

*Thank you for joining us for this BEAD Project Application Meeting. We will begin shortly.*



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF  
**LABOR & ECONOMIC  
OPPORTUNITY**

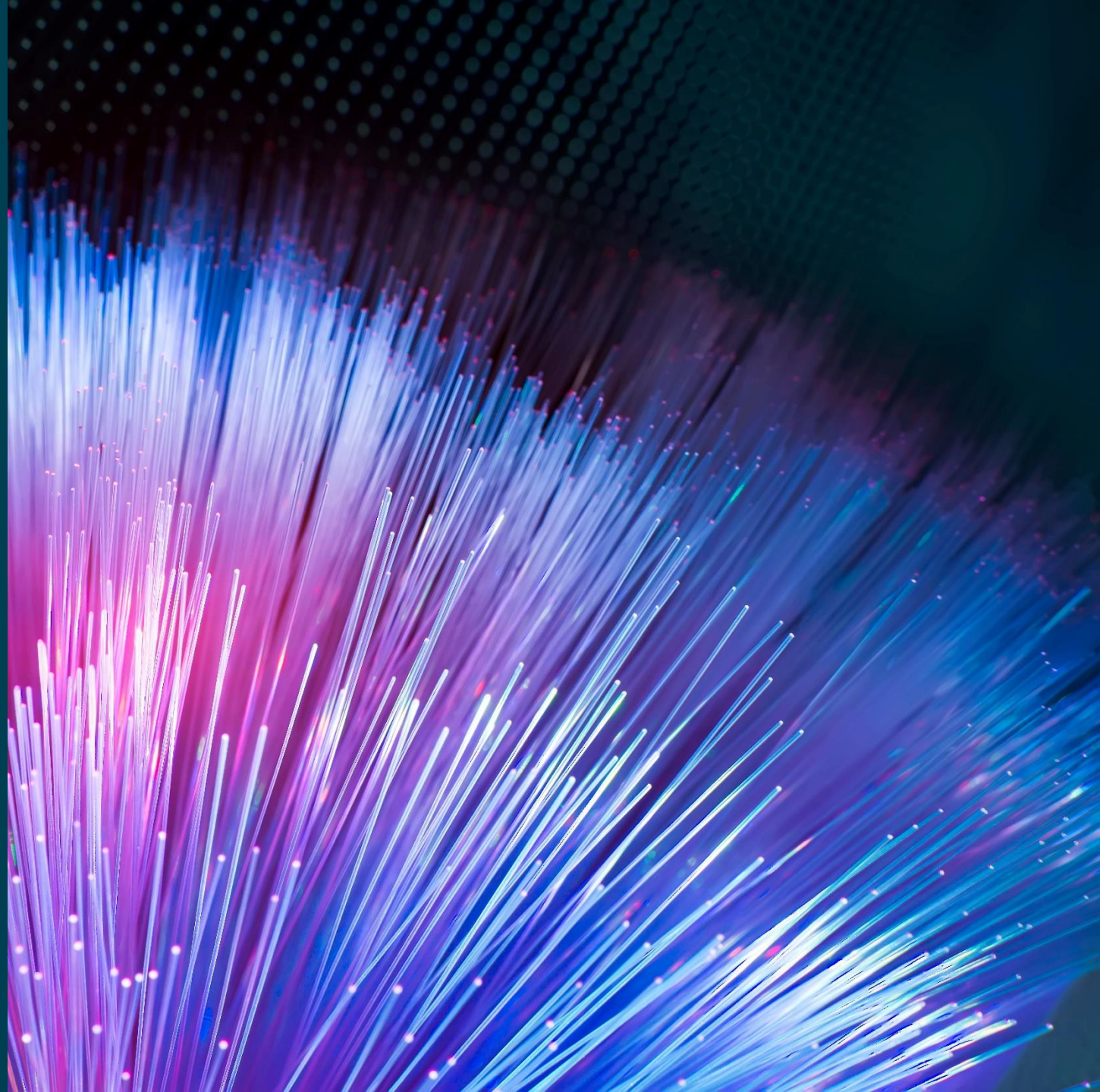
MICHIGAN HIGH-SPEED INTERNET OFFICE

# BEAD PROJECT APPLICATION WALKTHROUGH

JANUARY 9, 2025



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF  
LABOR & ECONOMIC  
OPPORTUNITY



