



## January Newsletter - Indiana Broadband Office

Indiana Office of Technology sent this bulletin at 01/31/2024 09:01 AM EST



### Happy New Year!

The [Indiana Broadband Office](#) (IBO) is thrilled for 2024. Our office has started the year off strong by posting the state's first Digital Equity Plan and planning our Challenge Process.



Indiana's draft Digital Equity Plan is available on our website in English and Spanish [here](#).

We want to hear your feedback! Our public comment period will last until **February 7**. Please email your comments to [IBOPublicComment@iot.in.gov](mailto:IBOPublicComment@iot.in.gov).

A special thanks to the [Purdue Center for Regional Development](#) team that helped us put this together!

The IBO is preparing to begin the [Challenge Process](#), the next phase of the [Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment](#) (BEAD) Program on **March 4, 2024**.

The following entities are eligible to submit challenges on behalf of individuals: **nonprofit organizations, units of local and tribal government and broadband service providers**. Please read about this process [here](#).

We are conducting live webinars next week to promote a clear understanding of the steps involved, submission requirements, and the resources available for the Challenge Process. If you cannot attend, recordings will be posted online.

**Tuesday - February 6, 2024** ([Zoom link](#))

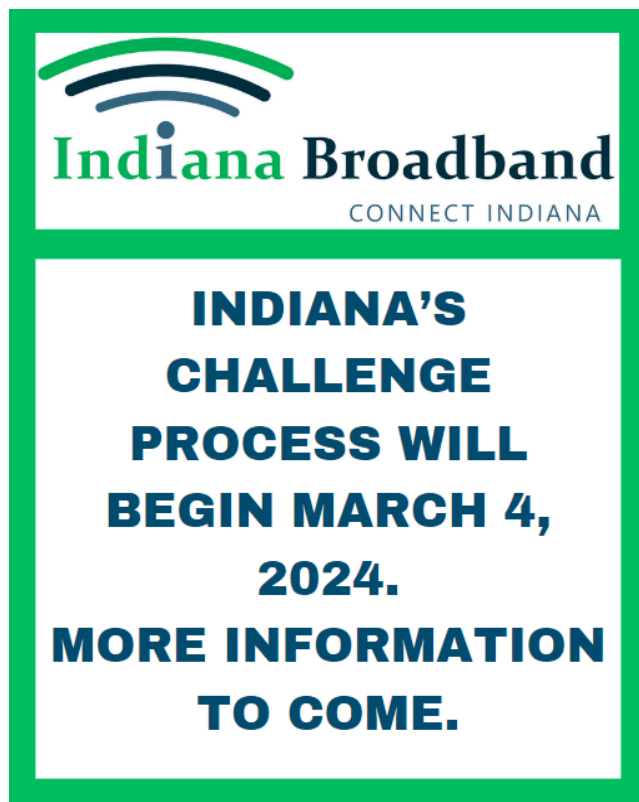
Time: 3:00 - 4:00 pm EST ([Calendar invite](#))

Audience: Internet Service Providers

**Thursday - February 8, 2024** ([Zoom link](#))

Time: 3:00 - 4:00 pm EST ([Calendar invite](#))

Audience: Local Government and Nonprofits



# IBO Challenge Process Timeline

COSTQUEST LICENSE	PRE-REGISTRATION	CHALLENGE PROCESS BEGINS 3/4	SUBMIT CHALLENGES	CHALLENGE PHASE ENDS 4/3
The IBO recommends permissible challengers to obtain a CostQuest license as soon as possible.	Pre-registration will begin in late February through Ready.net, more information coming soon.	The Challenge Process will begin on March 4, 2024.	Permissible challengers will have 30 days to submit challenges.	The Challenge Phase of the Challenge Process will end on April 3, 2024. Then, the IBO will move into the Rebuttal Phase.

## New Hires!

Our team continues to grow as the IBO gets busier! We have brought aboard **Brittany Richardson** as our **Grants Accountant**. Brittany came from the Indiana Office of Technology and is already a valuable asset to the team.

**TK Kim** has been hired as our office's **Senior Attorney**. TK joins us from previously working for the city of Indianapolis and is a worthy addition to the office.

## Where's Steve?

This past month, Infrastructure and Broadband Administrator **Steve Cox** took a trip to [NineStar Connect](#) in Greenfield. There he received an educational presentation on how the co-op operates and a fiber demonstration. Thank you for hosting Steve and other IBO staff members NineStar!



## Let's Connect!



We want to hear from you. If you have general questions or concerns, email [IndianaBroadband@iot.IN.gov](mailto:IndianaBroadband@iot.IN.gov). To stay updated on our latest work, follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) (X), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#) and check out our [website](#).

We encourage you to forward this newsletter to anyone who might be interested and urge them to sign up for our newsletter [here](#). See you in February!

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