

CNMI BPD BEAD CHALLENGE PROCESS FACT SHEET

What is the Challenge Process?

The Challenge Process is a required component of the Broadband, Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program that allows eligible stakeholders to challenge the accuracy of the [National Broadband Map](#). Eligible stakeholders can argue whether listed broadband serviceable locations (BSLs) or community anchor institutions (CAIs) are served, underserved, or unserved. By doing so, this process helps determine if these locations are eligible for BEAD funding aimed at improving reliable, high-speed internet access.

Who is an eligible stakeholder?

According to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), only units of local government, non-profit organizations, and internet service providers are able to submit challenges. However, if individuals wish to submit a challenge, they may do so by coordinating with registered local governments or non-profits to submit a challenge.

When will the Challenge Process begin?

The Challenge Process Portal will open on June 1st, 2024. Each of the Process' phases—Challenge, Rebuttal, and Adjudication—will last for 30 days. The Challenge and Rebuttal phases may happen at the same time, depending on when challenges are submitted.

What happens after the Challenge Process is over?

Once the Challenge Process is complete, the CNMI Broadband Policy & Development (BPD) Office will submit a summary of all challenges and their final determinations to the NTIA for review and final approval. Once approved, the CNMI BPD Office can officially begin its subgrantee selection process, another crucial component of the BEAD Program.

Where can I learn more about the Challenge Process?

Listed below are some helpful resources that can help you learn more about the Challenge Process:

- [BEAD Challenge Process Policy](#)
- [BEAD Challenge Process Policy Notice](#)
- [CNMI BPD BEAD Initial Proposal Volume 1](#)

For more information, kindly contact cnmi.bpd@gmail.com.

