# e-Connectivity for Rural America

Partnering to bring modern opportunities to rural communities

Reliable and affordable broadband e-Connectivity, or electronic connectivity, is vital for economic development and quality of life in the 21st Century. USDA has a website to assist leaders with resources, program information, and best practices for bringing broadband infrastructure to rural communities. Visit www.usda.gov/broadband for more information.



## **Technical Assistance Webinars Available for ReConnect Program**

### **About the ReConnect Program**

The ReConnect Program offers loans, grants, and loan/grant combinations to facilitate broadband deployment in areas of rural America without sufficient access to broadband.

- The awards made under this program will bring high-speed broadband to rural areas that lack sufficient access to broadband.
- The delivery of broadband connection and high-quality service will enable technologies critical to rural communities, such as precision agriculture.
- The pilot program will fuel long-term economic development and opportunities in rural America.

#### **Stakeholder Outreach**

USDA Rural Development will host a series of informational webinars and workshops to provide more information on the ReConnect Program. Please visit <a href="https://reconnect.usda.gov">https://reconnect.usda.gov</a> for up-to-date information on these events.

#### Informational Webinar, Thursday, December 20, 2018 at 2:00 pm EST

This introductory webinar will provide a high-level overview of the funding opportunity available under the ReConnect Program. USDA Rural Development staff will discuss types of funding available, eligibility provisions, notice of proposed service area, and evaluation factors. To join the webinar, <u>click here</u>.

Additional webinars on ReConnect will be held in January 2019 including:

Tuesday, January 8Tuesday, January 15Thursday, January 17Wednesday, January 23Wednesday, January 30

#### **Program Workshops**

USDA Rural Development will hold several intensive program workshops. Specific dates and venues will be provided as soon as it is finalized.

January 2019: Greenville, AL and Northcentral Oregon

February 2019: Washington, PA and Newton, KS March 2019: Gila River, AZ and Detroit Lakes, MN

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