USDA e-Connectivity Resource Matrix
For Planning, Construction, Research, and Other Projects and Activities

Customers:	Agriculture Technology Research: Innovative farming research using broadband technology.	Technical Assistance, Training & Workforce Development: Sharing information, expertise, instruction, and/or skills training in broadband technology use.	Planning: Needs assessment, formation of broadband development plans, or business plans.	Permits: Reimbursement for environmental, engineering, and archeological permits.	Broadband Infrastructure: Network plant and extension of broadband systems through fiber, poles, communication towers, wireless equipment, etc.	Equipment or Facilities: Buying, improving or renting end-use equipment; constructing community centers, wireless access points, etc.	Refinancing: New financing with a different provider for an existing debt owed.
Farmers & Ranchers: Individuals who operate a farm or ranch.	Sustainable Agriculture Program	Agriculture Conservation Easement Program Agricultural Management Assistance Conservation Stewardship Program Conservation Technical Assistance Program Conservation Innovation Grants Environmental Quality Incentives Program Regional Conservation Partnership Program Direct Operating Loans Farm Ownership Loans Guaranteed Farm Loans Farm Microloans	Farm Ownership Loans Guaranteed Farm Loans Farm Microloans Business and Industry Loan Guarantees	Farm Ownership Loans Guaranteed Farm Loans Farm Microloans Business and Industry Loan Guarantees	Farm Ownership Loans Guaranteed Farm Loans Farm Microloans Business and Industry Loan Guarantees	Agricultural Management Assistance Conservation Innovation Grants Regional Conservation Partnership Program Farm Ownership Loans Farm Operating Loans Farm Microloans Business & Industry Loan Guarantees	Farm Ownership Loans Guaranteed Farm Loans Farm Microloans Business & Industry Loan Guarantees
For-Profit Businesses: Corporations, Limited Liability Companies, Competitive and Incumbent Local Exchange carriers, sole proprietorships, etc.	Sustainable Agriculture Program Agriculture and Food Research Initiative National Robotics Initiative 2.0 Cyber-Physical Systems Grant Program	Sustainable Agriculture Program Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) Foundational and Applied Science Program	Business and Industry Loan Guarantees	Telecommunications Infrastructure Loans Rural Broadband Access Loans ReConnect Program Community Connect Grants Forest Service Special Use Permits Business and Industry Loan Guarantees	Telecommunications Infrastructure Loans Rural Broadband Access Loans ReConnect Program Community Connect Grants Business and Industry Loan Guarantees	Telecommunications Infrastructure Loans Rural Broadband Access Loans ReConnect Program Community Connect Grants Business & Industry Loan Guarantees Rural Economic Development Loans & Grants Small Business Innovation Research Program	Telecommunications Infrastructure Loans Rural Broadband Access Loans Business & Industry Loan Guarantees
Government Entities: State or local governments, federally recognized Tribes, or Tribal organizations.	Sustainable Agriculture Program Agriculture and Food Research Initiative National Robotics Initiative 2.0 Cyber-Physical Systems Grant Program	Sustainable Agriculture Program Conservation Innovation Grants Regional Conservation Partnership Program Rural Business Development Grants Community Facilities Technical Assistance and Training Grants	Rural Business Development Grants Community Facilities Technical Assistance and Training Grants Business and Industry Loan Guarantees	Telecommunications Infrastructure Loans Rural Broadband Access Loans ReConnect Program Business and Industry Loan Guarantees	Telecommunications Infrastructure Loans Rural Broadband Access Loans ReConnect Program Community Connect Grants Business and Industry Loan Guarantees	Conservation Innovation Grants Telecommunications Infrastructure Loans Rural Broadband Access Loans ReConnect Program Community Connect Grants Distance Learning & Telemedicine Grants Community Facilities Loans & Grants Business & Industry Loan Guarantees Rural Economic Development Loans & Grants	Telecommunications Infrastructure Loans Rural Broadband Access Loans Business & Industry Loan Guarantees
Co-ops & Nonprofits: Telecom and electric cooperatives, private non-profit schools, hospitals, libraries, faith-based organizations, etc.	Sustainable Agriculture Program Agriculture and Food Research Initiative National Robotics Initiative 2.0 Cyber-Physical Systems Grant Program	Sustainable Agriculture Program Conservation Innovation Grants Regional Conservation Partnership Program Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) Foundational and Applied Science Program Rural Business Development Grants Community Facilities Technical Assistance and Training Grants	Rural Business Development Grants Community Facilities Technical Assistance and Training Grants Business and Industry Loan Guarantees	Telecommunications Infrastructure Loans Rural Broadband Access Loans ReConnect Program Business and Industry Loan Guarantees	Telecommunications Infrastructure Loans Rural Broadband Access Loans ReConnect Program Community Connect Grants Business and Industry Loan Guarantees	Conservation Innovation Grants Telecommunications Infrastructure Loans Rural Broadband Access Loans ReConnect Program Community Connect Grants Distance Learning & Telemedicine Grants Community Facilities Loans & Grants Business & Industry Loan Guarantees	Telecommunications Infrastructure Loans Rural Broadband Access Loans Business & Industry Loan Guarantees
Universities & Higher Education Institutions: Universities, community colleges, technology institutes, vocational & technical schools, etc.	Sustainable Agriculture Program Agriculture and Food Research Initiative National Robotics Initiative 2.0 Cyber-Physical Systems Grant Program	Sustainable Agriculture Program Conservation Innovation Grants Regional Conservation Partnership Program Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) Foundational and Applied Science Program Rural Business Development Grants Community Facilities Technical Assistance and Training Grants	Business and Industry Loan Guarantees	Business and Industry Loan Guarantees	Business and Industry Loan Guarantees	National Robotics Initiative 2.0 Conservation Innovation Grants Distance Learning & Telemedicine Grants Community Facilities Loans & Grants Business & Industry Loan Guarantees	Business & Industry Loan Guarantees
Private Lenders: Banks, credit unions, intermediary lenders, etc.	Agriculture and Food Research Initiative	Sustainable Agriculture Program	Business and Industry Loan Guarantees	Business and Industry Loan Guarantees	Business and Industry Loan Guarantees	Community Facilities Guaranteed Loans Business & Industry Loan Guarantees	Community Facilities Guaranteed Loans Business & Industry Loan Guarantees

