

Affordable Connectivity Outreach Grant Program – Fact Sheet

BACKGROUND

On August 5, 2022, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) established the Affordable Connectivity Outreach Grant Program (ACP Outreach Grant Program) to raise awareness about the nation's largest ever broadband affordability effort, the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP). The [ACP](#) is a \$14.2 billion FCC benefit program that helps ensure that qualifying low-income households can afford the broadband they need for work, school, healthcare and more. The ACP plays an integral role in helping to bridge the broadband affordability gap, which is an ongoing priority for Congress, the FCC, and across the federal government. The [ACP Grant Program Second Report and Order](#) directs the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau (CGB) to develop, administer, and manage the grant program, with a focus on reaching historically underserved communities.

OVERVIEW

Through this ACP Outreach Grant Program, the FCC seeks to enlist and empower trusted community messengers to develop innovative outreach strategies to reach historically underserved and unserved communities. This includes providing those partners with the funding and resources needed to increase participation among eligible, low-income households in need an affordable internet connection.

The ACP Outreach Grant Program is comprised of four complementary grant programs:

- National Competitive Outreach Program (NCOP)
- Tribal Competitive Outreach Program (TCOP)
- Your Home, Your Internet Pilot Program (YHYI) Outreach Grants
- ACP Navigator Pilot Program (NPP) Outreach Grants

The ACP Outreach Grant Program NOFO will solely focus on NCOP and TCOP. A separate NOFO will be released on November 21, 2022, for applicants seeking grant funds for the BHYI and NPP pilot programs.

PROGRAM GOAL AND OBJECTIVES

The Goal and Objectives for the ACP Outreach Grant Program are as follows:

- **Goal:** The goal of the ACP Outreach Grant Program is to facilitate the promotion of the ACP and increase awareness of and participation in the ACP among eligible households.
- **Objectives:** To support the ACP Outreach Grant Program goal, the FCC has identified three objectives:
 - Expand and support diverse and impactful outreach efforts nationwide;
 - Strengthen outreach partners nationwide by empowering them to mobilize people and organizations to help raise awareness about the ACP; and
 - Increase ACP enrollment as a result of ACP Outreach Grant Program funded activities.

FUNDING

The ACP Outreach Grant Program provides new federal funding for the FCC to grant eligible governmental and non-governmental entities with the funding and resources needed to increase awareness of and participation in the ACP among those households most in need of affordable connectivity. The FCC will make up to \$70 million of competitive funding available under this FY 2023 ACP Outreach Grant Program NOFO.

- Up to \$60 million for a National Competitive Outreach Program (NCOP)
- A minimum of \$10 million for a Tribal Competitive Outreach Program (TCOP)

ELIGIBLE AND INELIGIBLE ENTITIES

Eligible Entities: For FY 2023, eligible entities may include the following governmental and non-governmental organizations to serve as outreach partners to the FCC to conduct outreach to persons who live in low-income households:

- State governments and subdivisions thereof (including the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico);
- U.S. Territory governments and subdivisions thereof such as the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands;
- Local governments and subdivisions thereof (including county, borough, municipality, city, town, township, parish, local public authority, special district, intrastate district, council of governments, and agencies or instrumentalities of multi-regional or intra-state or local government);
- Tribal governments and subdivisions thereof, as well as tribal organizations;
- Public housing agencies;
- Tribal designated housing entities;
- Social service providers (e.g., food banks, community transportation, childcare);
- Education organizations, such as schools and other institutions of higher education;
- Workforce development training organizations;
- Non-profit organizations;
- Community-based organizations (including faith-based organizations and social service organizations);
- Community anchor institutions;
- Public service organizations; and
- Consortia of the entities listed above.

Ineligible Entities: In addition to any restrictions in 2 CFR Part 200, as implemented by 2 CFR 6000.1, broadband providers and their subsidiaries, affiliates, representatives, contractors, and agents are not eligible to participate in the ACP Outreach Grant Program or receive grant awards, either as grantees, pass-through entities, or subrecipients. Additional ineligible entities include broadband industry groups and trade associations that represent broadband providers; entities that are debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation in Federal assistance programs or activities; and entities that are ineligible by statute (such as 501(c)(4) non-profit organizations that engage in lobbying activities or organizations that are indebted to the United States and have judgment liens filed against them).

APPLICATION PROCESS

Eligible applicants must submit a complete application to CGB for funding consideration before the application submission deadline which consists of standard forms and program-specific forms:

- Standard Forms:
 - Form SF-424 – Application for Federal Assistance
 - Form SF-424A – Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs
 - Standard Form LLL – Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (if applicable)
- Program-Specific Form:
 - ACP Outreach Grant Program Application Template

To access application forms and instructions, go to <https://www.grants.gov> under Assistance Listing (CFDA) Number: 32.011 - Affordable Connectivity Outreach Grant Program. By submitting an application, organizations agree to comply with the requirements of the NOFO. Complete applications must be received through Grants.gov no later than 11:59 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST) on January 9, 2023. Late applications will not be accepted.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information about the ACP Outreach Grant Program, visit www.fcc.gov/acp-grants. Please direct programmatic inquiries to ACPGrants@fcc.gov.

For assistance using <https://www.grants.gov>, please contact the Help Desk at (800) 518-4726 or email at support@grants.gov.

For Section 504 Compliance support, please contact the FCC Section 504 Compliance Officer at FCC504@fcc.gov.