

Funding Resources for BBC Initiatives

Minnesota Rural Partners compiles a monthly list of funding opportunities and resources at <https://mnruralpartners.wordpress.com/>

Check out this Blandin on Broadband blog post from July 12, 2017 to learn about current technology-related funding sources <http://wp.me/p3if7-4au>

Federal Sources

Grants.Gov <http://www.grants.gov>

Find and apply for federal grants. Includes searchable database, regular updates and support.

BroadbandUSA: Guide to Federal Funding for Broadband Projects

https://www.ntia.doc.gov/files/ntia/publications/broadband_fed_funding_guide.pdf

Includes a table of federal agencies that fund projects that may include broadband. Here is a sample:

FCC <https://www.fcc.gov>

Offers three funds: Connect America Fund, E-Rate for Schools and Rural Healthcare. A community may not be eligible for some funds but community partners may.

USDA http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome?navid=GRANTS_LOANS

Offers grants and loans including some focused on broadband deployment, adoption and use: Telecom Infrastructure Loan Program, Farm Bill Broadband Loan Program, Community Connect Grant Program and Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant Program. (Other USDA

State Sources

Office of Broadband Development: <http://mn.gov/deed/programs-services/broadband/index.jsp>

Responsible for administering the Border to Border Broadband funds.

Office of Grants Management <http://www.grants.state.mn.us/public/>

A portal of State grants - searchable and by category.

Minnesota Funding!

If you are interested in State funds, be sure to contact your legislator if you would like to see the *Border-to-Border Broadband* funds continue and/or increase.

Private Sources

GrantStation: <https://www.grantstation.com>

A fee-based database of grant opportunities with a free weekly email of grant updates.

Minnesota Rural Partners: <http://minnesotaruralpartners.org>

A monthly newsletter that compiles opportunities for rural communities, including grants and loans.

Blandin Foundation: <http://broadband.blandinfoundation.org/>

Offers financial and technical support to Minnesota rural communities to increase local broadband adoption, plan for better broadband or research feasibility of better broadband options.

Initiative Foundations: <http://www.greaterminnesota.net>

Six Foundation that offer grants and business loans based on location.

AgStar: <http://tinyurl.com/ov6tegy>

Funds rural areas where they have a presence with a history of supporting broadband initiatives.

Bush Foundation: <https://www.bushfoundation.org/grants>

Offers grants to encourage Community Innovation.