



American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

*K-20 Community Update
April 28, 2009*

"Let us be the generation that reshapes our economy to compete in the digital age. Let's set high standards for our schools and give them the resources they need to succeed. Let's recruit a new army of teachers, and give them better pay and more support in exchange for more accountability. Let's make college more affordable, and let's invest in scientific research, and let's lay down broadband lines through the heart of inner cities and rural towns all across America."

*-- Barack Obama, Springfield, IL
February 10, 2007*



American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA)

- Passed by the House and the Senate on February 13, 2009
- Signed into law by President Obama on February 17, 2009
 - \$461 billion in spending (appropriations)
 - \$326 billion in personal/ business tax cuts
 - \$787 billion total

Department of Education

- **\$650 million for Education Technology**
- Conference Report Language:

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS

The conference agreement includes \$720,000,000 for the School Improvement Programs account. Within the total, the conference agreement includes **\$650,000,000** for the **Enhancing Education through Technology** program.

Broadband Programs - \$7.2 billion

- National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)
 - **\$4.7 billion**
- Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service (RUS)
 - **\$2.5 billion**

NTIA Broadband Grants – 4 Programs

- Broadband mapping - **\$350 million**
- “Expanding public computer center capacity, including at community colleges & public libraries” - **\$200 million**
- “Innovative programs to encourage sustainable broadband adoption”...”to schools, libraries, medical & healthcare providers, community colleges, and other institutions of higher education” -- **\$250 million**

NTIA: “Broadband Technology Opportunities Program”

- Balance of \$4.7 billion after other three programs & admin costs (3%) -- **\$3.7 billion+** for “**infrastructure program**”
- NTIA pays for 80%; cost share of 20%
- Competitive grant program, technology neutral, wireline or wireless
- Last mile, middle-mile, & long-haul

NTIA: “Broadband Technology Opportunities Program”

- Eligible: state & municipal governments, non-profits, private companies, public-private partnerships
- All parts of the country – rural, suburban, urban
- At least one grant per state
- Projects must be completed within 2 years of award

NTIA: “Broadband Technology Opportunities Program”

- Equipment, instrumentation, networking capability, hardware & software, digital network technology, and infrastructure for broadband services
- Preference to “highest-possible next-generation broadband speeds”
- Non-discrimination & interconnection obligations (NTIA & FCC)

Rural Utility Service - \$2.5 billion

- Existing Ag Dept RUS “**Distance Learning, Telemedicine & Broadband Program**”
- Grants, loans, & loan guarantees
- 75% to rural areas lacking sufficient speed
- Priority to: unserved areas, incumbent RUS borrowers, projects that give end users choice of providers, projects that will commence promptly & be completed.
- Cannot also get NTIA funding

NTIA/RUS Broadband Programs

- Public Comment Meetings: March 16, 17, 18, 19, 23 & 24
- 18 “Roundtables” with over 100 speakers
- Public comment – local, web
- Agendas, transcripts, videos at www.ntia.doc.gov/broadbandgrants/meetings.html

NTIA/RUS Broadband Programs

- Testimony of NTIA's Mark Seifert on April 2, 2009 before the Subcommittee on Communications, Technology & the Internet, U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Energy and Commerce:
 - http://www.ntia.doc.gov/congress/2009/NTIA_Seifert_Testimony_20090402.html

NTIA/RUS Broadband Programs

- Excerpts from Seifert's Testimony:
 - “The Obama Administration is committed to harnessing the power of broadband technology to stimulate economic growth, create jobs, and help lay the foundation for long-term prosperity for all Americans.”
 - “...we want to begin to close the broadband gap in America. We, therefore, want to extend high-capacity pipes closer to users in rural, remote, and underserved communities. As Congress has instructed, other entities will be able to connect to those pipes, which will spur competition and get service to people and businesses.”
 - “...we want to start taking steps to ensure that our **schools, universities, libraries, community centers, job training centers, hospitals, and public safety personnel** have high-speed access. We have been asked by Congress to focus on funding highspeed connections to these community anchor institutions.

