

The Minds We Need: Research and Education Infrastructure Inclusion, Innovation, and Competitiveness

Key Messages

What We Know

- Talent is everywhere, but opportunity is not.
- We *must* connect every community college, minority serving institution, college and university—including all urban, rural, and tribal institutions.
- Federal investments in research and education infrastructure are a national imperative.
- Research and education infrastructure is more than just broadband networks. It also includes software, tools, resources and workforce development.
- The US is falling significantly behind other nations, particularly China and the nations of the European Union, in our national investment in research and education infrastructure.
- Research and education infrastructure is essential for our scientific and engineering talent to flourish.
- This is not competitive with the national broadband agenda but creates a more comprehensive broadband plan.
- Historically we have and will continue to work with our private carriers, partners, collaborators.

What We Need

- A holistic action plan that integrates local, state, and national needs across network, security, trust and identity tools, collaboration, and training needs.
- Coordination, prioritization, and end-to-end expectation setting through national leadership and key Federal agencies.
- \$5.07 Billion one-time Federal investment to expand the US research and education infrastructure as a critical component of a national broadband strategy.

Funding Timeline

Phase 1: Focus on Needs Assessment, Training, Planning, Local Organizational Development, Federal Agency Coordination, and Tools Development (\$370.5 Million)

- \$5M per state, territory and the District of Columbia for a grant that results in a needs analysis
- Up to \$1.25M to each state, territory and District of Columbia for consortia and training
- \$10M national coordinating strategy planning grant
- \$7.5M for up to 5 multi-state consortia building and training
- \$500K/year for 5 years to support inter-agency federal government coordination

Phase 2: Transition from Planning to Initial Implementation (\$1.45 Billion)

- Up to \$25M per state, territory and District of Columbia to begin implementation of the plan

- \$50M for development of collaboration tools, security, and infrastructure at the national level
- Develop and release program rules for Phase 3 program based on Phase 1 needs analysis and Phase 2 implementation

Phase 3: Full Implementation Programs (\$3.25 Billion)

- \$3.25B in needs-based grants, linked to the prior years planning activities, to address local, state, regional, national, tribal and territorial needs and gaps
- Up to \$150M of the total for undersea cable R&E capacity to connect territories, Alaska, and Hawaii