## Benefit of the Bargain Round Target Locations, Areas and Regions

## July 9, 2025

CHARLESTON, W.VA — Today, the West Virginia Department of Commerce Division of Economic Development, Office of Broadband (WVDED), has released updated Target Regions, Target Areas, and Broadband Serviceable Location (BSL) lists in support of the Benefit of the Bargain Round of the West Virginia Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program.

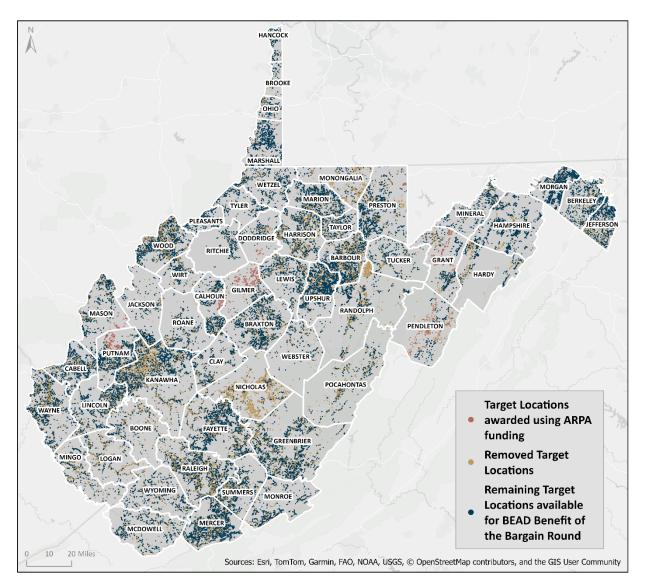
The updated materials reflect recent guidance from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) and incorporate the latest available data on broadband coverage in the state. These updates follow the NTIA's June 6, 2025 <u>Restructuring Policy Notice</u>, which directs states to complete a final round of application review prioritizing low-cost, technology-neutral broadband deployment strategies.

As part of this process, WVDED has reviewed the state's Target Locations to ensure that BEAD funding is directed to locations that remain unserved or underserved. These locations have been grouped into Target Areas and further organized into Target Regions, which serve as the basis for application proposals.

With service and eligibility updates, WVDED has determined **73,963** locations remain eligible for BEAD funding during the Benefit of the Bargain Round. See below for locations removed by type.

Original Target Locations	114,178
Reasons for Removal of Target Locations from Benefit of the Bargain Round	
Not a Broadband Serviceable Location/Non-Serviceable	18,220
No Longer Recognized as Eligible Community Anchor Locations	84
New Broadband Service	15,224
Prior Local, State, or Federally Funded Projects	4,084
WVDED ARPA Awards Made in June 2025	2,603
Total Locations Remaining for Benefit of the Bargain Round	73,963

## Updated Target Locations



WVDED has also released an updated list of BEAD-eligible Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs), consistent with NTIA's revised eligibility criteria.

The following materials are now available at this link: Here

- Updated Target Region and Target Area Shapefile
- A revised Target Location List of Broadband Serviceable Locations (BSLs)
- A Community Anchor Institution (CAI) List

These documents guide applicants to develop new or revised projects for submission during the Benefit of the Bargain Round.

Applicants are encouraged to review these materials carefully. Target Regions used in this round are consistent with those previously published, as modified in the Extension Application Phase. Target Areas within Target Regions have been reconfigured but remain backwards compatible with prior proposed project areas. WVDED has created new Target Areas around locations where applicants have identified excessively high-cost locations.

All proposed projects must align with the revised Target Areas and Regions. Proposals that include Target Locations removed from eligibility will not be considered.

The Benefit of the Bargain Round opens July 10, 2025, and closes at 11:59 PM EDT on July 20, 2025. Additional program information, including the Program Procedures, is available at <u>broadband.wv.gov</u>.

For questions related to the updated Target Locations or applications, applicants may contact Luke Peters at WVDED at luke.n.peters@wv.gov.