# AGENDA

1. BEAD Program Overview
2. Subgrantee Selection Process Timeline
3. Preregistration vs. Project Application Phase
4. High-Level Application Questions
5. Outliers and Mischaracterized BSLs
6. Financial Capability
7. NEPA/NHPA and Permitting Overview
8. Mapping Tool Overview
9. EGrAMs Portal Overview





# BEAD PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The State of Michigan has been allocated \$1.559 billion as part of the Broadband Equity Access and Deployment (BEAD) Program. The goal of the BEAD Program is to achieve universal connectivity by deploying internet service to all broadband serviceable locations (BSLs).

## Key Locations for the BEAD Program

- 1 Unserved Locations (below 25Mbps / 3Mbps)
- 2 Underserved Locations (below 100Mbps / 20Mbps)
- 3 Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs)

## MIHI's Key Objectives for the BEAD Program

- Expand high-speed broadband infrastructure to reach unserved and underserved areas
- Increase digital skills
- Promote affordable broadband services
- Support equitable access to devices
- Empower consumers with applications and online content

## Key Milestones

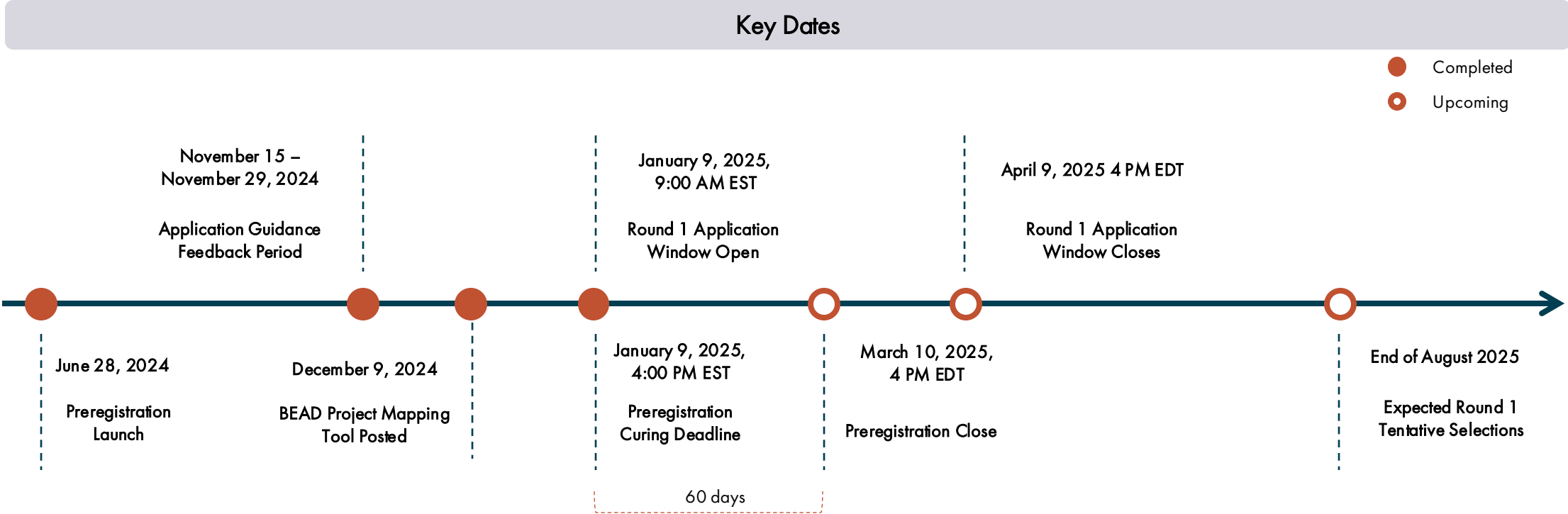
- Initial Proposal Volume I Approved
- Challenge Process Carried out
- Initial Proposal Volume II Approved
- Challenge Process Results Approved
- Preregistration Submission Window Opened
- Round 1 Project Application Window



# SUBGRANTEE SELECTION PROCESS TIMELINE

The following slide provides an overview of the BEAD application timeline, which began in June 2024 with the launch of the preregistration process. Subsequently, MIHI published the Application guidance for public feedback from November 15 through November 29. The Round 1 Application window will open on **January 9, 2025, at 9:00 AM EST** and run through **April 9, 2025, at 4:00 PM EDT**.

