



CONNECTMAINE

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12 January 2022

Press Release

BROADBAND GRANTS ANNOUNCEMENT

The ConnectMaine Authority seeks applications for Broadband Infrastructure Grants to expand the availability of broadband service in the state.

In July 2020, Maine voters approved a state bond of \$15 million toward expanding the availability of broadband service in the state. ConnectMaine awarded grants for just over half that amount in May 2021, and plans to award the remaining amount, about \$6.5 million. ConnectMaine also anticipates awarding more grants with additional federal funds. Broadband service enables civic and cultural participation, employment, lifelong learning and access to essential services.

Infrastructure grants are awarded to support investments in expanding the availability of broadband service in the state. Communications service providers and community leaders are encouraged to partner on applications. Currently, preference is given to projects that propose the greatest relative improvement to existing internet service in least served areas of Maine.

The mission of ConnectMaine is to facilitate the universal availability of broadband to all Maine households and businesses, and to help them understand the valuable role it can play in enriching their lives and helping their communities thrive.

More information and applications can be found on the ConnectMaine website: www.maine.gov/connectme. Please direct any questions to ConnectMaine staff at Connect.ME@maine.gov.