



# NEWS

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This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action.  
See MCI v. FCC, 515 F 2d 385 (D.C. Circ 1974).

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## **FCC’s CONNECT AMERICA FUND TO EXPAND BROADBAND TO NEARLY 400,000 RURAL HOMES AND BUSINESSES IN 41 STATES**

**Washington, D.C.** – Over \$255 million in funding to provide new broadband access to over 400,000 homes and businesses in rural areas of 41 states has been authorized from the Federal Communications Commission’s Connect America Fund, connecting nearly 1 million people who lack service.

The Connect America Fund is part of the FCC’s initiative to bring broadband access to rural communities. The \$255,723,850 authorized today represents a jump-start to bring broadband to these areas. It brings the total authorized from the first phase of the Connect America Fund to nearly \$403 million.

“Access to modern broadband networks is essential in the information age,” said FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler. “Yet 15 million Americans live in areas where they can’t get wireline broadband no matter how much they want it. These funds will jump-start broadband access in areas that would otherwise be bypassed by the digital economy.”

Five carriers will use the funds in rural portions of their service areas where, absent support from the Connect America Fund, broadband expansion was unlikely. The carriers are AT&T, CenturyLink, Fairpoint Communications, Frontier Communications, and Windstream Corp.

The authorizations are as follows:

State	Total Locations	Total Funding
AL	37,591	\$27,723,400
AR	19,668	\$11,980,425
AZ	18,531	\$11,637,000
CA	740	\$442,100
CO	8,271	\$4,731,300
FL	8,641	\$5,623,525
GA	28,575	\$16,854,525
IA	5,967	\$3,443,175
ID	1,461	\$841,575
IL	2,571	\$1,600,350
IN	6,082	\$3,670,000
KS	346	\$214,825
KY	6,994	\$4,668,175
LA	11,072	\$8,087,150

ME	1,420	\$861,550
MI	3,746	\$2,169,875
MN	5,614	\$3,391,900
MO	12,641	\$8,033,450
MS	21,486	\$16,170,825
MT	1551	\$1,075,575
NC	13,028	\$8,310,425
NE	531	\$346,725
NH	1,254	\$725,700
NJ	11	\$6,050
NM	8,227	\$4,906,900
NV	902	\$502,850
NY	15,733	\$8,960,500
OH	7,175	\$4,393,775
OK	3,889	\$2,490,625
OR	5,134	\$3,007,975
PA	4,714	\$2,673,250
SC	10,401	\$7,639,125
SD	40	\$22,000
TN	34,485	\$26,243,700
TX	25,143	\$16,107,225
UT	360	\$207,900
VA	4,715	\$2,765,600
WA	4,165	\$2,529,250
WI	14,143	\$8,295,925
WV	36,339	\$22,333,425
WY	52	\$34,225
Grand Total	393,409	\$255,723,850

In August, the five carriers identified 563,767 locations where they wanted to use Connect America funds to reach customers unserved by broadband. The eligibility of some of those locations was challenged. Today's action authorizes funding for 393,409 locations that were not subject to a challenge.