Depending on the coverage and locations served in Round 1, MIHI reserves the right to launch a second round of the program if necessary.



# PREREGISTRATION VS PROJECT APPLICATION PHASE

Applicants are required to have an approved Preregistration Application to **submit** a Round 1 Project Application. Applicants that have started the Preregistration Application will be able to access the Round 1 Project Application.

Process:



Note: Applicants that do not receive an approval on their Preregistration Application **will not** be able to submit a Round 1 Project Application.





# HIGH-LEVEL APPLICATION QUESTIONS

01

## Project Executive Summary

- High-level summary of the project

02

## Project Area

- Description of selected hexbins and identification of Outlier locations

03

## Network Design and Timeline

- Locations to be served, infrastructure, and technology mix
- Project type
- High-level network design
- Scalability and resiliency plans
- Project timeline

04

## NEPA and NHPA requirements

- Description of site and surrounding area
- Environmental concerns
- Activities completed or planned

05

## Project Preparedness

- Activities completed or planned for implementation

06

## Permitting Requirements

- Identification of any known critical crossings/permits and steps to undertake identifying critical crossings or permits

07

## Barrier Identification

- Description of barriers

08

## Technical Support and Customer Service

- Commitment to quality and responsive technical support
- Commitment to technical support in multiple languages
- Commitment to quality and responsive remote technical support

09

## Open Access Network Options

- Planned open access network policy

10

## Project Financials

- Performance security
- Project financials workbook



# HIGH-LEVEL APPLICATION QUESTIONS

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## Project Workforce

- Workforce development and job quality
- Workforce arrangement details
- Plans and compliance related to fair labor practices and appropriately compensated workforce, credentialed workforce, and skilled workforce
- Use of project labor agreements and labor peace agreement
- Use of local hire provisions
- Commitment to union neutrality
- Workforce plan and workforce continuity plan

12

## Minority & Women's Business Enterprises (MBEs, WBEs)/ Labor Surplus Firms (LSFs), Geographically Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (GDBEs)

- Utilization of MBEs/WBEs/LSFs/GDBEs

13

## Local Support and Community Engagement

- Engagement with Tribal Nations
- Local support and community engagement

14

## Michigan Business

- Applicant and/or contractor/subcontractor status of a Michigan business

15

## Affordability

- Proposed rate for Priority or Other Last Mile Project

16

## Low-Cost Broadband Service Option

- Plan to provide a low-cost broadband service option

17

## Cybersecurity and Supply Chain Risk Management Compliance (Section IV,C,2.c.vi of the BEAD NOIFO)

- Plans to be uploaded at application phase, if available, or certify that plans will be uploaded prior to the execution of the grant agreement

18

## Certifications

- Compliance with predetermined certifications



# OUTLIERS AND MISCHARACTERIZED LOCATIONS

## Outlier Locations

Outlier Locations are Applicant-identified Broadband Service Locations (BSLs) where providing end-to-end fiber service is deemed excessively costly compared to other BSLs within the same Project Area. Outliers should only be based on extreme impracticability and unreasonableness of end-to-end fiber deployment due to geography, topography, or excessive costs.

- Applicants must account for every eligible BSL, including Outlier location designations within their Project Area.
- Applicants should provide the fiber cost per location and indicate if the Applicant is willing to propose an alternative non-fiber solution. If willing to serve Outlier locations with an alternative non-fiber solution, Applicants should provide the cost per location.
- MIHI in consultation with the Applicant will determine whether the Outlier location should be retained or removed from the Project Application.

