



ConnectALL

A Division of Empire State Development

Affordable Housing Connectivity Program (AHCP)

ConnectALL Stakeholder Forum

November 6th, 2023

Agenda

- 1** Welcome
- 2** Overview of the Affordable Housing Connectivity Program (AHCP)
- 3** Property Eligibility
- 4** How to Participate
- 5** Q&A
- 6** Next Steps

INTRODUCING CONNECTALL



Governor Hochul delivering the 2022 State of the State address.

New York State’s ConnectALL Office (CAO) is tasked with implementing Governor Hochul’s \$1B+ ConnectALL initiative, a comprehensive plan to bring affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband service to all New Yorkers.

ConnectALL Programs

Municipal
Infrastructure
& Assistance

Affordable Housing
Connectivity

Statewide Digital
Equity Plan
& Grant Program

Rural
Broadband

Connectivity
Innovation

WELCOME: STAKEHOLDER FORUM SERIES

ConnectALL seeks to engage with stakeholders to gather input on its programs, share information, provide technical assistance, and create successful partnership and collaboration on ConnectALL programs statewide.

Past topics: Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs), Counties and Regional Planning Councils; ISP forums on working with New York State, Federal Funding Opportunities for ISPs, Climate Resiliency and Cybersecurity

Today's topic: Affordable Housing Connectivity Program

Upcoming topic: SDEP and BEAD public comment forum





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Affordable Housing Connectivity Program Overview

BROADBAND AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Affordable housing—whether in urban, suburban, or rural settings—is linked with low broadband adoption rates.

More than **one-third** of New York Households with annual incomes below **\$35,000** have **no home broadband subscription**.¹

Nearly a million New York households, or 13.1%, do not subscribe to fixed broadband service.²

2.46% of New York State are unserved, meaning that location has no wired or fixed wireless providers offering 25Mbps.³

More than **100,000** addresses have **no broadband infrastructure**.⁴

1. ACS 2019; 2. US Census 2021; 3. NYS Public Service Commission Report 2023; 4. GeoTel 2019

AFFORDABLE HOUSING CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM (AHCP)

Studies show that low-income households are paying more for lower-speed internet services.

AHCP addresses these issues directly with \$100M in funding for broadband infrastructure and upgrades.

New York has been **awarded \$100 million** in Capital Project Funds to fund this critical new broadband-in-housing program.

The **AHCP** will **increase low-income communities' access** to employment, education, and healthcare services.

CAO, in consultation with **NYS Homes and Community Renewal (HCR)**, is **granting funds** to eligible ISPs and broadband deployment entities to **provide high-speed broadband infrastructure** to affordable housing properties.

HOW THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM (AHCP) WORKS

The nation's largest program to upgrade broadband infrastructure in affordable housing properties and connect low-income residents with in-unit internet access.

Treasury funding must be spent by 2026.

AHCP is structured to provide grants to ISPs and broadband deployment entities directly to meet this timeline and allow for economies of scale to maximize properties served.

CAO conducted focus groups and interviews with housing providers to shape program design.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM (AHCP): TIMELINE

Program Rollout	2023	2024	2025	2026
1. Program Design and Property Pipeline Preparation				
2. Grantee and Property Matching				
3. Awarding Grants				
4. New Infrastructure Deployed, Digital Inclusion Resources Offered				

A blue-tinted photograph of two women sitting at a desk. They are both wearing large headphones and looking at a laptop screen. The woman on the left is pointing at the screen. On the desk, there is a white mug, some papers, and a long, grey, fuzzy stuffed animal.

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Property Eligibility

PROPERTY ELIGIBILITY


AHCP-eligible properties are **affordable rental housing units**, publicly or privately owned, that are regulated by a government agency.



Properties where **units are part of one of the following programs** are likely **eligible** for the AHCP:

- 4% and 9% low-income housing tax credit (LIHTC);
- project-based section 8;
- HOME;
- Mitchell-Lama; and
- Federal public housing operating funds

Properties supported by other HUD, state, county, and local funding programs may be eligible.

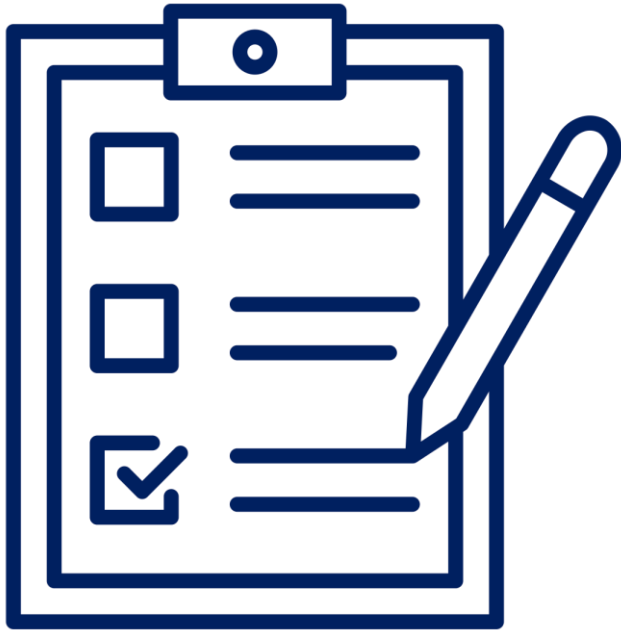
A blue-tinted photograph of two young women sitting at a desk. They are both wearing large headphones and looking at a laptop screen. The woman on the left is pointing at the screen. On the desk, there is a white mug, some papers, and a long, grey, fuzzy stuffed animal.

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How to Participate

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Complete the Owner Interest Survey today at broadband.ny.gov.



Owners indicate interest and provide building-specific details in an online survey.

Early respondents: If you submitted an early interest form, CAO will contact you soon for additional information.

Support is available for owners with questions about filling out the survey!

****Already working with an ISP? Let CAO know in the interest survey and encourage the ISP to submit an application for grant funds to serve your property.**

ISP SELECTION



ISP selection and property matching will be based on:

- 1) The quality of the ISP's approach
- 2) Property specific deployment plans

With an opportunity for owner review before agreements are signed

PROGRAM PARTICIPATION

Owners' primary responsibilities will include:



Designating a primary point of contact (POC) for CAO and the assigned Vendor



Providing interior and exterior building access to the Vendor as necessary



Entering into an agreement with the assigned Vendor

Q&A + DISCUSSION

FAQs

- What technologies will the Vendors use to provide service?
- How will tenants afford the broadband service?
- What other types of support will be provided to tenants?
- Other questions?



A photograph of two young women sitting at a desk, both wearing large headphones and looking at a laptop screen. The woman on the left is pointing at the screen. The scene is dimly lit with a blue tint. A blue vertical bar is on the left side of the text area.

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Next Steps

COMING UP

This week



- Slides and notes from today's session will be shared and posted online

Fall 2023

- Participate in the Owner Interest Survey:
<https://broadband.ny.gov/affordable-housing-connectivity-program>
- Get in touch: ahcp@esd.ny.gov

Visit broadband.ny.gov for information on upcoming events and engaging with ConnectALL



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Thank you!

Contact the ConnectALL Office:
ahcp@esd.ny.gov