USDA e-Connectivity Resource Matrix

USDA has 27 programs that can be used to fund planning, construction, research and e-Connectivity activities. These are illustrated on the following pages and organized by customer and project type. More information can be found at **www.usda.gov/broadband**.

How to Use the USDA e-Connectivity Matrix

STEP 1 ▶ Identify the type of customer (matrix rows) that will be applying and match it with the type of project (matrix columns) the community needs.

STEP 2 ▶ Review the list of resources that are applicable to your customer and project types. To obtain more information on each resource, either click on its name to be taken to the relevant website (for online viewers) or find the corresponding number in the agency and resource description section starting on page 12 of this booklet (for print viewers).

STEP 3 ▶ Reach out to the USDA specialist for each resource whose contact information is posted online at the locations detailed below.

STEP 4 ▶ Discuss the eligibility of your project(s) and the application process with the USDA specialist to ensure feasibility.

STEP 5 ▶ Develop an application timeline for your project, and closely review requirements, then proceed with the application process.

STEP 6 ▶ Follow up with the USDA specialist if you have any questions before submission of an application, during the process, or after submission.

We have specialists available for each program to help you get started:

National Institute of Food and Agriculture: Use the **NIFA grant database** to find contacts for NIFA grant programs.

Natural Resources Conservation Service: Contact your local **NRCS Service Center** to learn more about conservation opportunities.

Farm Service Agency: Contact your local **FSA Service Center** to learn more about programs for farmers and ranchers.

Forest Service: Visit the **FS Special-Use Permits site** to learn more about use of FS lands.

Rural Development: Contact your local **RD State Office** or **Telecom General Field Representative** to learn more about RD loan, grant, and technical assistance programs.

Partnerships: Contact USDA's **Office of Partnership and Public Engagement** for partnership opportunities with USDA.

Community Solutions: Contact the **Rural Development Innovation Center** for creative solutions to your rural community's e-Connectivity needs.

For resources at other Federal agencies, visit the Department of Commerce's **BroadbandUSA site**.