## Mischaracterized Locations

If a Project Area includes Mischaracterized Locations, these locations may be de-obligated from receiving BEAD funding if the Applicant provides sufficient documentation that the BSL in question is not eligible for funding.

- If a Project Area includes Mischaracterized Locations, Applicants should not reflect these locations in the project budget.
- For additional guidance and reason codes for Mischaracterized Locations, please reference the Final Proposal Guidance\*.

\* [National Telecommunications and Information Administration, Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment \(BEAD\) Program Final Proposal Guidance for Eligible Entities, November 2024.](#)



# FINANCIAL CAPABILITY

The Financial Capability requirements for the Project Application Phase vary from the Preregistration Phase. At the Project Application Phase, Applicants are required to provide:

## Requirements

Applicants will be required to **submit a commitment letter or surety letter based on the AGGREGATE funding amount included in their Project Applications**. MIHI understands that the aggregate subaward amount may change. Applicants are required to **use the subaward amount in their application to size their obligations**:

### Commitment Letter

A letter from a bank, meeting eligibility requirements consistent with those set forth in 47 C.F.R. § 54.804(c)(2), committing to issue an irrevocable standby letter of credit equal to 25% of the total expected subawards for the Potential Applicant.

### Surety Letter

Submit a surety letter from an approved surety company (as listed in the Department of Treasury Circular 570) promising to issue a performance bond. This bond should cover 100% of the total expected subawards for the BEAD program.



# NEPA REQUIREMENTS

Applicants should note that a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis certified by an environmental professional is required for all BEAD projects. MIHI will serve as a “joint lead agency” to fulfill NEPA and associated obligations.

There are two levels of NEPA review that may be required depending on the proposed technology and network. It is expected that most Applications will fall under the first category:

## Categorical Exclusion (CATEX)

For defined actions determined not to have significant environmental impact. Requires completion of environmental analysis to confirm eligibility for CATEX. The process typically takes 3-6 months for package development and another 30-45 days for evaluation and approval.

## Environmental Assessment (EA)

Conducted when the environmental impact of a project is not clearly determined. If the analysis reveals no significant impact, a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) is issued. If significant impact without proposed mitigation is identified, and/or if there is substantial controversy, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Record of Decision (ROD) could be required. An EIS/FONSI normally takes 6-12 months for development and approval.

**Implementation of a proposed project (site preparation, demolition, construction, ground disturbance, fixed installation, or any other implementation activities) can not begin prior to the completion of all environmental historic preservation requirements**

# HIGH-LEVEL NEPA AND PERMITTING APPLICATION QUESTIONS



01

## NEPA and National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Compliance

- Detailed description of activities, site surroundings, potential impacts on protected land or natural resources.
- Environmental concerns and steps taken to address concerns.
- Completed or planned activities to meet NEPA and EHP requirements.

02

## Project Preparedness

- Steps taken/planned: agreements, cost estimations, site surveys, engineering designs.

03

## Permitting Requirements

- Identification and steps taken to minimize impacts for critical crossings/permits: state-managed lands, rights of way installations, drainage and bridge crossings, tribal lands etc.

04

## Certifications

- Compliance with NEPA, NHPA, and commitment to minimize environmental/historical impacts.
- Cooperation with state offices, acknowledge data needs for environmental compliance during post-application approval for funding.



# PREPARING FOR NEPA AND PERMITTING

As part of their Applications, Applicants should consider:

- 01 **Simple Descriptions:** Using straightforward and layman descriptions of proposed project networks of proposed project networks, proposed site and surrounding area, and potential environmental and historic preservation impacts from the proposed project.
- 02 **Clear Visuals:** Project network maps and/or diagrams with clearly and simply defined labels and legends.

