

**American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009
Program/Funding Summary**

Short title: Broadband Infrastructure Expansion

ARRA Reference: Division A, Titles I and II

Funding by federal fiscal year:

Year	Total Florida State Budget Amount	Amounts to Local Governments Passed Through State Agencies	Amounts to Directly to Local Governments	Amounts Directly to Individuals
FFY 2009				
FFY 2010				
FFY 2011				
Later Years				
Total	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	

Funding by state fiscal year:

SFY 2008 – 2009				
SFY 2009 – 2010				
SFY 2011 – 2012				
Later Years				
Total	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	

Brief description of program or funding including funding distribution method (formula or competitive grant): The ARRA provides \$4.7 billion for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) within the U.S. Department of Commerce’s National Telecommunications and Information Administration to support grants for broadband deployment in unserved or underserved areas. An additional \$2.5 billion is provided through the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Rural Utilities Service (RUS) to provide grants, loans, or loan

guarantees to provide broadband service in rural areas, needed to facilitate economic development.

When funds are expected to be available: Unknown at this time. On March 10, 2009, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration and the U.S. Department of Agriculture released a Joint Request for Information and Notice of Public Meetings. The meetings occurred March 16–24, 2009. The meetings were designed to gain input in shaping the programs. Comments are also being accepted via letter or email. It is anticipated that following this period for public input, additional application direction will be provided.

The Secretary of Agriculture must submit a report on planned spending and actual obligations of the \$2.5 billion appropriated under the Rural Utilities Service not later than 90 days after the Act's enactment date (was enacted on February 17), and quarterly thereafter under all funds are obligated.

How long funds are available: All awards must be made before the end of fiscal year 2010. Awardees must substantially complete projects within 2 years following an award.

Conditions or prerequisites for accessing funds (include matching or MOE requirements): BTOP grants require a 20% match (details not yet specified) unless waived by NTIA. In order to receive a grant, loan, or loan guarantee under the Rural Utilities Service program, 75 percent of the area to be served by a project must be in a rural area without sufficient access to high speed broadband service to facilitate rural economic development, as determined by the Secretary of Agriculture. Also, no area of a project funded with the Rural Utilities Service program may receive funding under the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program within the National Telecommunications and Information Administration.

Federal agency:

U.S. Department of Commerce, National Telecommunications and Information Administration

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service

State agency: N/A

If there is a link to a federal web site that describes the program or funding include here:

<http://www.ntia.doc.gov/broadbandgrants/>

http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/?navid=USDA_ARRA

<http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/index.html>

<http://www.usda.gov/rus/telecom/broadband.htm>

If there is a link to a state web site that describes the program or funding, include here:

N/A

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