# Next Level Connections Round Three Office Hours

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### Agenda

- Legislative Update
- NLC Round Updates
- ARPA Impact
- Portal Registration
- Comment Period
- Q & A

## 2021 Legislative Session Results



01

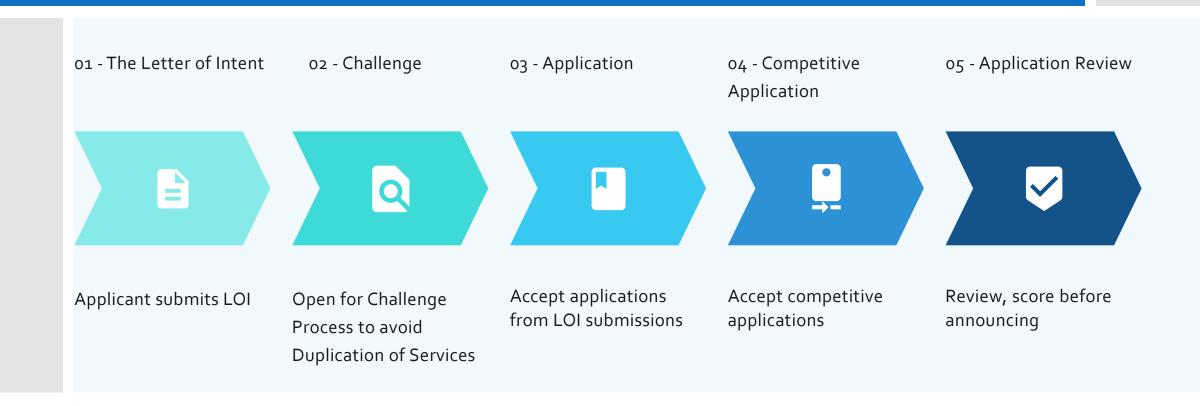
STARTED WITH 17 LEGISLATIVE BILLS 02

FINAL BILLS PASSED: SEA 352, SEA 377 & HEA 1449

03

BUDGET BILL INCLUDES \$250MM OF INDIANA'S ARPA FUNDS

#### NLC Broadband Grant Round 3 Process



### **01**Letter of Intent

Eligible areas for funding now include addresses that have less than 25/3 service with previously funded RDOF census blocks being ineligible

Address level data now required with LOI submission. All address level data will be published on NLC website for comment

Eligible broadband services now must be 50/5 for households and businesses and 1GB for schools and clinics

### **02**Challenge Phase

Challengers will challenge at the address data level not the census block level

Challengers must complete one of the following:

- 1) <u>submit information on if they can</u> <u>provide service in ten days</u>,
- 2) submit documentation for addresses already served, or
- 3) submit evidence and supplemental information on addresses they have plans to be serving within the next 18 months

#### **03** Application

Lowest local match allowed has been increased to 35% of entire project

Included additional scoring criteria for projects providing service to schools, rural health clinics and economically disadvantaged student households

Optional survey data template provided to capture actual speed data per address in project area to assist in verifying speeds available

## **O4**Competitive Application

There is a new competitive application period after applications are submitted

New applicants can submit a separate, competitive application based on a submitted application if they can provide the same or better service

Must be the same project area at a lower cost to the state

## **o5**Application Review

The same review process will be required for all applications and competitive applications

All projects must pass threshold review

All projects will be scored by committee

### ARPA Alignment

#### U.S. Treasury Guidance

- Eligible projects are expected to be designed to deliver, upon project completion, service that reliably meets or exceeds symmetrical upload and download speeds of 100 Mbps.
- There may be instances in which it would not be practicable for a project to deliver such service speeds because of the geography, topography, or excessive costs associated with such a project.
- In these instances, the affected project would be expected to be designed to deliver, upon project completion, service that reliably meets or exceeds 100 Mbps download and between at least 20 Mbps and 100 Mbps upload speeds and be scalable to a minimum of 100 Mbps symmetrical for download and upload speeds.

#### Programmatic Impact

Points will be awarded for speeds starting at 100/100



Serve as conduit of information regarding bids, challenges and applications

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Providers will submit subsidy information through the portal for review 3

Households, businesses, health clinics, and schools will submit addresses for line extension 4

Future home for all invoice submission and NLC Round 4

### Broadband Portal Registration

### Comment Period

- Comments or should be submitted via
  - Email to NLC@ocra.in.gov or
  - Survey found at <u>bit.ly/NLCFeedbackSurvey</u>
- Comments will need to be received by 4 p.m. ET on July 12 to be considered.



### Questions?

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