Applicants should initiate preparations for NEPA/NHPA compliance and necessary permitting. Applicants may consider activities such as:

- 01 **Pre-Application Activities and Engagement:** Initiating permitting activities early is crucial for accurate and timely submission of documentation. This includes activities such as scheduling preliminary meetings with relevant permitting agencies or performing environmental and cultural studies per NEPA and state/local regulations. Early initiation helps identify permit requirements and environmental constraints, gather application materials, and plan and budget for necessary environmental consultations, analysis, monitoring, or mitigation activities.
- 02 **Strategic Project Selection:** Streamline NEPA reviews by planning projects that qualify for one of NTIA's 47 CATEXs to reduce time and resources needed to prepare documentation of environmental analysis.

# MAPPING TOOL



The screenshot displays the Michigan Broadband Map interface. On the left, the 'STATE DATA' section shows 'Michigan' with '4,076,672' total serviceable locations. Below this, a filter for 'Locations Eligible for Funding' is set to 'None'. A bar chart shows 'Eligible (244,067)', 'Ineligible Served (3,405,762)', 'Ineligible Funded', and 'Ineligible Planned'. The main map shows Michigan with a 'PERCENTAGE ELIGIBLE' overlay and a 'Project Area' dropdown. An inset window shows details for '650 BROADWAY ST, MARINE CITY 48039', including a table of providers and their service status.

Provider	Tech	Speed	Biz/Rez	Status
Xfinity	Cable	1200/35 Mbps	Mixed	Available
AT&T Inc	DSL	10/1 Mbps	Mixed	Available
VERIZON	Licensed by Rule Fixed Wireless	10/1 Mbps	Non-Residential	Available
T-Mobile US	Licensed by Rule Fixed Wireless	100/20 Mbps	Mixed	Downgraded

The Michigan Broadband Map has been updated to reflect BEAD Eligibility for locations

- Allows Applicants to easily access location and Project Area level data

Now with the Eligibility Map

- Toggle between maps
- View BEAD Eligibility information at the BSL Level by selecting BSL or searching.
- Updated provider table
  - Status field

Access the Serviceability Map

- The same familiar map and symbology for served and un/underserved
- Updated post-challenge data
- Status of each provider's service at the BSL
- Challenge process history

[www.MichiganBroadbandMap.com](http://www.MichiganBroadbandMap.com)

# MAPPING TOOL



PROJECT AREA DATA ADDRESS

Project Area: HH-183, HI-184, HG-183: 8124, 8282, 7962  
Total Serviceable Locations: 366

Locations Eligible for Funding: None <20% 20% - 40% 40% - 60% 60% - 80% >80%

Broadband & Digital Equity Indicators: Coverage Speed Eligibility

Eligible (25)  
Ineligible Served (337)  
Ineligible Funded (0)  
Ineligible Planned Service (4)

DOWNLOAD DATA

Northwest Prosperity Region  
Average Match Rate: 53%

Proposed Scoring for Cost Model	>25%	≤ 25% to >20%	<20% to >10%	<10% to >0%	<0% to >-10%	<-10% to >-20%	<-20% to >-25%	<-25%
Estimate based on Average cost per location	≥ \$8,600	< \$8,600 to ≥ \$8,300	< \$8,300 to ≥ \$7,600	< \$7,600 to ≥ \$6,900	< \$6,900 to ≥ \$6,200	< \$6,200 to ≥ \$5,500	< \$5,500 to ≥ \$4,800	< \$4,800
Proposed Point Score	0	2	4	6	8	10		

