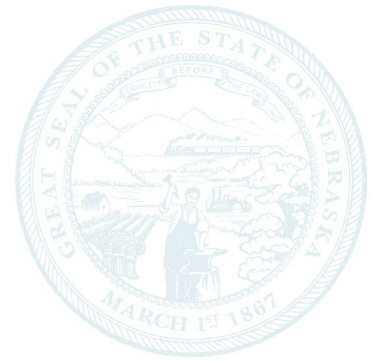


Nebraska Broadband Office  
1500 Nebraska Parkway  
Lincoln, NE 68502  
Phone (402) 971-9189  
[broadband.nebraska.gov](http://broadband.nebraska.gov)



Jim Pillen, Governor

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Nebraska Availability Map Challenge Period Opens

**March 15, 2024 (Lincoln, Neb.)** — Today the Nebraska Broadband Office (NBO) announces the next step in its work bringing the Broadband, Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) funds to Nebraska, a once-in-a-generation resource to ensure all Nebraska homes and businesses can connect to a global economy. This next step is the challenge process, and NBO is asking for every Nebraskan's participation, effective immediately.

The goal of the challenge process is to ensure the Nebraska Broadband Availability Map is as accurate as possible. The map defines exact locations in Nebraska according to their high-speed internet (aka broadband) access. The outcome of the challenge process will determine which locations are eligible for BEAD funding to bring high-speed internet to those communities. The challenge process is 90 days broken into three 30-day segments – challenges, rebuttals and decisions. Once the process is complete, changes cannot be made to the Nebraska Broadband Availability Map and only locations marked as unserved or underserved will be able to be bid on by internet providers, to extend access to broadband.

From March 15, 2024, through April 14, 2024, we are asking all Nebraskans to review their homes' and businesses' addresses on the [Nebraska Broadband Availability Map](#). This is the best way to ensure a location is eligible for funding. If the information is wrong, please contact an advocate, which is defined as local government offices, nonprofits and internet service providers (ISPs). These advocates are the only entities who can submit challenges to the map. These eligible offices, nonprofits and ISPs are encouraged to contact NBO to register as advocates for their communities. A list of registered advocates can be found on our website at [broadband.nebraska.gov/challenge/consumers/find-an-advocate](http://broadband.nebraska.gov/challenge/consumers/find-an-advocate).

If a location's internet service information is wrong, please contact an advocate and request their help to submit a challenge. A step-by-step guide to this process is available on NBO's website at [broadband.nebraska.gov](http://broadband.nebraska.gov).

#MORE#



ISPs will be notified when they are named in a challenge and will have 30 days to rebut from the time of the notification. NBO will have another 30 days to review challenges and rebuttals and make final determinations. NBO's decisions will undergo a final approval process by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). Challenges and their statuses will be published to the NBO website on a rolling basis.

The challenge process will be the final determination of the unserved/underserved locations funded by Nebraska's BEAD program. After April 14, 2024, NBO will be unable to accept any further challenges to the map.

Reach out to NBO with questions or comments at [ndot.broadbandoffice@nebraska.gov](mailto:ndot.broadbandoffice@nebraska.gov).

#NBO#

**Contact:**

Rachel Kilcoin, (402) 971-9189

20240315-Broadband