NTIA/RUS Broadband Programs

- Excerpts from Seifert's Testimony:
 - “With access to broadband, **students are able to learn and access resources far beyond their own classrooms or local libraries.** Using telemedicine applications over broadband connections, doctors and other medical professionals can bring the latest medical advancements to patients in remote areas, resulting in immediate, efficient, and cost-effective treatment. ...
Researchers and scientists require high-speed connections to collaboratively develop the new ideas that will keep our country in the lead.”

NTIA/RUS Broadband Programs

- Excerpts from Seifert's Testimony:
 - ‘...we anticipate receiving applications that will allow people who live in unserved and underserved areas to work online at speeds that permit videoconferencing. We hope to see applications that propose to make broadband available for smart grid technology and health information technology applications. We want applications that will provide researchers and scientists at universities and other institutions the broadband connectivity they need to compete with the rest of the world. **Schools, universities, libraries, community centers, job training centers and hospitals are all community anchor institutions that need broadband connectivity.** We view these grants as a test-bed or proof of concept for sustainable, viable, and scalable projects. For example, we encourage partnerships between small businesses, municipalities, and others that may demonstrate nontraditional but effective ways of getting broadband into communities.’”

NTIA/RUS Broadband Programs

- Microsoft filing with NTIA/RUS/FCC:
 - Focus limited \$ “to ensure all the nation’s schools, public libraries and hospitals have robust, affordable connections to the Internet.”
 - “By robust connections, we mean at least 100 Mbps, symmetrical, capacity.”
 - “By ‘schools’ we mean K-12 institutions, community colleges and at least those universities that engage in basic research and, often at the same time, serve as hubs for creating connections to other schools and colleges.”
 - “By ‘hospitals’ we mean traditional hospitals, as well as the approximately 3,500 stand-alone ambulatory care facilities that often serve as stand-ins for hospitals in rural and inner city areas.”
 - “Once these connections are pulled deeper into every community in the nation, ..the US government also will have created jumping off points (or interconnection points) for commercial providers to step up and use for the deployment of broadband to Main Street and to neighborhoods.”



NTIA/RUS Broadband Programs

- “Unleashing Waves of Innovation” refiled with NTIA:
 - <http://www.ntia.doc.gov/broadbandgrants/comment.cfm?e=D3509C0A-8D23-4942-AF98-6428828FA1B1>
- Supported by Internet2, EDUCAUSE, The Quilt, StateNets, EPSCoR Foundation, National LambdaRail, Computing Research Association, SURA, and WICHE

“Unleashing Waves of Innovation”

A National Broadband Strategy should begin with America’s colleges and universities, community colleges, K-12 schools, public libraries, hospitals, clinics, and the state, regional and national research and education networks that connect them and extend to reach government agencies, agricultural extension sites, and community centers across the nation. A proven track record of innovating in networking and its applications, of deploying and continually upgrading advanced networks, and of extending those networks to the unserved and underserved across our nation, lies not with telephone or cable companies, nor with most state governments, but with our nation’s colleges and universities and the state, regional and national research and education networks that this community has built, in many instances forged through partnerships with telecommunications providers and state agencies to achieve these goals.



People

White House:

- **Science Advisor: John Holdren**
- **Chief Technology Officer - Aneesh Chopra**
- **Chief Information Officer – Vivek Kundra**
- **OSTP – Tom Kalil**
- **National Economic Council – Susan Crawford**
- **Presidential Personnel – Don Gips**

People

Federal Communications Commission:

- Chair – Julius Genachowski
- Republican Vacancy
- Democratic Vacancy

Federal Trade Commission:

- Chair – Jon Leibowitz

People

Department of Commerce

- **Secretary: Gov. Gary Locke**

National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)

- **Assistant Secretary – Larry Strickling**
- **Deputy – Ann Gomez**
- **Broadband Program – Mark Seifert and Bernadette Rivera**

People

Department of Agriculture

Rural Utilities Service

- Administrator – Jonathan Adelstein

HHS Office of the National Coordinator for Information Technology

- Director – Dr. David Blumenthal

For resources, see

<http://www.internet2.edu/government/stimulus>

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<http://www.internet2.edu/government/signup.cfm>



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