

BEAD CHALLENGE PROCESS

What is the BEAD Challenge Process and how does it support infrastructure build out?

With more than \$993 million of federal funding available for the state of Arizona to achieve universal internet access, it is critical that we have accurate maps and data that identify locations that require reliable broadband infrastructure and service.

The BEAD Challenge Process is the way in which the Arizona Commerce Authority will determine the unserved, underserved, and served status of every home, business, and community anchor institution in the state. Unserved and underserved locations will be eligible to be connected through BEAD funded projects.



Who Can Submit a Challenge?

- Local governments
- Tribal governments
- Nonprofit organizations
- Internet service providers



Arizona Resident Participation

Arizona residents can report service issues and take a speed test through the online challenge portal. This evidence will be shared with an eligible challenger to officially submit. Look for more information from your local government or tribal community for more information or ask if they plan to participate.



Challenge Type

Challengers will select one of the following challenge types:

- Availability
- Speed
- Latency
- Data cap
- Business Service Only
- Is/ is not part of an Enforceable Commitment
- Planned Service
- Location is/is not a Community Anchor Institution (CAI)
- CAI qualifying broadband service is unavailable/available



How To Submit a Challenge

1. If you are an eligible challenger, register in the challenge portal here: az.broadbandnavigator.com
2. Select the desired location(s) associated with the challenge and identify the challenge type (i.e. availability, speed, etc.)
3. Upload evidence to support your challenge
 - Refer to the **Training Videos / Challenge Process Guidance** document for detailed examples of permissible challenge evidence per challenge type – you can access them here: azcommerce.com/broadband
4. Submit your challenge. **The deadline to submit challenges is May 14, 2024.**



Challenge Process Timeline

- March 1, 2024 – Challenge Process Portal Available for Registration
- March 15, 2024 – Challenge Process Submission Starts and Rebuttal Starts on a Rolling Basis. Service Providers will have 15 calendars from a notification of a challenge to provide a rebuttal
- May 14, 2024 – Challenge Process Submission Ends
- May 15, 2024 – June 30, 2024 – Final Determination Phase

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