GeoJSON  
CSV

DOWNLOAD DATA

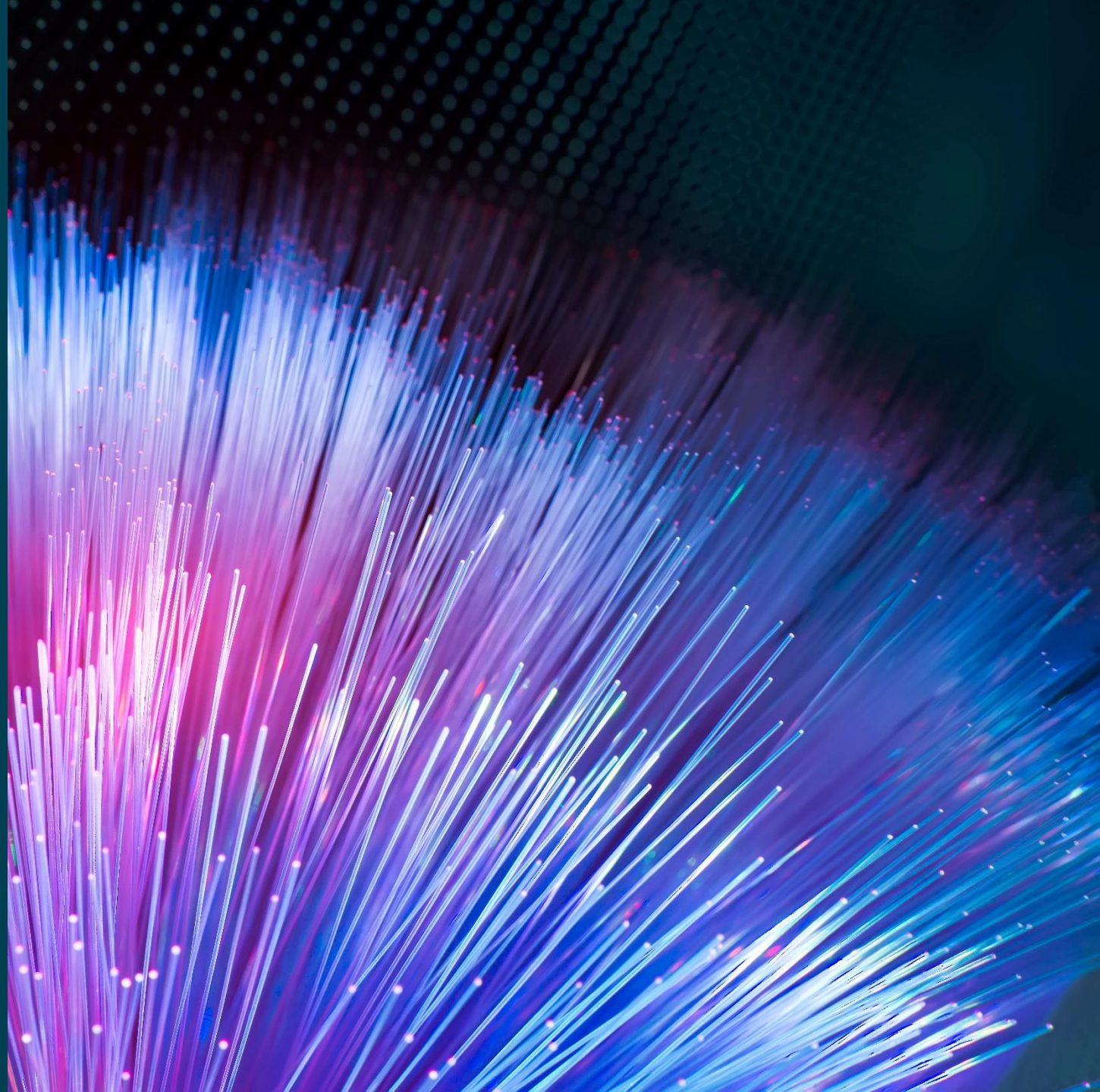
- Michigan Project Areas added in the Eligibility Map
  - Select multiple by holding "shift" and view aggregated information in the data pane
- Prosperity Region Match Table
  - View the Prosperity Region Match Table for your selected Project Area(s)
- Download Project Area information
  - Log in and select a Project Area or multiple by holding the "shift" key
  - Select "Download Data"
  - Option to download CSV
    - A CSV of all the BSLs in selected Project Area(s)
  - Option to download GeoJSON
    - A GeoJSON of the physical boundary of the selected Project Area(s)

# EGRAMS PORTAL WEBINAR

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10<sup>TH</sup> AT 1PM



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# ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- BEAD Program Application Guidance Document
- Financial Capability Requirements One-Pager
  - Volume II Amendment Memos
    - BEAD Mapping Tool
    - BEAD FAQ

Can be found at MIHI's BEAD Subgrant Application website:

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[LEO - Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment \(BEAD\) Program \(michigan.gov\)](https://michigan.gov/leo)



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