



## **Tribal Consent FAQs**

### **Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD)**

As part of the BEAD Final Proposal, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) requires tribal consent for broadband projects on tribal lands.

In accordance with the [BEAD Notice of Funding Opportunity \(NOFO\)](#) requirements, the Arizona Broadband Office will collect a “Resolution of Consent” or other formal demonstration of consent from each Tribal Government, Tribal Council or other governing body, upon whose Tribal Lands BEAD infrastructure will be deployed. This consent must be documented in Arizona’s Final Proposal to ensure compliance with NTIA guidelines.

#### **1. What is the tribe consenting to and what does consent mean?**

In the context of BEAD, tribal consent means that the tribe agrees to the process of the ACA awarding a subgrantee to build and deploy internet services to all Broadband Serviceable Locations (BSLs) within the project area on tribal lands. The ACA administers all BEAD subgrantee awards, monitoring and compliance.

In June 2025, the ACA emailed tribal leaders about BEAD Tribal Consent, providing a [BEAD Tribal Consent & Resolution Sample](#), available on the [ACA website](#).

#### **2. To whom is the tribe granting consent?**

Consent is granted to the Arizona Commerce Authority State Broadband Office which administers the subgrant award.

#### **3. How does the tribe grant consent and what is the deadline?**

Ultimately, a Tribal Resolution is required to include with the Final Proposal submitted by the ACA to NTIA on September 4, 2025. Given the tight timeline, an official letter from the tribe will be accepted initially. The Tribal Resolution is needed before the subgrantee award is executed with the ACA.

Helpful Dates & Information:

- Tribal letter granting consent needed by **September 4, 2025**.
- Resolution of Consent, if applicable, should be provided promptly after Tribal Letter of Consent is provided to ACA.
- For guidance, please reference the [ACA BEAD Tribal Consent & Resolution Sample](#).

Letters and resolutions should be sent to [broadband@azcommerce.com](mailto:broadband@azcommerce.com).

#### **4. Who should send / sign the letter?**

Letters on behalf of the tribe should be signed by an official who has the authority to sign and send on behalf of the tribe. Letters and resolutions should be sent to [broadband@azcommerce.com](mailto:broadband@azcommerce.com).

#### **5. Are internet service providers (ISPs) required to obtain tribal consent?**

ISPs should collaborate directly with the tribal entities they plan to serve prior to starting the application process. This demonstrates a good faith effort by the ISP. Consent, provided by the tribe to the ACA for the Final Proposal, is a federal requirement by NTIA.

#### **6. Is this consent different from the consent document the ACA sent to tribes in October 2024?**

Yes. In October 2024, the ACA sent tribal leaders an electronic letter titled “Request for Broadband Deployment Feedback and BEAD Program Participation.” This communication requested information from tribes regarding prior enforceable commitments to determine if tribal nations and communities in Arizona were aware of other existing grants on their tribal lands (e.g., RDOF, TBCP, etc.).

This FAQ document outlines an additional consent, the BEAD Tribal Consent, a requirement by NTIA. It outlines consent from all tribal nations and communities in Arizona that agree to subgrant awards for BEAD deployment on their tribal lands.

#### **Additional resources for tribal nations and communities in Arizona:**

- The [ACA BEAD Tribal Consent & Resolution Sample](#) is available on the ACA website as guidance to tribal nations and communities in Arizona for this process.
- [NTIA FAQs v11](#) address tribal consent, page 52.

If you have questions not addressed in this FAQ, please reach out to the ACA at [broadband@azcommerce.com](mailto:broadband@azcommerce.com)

All letters and resolutions should be addressed to:

Arizona Commerce Authority  
State Broadband Office  
100 North 7th Avenue, Suite 400  
Phoenix AZ 85007

All letters and resolutions can be sent via email to [broadband@azcommerce.com](mailto:broadband@azcommerce.com).