**

No, only one user per entity will be able to access the portal to download data and upload challenges.

- **Can a contractor register for the portal?**

The contractor will have to be approved by OSB in order to receive portal approval. An NTIA Costquest license is required.

- **Will the Bead County files be available for download?**

Yes, for approved applicants with valid NTIA licenses.

- **What are CAI's (Community Anchor Institutions)?**

Schools, libraries, health clinics/hospitals, public safety entity, institutions of higher education, community facilities, correctional facilities, public housing organizations.

- **Is there a list of updated CAI's?**

There is a list available for entities with the proper licensing and approval in the challenge portal. You will gain access to a published list of unserved CAI's.

- **How long does the NTIA license process take?**

If you do not have a license please apply [CostQuest Licensing | BroadbandUSA \(doc.gov\)](#). Please allow 48-72 hours to receive the license. If you have received a license recently you may email the signed document to osb.bead@maryland.gov directly to expedite the approval process.

- **Where can the user guide be found?**

The user guide can be found on the OSB website.

- **What are Tier E and Tier D licenses?**

Tier D license is for recipients, sub-recipients and prospective recipients of federal broadband funds from Federal Broadband Granting Agencies.

Tier E license is for units of local government, non-profits and FCC Tier 4 organizations.

- **What version and date of the FCC Fabric data will be published for the MD BEAD challenge process?**

The data on the portal will be data from June 30, 2024.

- **Is there a fixed amount of funds allocated to urban, suburban and rural areas?**

No. The challenge process will allow OSB to analyze what areas are underserved and unserved and which areas are in need of funding.

- **What are the different challenge types and the associated codes?**

Speed (**S**), latency (**L**), data cap (**D**), technology (**T**), business service only (**B**), enforceable commitment (**E**), planned service (**P**), not part of enforceable commitment (**N**), location is a CAI (**C**), location is not a CAI (**R**).

- **How long will the challenge process take?**

The challenge process will be conducted in **3 phases**:

(July 9th - October 15th)

The challenge phase - **July 16th to August 15th**

The rebuttal phase - **August 16th to September 15th**

The final determination - **September 16th - October 15th**

Helpful Links

[CostQuest Licensing | BroadbandUSA \(doc.gov\)](#)

[OSB Challenge Portal](#)

[OSB Challenge Guide](#)

[OSB Website](#)