Empower Rural Iowa Broadband Grant Program — 2018-2021

The Iowa Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) administers the Broadband Grants Program and the Broadband Property Tax Exemption Certification Program, which provides incentives to increase access to high-speed internet services in Iowa's underserved and unserved areas. Iowa Code chapter 8B, as amended by 2020 Iowa Acts, chapter 1078, requires the OCIO to determine broadband availability by census block and determine targeted service areas as the basis for prioritizing and awarding funds to service providers for installing broadband infrastructure. Grant opportunities were made available through the Empower Rural Iowa initiative.

Areas Receiving Broadband Funding Incentives — 2018-2021

Note: Broadband is defined as 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload speeds or better (25/3). Broadband availability is reported by census block from service providers as required through the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) 477 survey and Connected Nation. Data may be missing or incomplete. A block may have lower speeds available.

Funding and Number of Homes, Businesses, and Schools Impacted by Incentive — 2018-2021

85,327
Estimated Number of Households within Awarded Areas

$44.3 M
Total in Broadband Funding Incentives 2018-2021

Sources: Iowa Office of the Chief Information Officer, Broadband Availability Map Version 3 (October 23, 2020)
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To view an interactive map of awards, click here.