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Application

Instructions

Annotations records internal notes/comments that are visible to internal staff only. Feedback appends a new section to the bottom of the application that is visible to the applicant and anyone viewing the application.

Application Details

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409811 - Broadband Grant Program - Empower Rural Iowa - NOFA #006 - Final Application

415940 - Broadband Expansion for Rural Benton and Linn Counties Broadband Grant Program - Empower Rural Iowa

Status: Submitted Submitted Date: 07/27/2021 12:15 PM Submitted By: Curtis Eldred

Applicant Information

Primary Contact:

AnA User Id CURTISELDRED@IOWAID

First Name* Curtis First Name Middle Name Eldred Last Name

Title:

Email:* celdred@usacomm.coop

Address:* 124 Main Street
124 Main Street
124 Main Street, 124 Main Street

City* Shellsburg Iowa 52332-9727
City State/Province Postal Code/Zip

Phone:* 319-436-2224 Phone Ext.

Program Area of Interest* Broadband Grant Program - Empower Rural Iowa

Fax:

Agency

Organization Information

Organization Name:* USA Communications

Organization Type:* Other

DUNS: 10-737-2070

Organization Website: https://usacomm.coop/

Address: 124 Main Street
124 Main Street
124 Main Street, 124 Main Street

City Shellsburg Iowa 52332-9727
City State/Province Postal Code/Zip

Phone: 319-436-2224 Phone Ext.

Fax: 319-436-2228

Benefactor

Vendor Number

Cover Sheet-General Information**Authorized Official**

Name* Curtis Eldred
Title* General Manager
Organization* USA Communications
If you are an individual, please provide your First and Last Name.
Address* 124 Main St E SW

City/State/Zip* Shellsburg Iowa 52332
City State Zip
Telephone Number* 319-436-2224
E-Mail* CEldred@usacomm.coop

Fiscal Officer/Agent

Please enter the "Fiscal Officer" for your Organization.

If you are an individual, please provide your First and Last Name.

Name* Curtis Eldred
Title General Manager
Organization USA Communications
Address 124 Main St E SW

City/State/Zip Shellsburg Iowa 52332
City State Zip
Telephone Number 319-436-2224
E-Mail CEldred@usacomm.coop
County(ies) Participating, Involved, or Affected by this Proposal* Benton County, Linn County
Congressional District(s) Involved or Affected by this Proposal* 1st - Rep. Ashley Hinson
[Congressional Map](#)
Iowa Senate District(s) Involved or Affected by this Proposal* 34, 38
[District Map](#)
Iowa House District(s) Involved or Affected by this Proposal* 75, 95
[District Map](#)

Business Organization - NOFA #006

Please list the business legal name as it is used by federal and state taxing agencies, banks, and for other legal purposes.

Business Legal Name* USA Communications

Doing Business As:

Physical Address

Street * 124 Main St E SW
City* Shellsburg
State* IA
Zip* 52332

Mailing Address (used for warrants and/or payments)

Street or PO Box * 124 Main St E SW
City* Shellsburg
State* IA
Zip Code* 52332

Applicant Business Structure

Is the Applicant a Communications Service Provider as defined by Iowa Code chapter 8B, including but not limited to private sector carriers, local governments, utilities, and other entities that provide or intend to provide Broadband service.

Communication Service Provider*Yes

Identification of whether the Applicant is a subsidiary of one or more parent companies.

Are you a subsidiary of one or more parent companies?*Yes

For Applicants who are a subsidiary, an uploaded document describing the relationship between a parent and subsidiary is required.

Public Redacted Broadband Additional InformationNOFA 006 - USA Communications - Business Organization Information.pdf

Executive Project Summary NOFA #006

The section requires Applicant to affirm whether or not state funds are necessary for the Project to proceed.

Are state funds necessary for the project to proceed?*Yes

This section requires an Applicant to describe how the Project will or will not proceed if State funds requested are not ultimately awarded.

Describe how the Project will or will not proceed if state funds requested are not ultimately awarded.*USA Communications determined the total eligible infrastructure costs to be \$14,104,000.00 for the Broadband Expansion for Rural Benton and Linn Counties. USA Communications's Empower Rural Iowa Broadband grant request is 49.58%, \$6,992,763.20, of the total eligible infrastructure costs in the proposed area, with 50.42% being self-funded by USA Communications. USA Communications is committed to working toward overall community enhancement that includes residents, businesses, and community anchor institutions within the rural areas of Benton and Linn County. Access to high-speed broadband service should be available to every resident regardless of whether they live in town or out in the rural areas. The locations included in USA Communications's application would be too costly to build without grant funding assistance. Due to the rural nature and relatively low population density, this project would be difficult to justify without the financial assistance from the Empower Rural Iowa Broadband Grants Program. Therefore, the proposed Broadband Expansion for Rural Benton and Linn Counties will likely not move forward as presented without grant assistance.

Has construction on the project begun? *No

Project Status

Project Milestone	Estimated Completion date	Costs Incurred
Materials and Drop Fiber - Materials and Install	12/31/2024	\$10,757,000.00
Engineering	03/01/2024	\$1,844,000.00
FTTP Electronics	12/31/2024	\$1,503,000.00

Demonstrated Experience NOFA #006

This section requires information about Applicant's demonstrated experience in provisioning Broadband across the State of Iowa. Applicant shall include relevant information about their experience that has prepared them to deploy their Project, such as, for example, community partnerships and services; history of organization; number of years in business; number of years of experience providing the types of services sought by this NOFA #006; if the Applicant is a relatively new provider/market entrant, an explanation of the benefits, if any, of being a newer provider/market entrant; the level of technical experience in providing the types of services sought by this NOFA #006.

Demonstrated Experience*NOFA 006 - USA Communications - Demonstrated Experience.pdf

References

Name	Mayor Paula Freeman-Brown
Telephone Number	319-849-1508

Name 4 of 5 Superintendent Dr. Dani Trimble

Telephone Number 319-842-2266

Name

Telephone Number

Community Support Letter

Community Support Letter [NOFA 006 - USA Communications - Support Letters.pdf](#)

Minority Impact Statement

Does the proposed grant program or policy have a disproportionate or unique **positive impact** on minority persons? *

Yes

Describe the positive impact expected from this project.

The proposed Broadband Expansion for Rural Benton and Linn Counties will positively impact minority persons by enhancing broadband speeds in unserved areas of Benton and Linn County.

Detail the rationale for the existence of the proposed program or policy.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Benton County has a minority population of 2.6% while Linn County has 11.9%. These populations of individuals within the grant area will benefit as a result of the fiber broadband infrastructure. The proposed project will eliminate any disadvantage resulting from lack of access to reliable, high-speed broadband.

Indicate the group(s) positively impacted.

Women, Persons with a Disability, African Americans, Latinos, Asians or Pacific Islanders, American Indians, Alaskan Native Americans

Could the proposed grant program or policy have a disproportionate or unique **negative impact** on minority persons? *

No

I hereby certify the information above is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge.*

Yes

*	General Manager	Curtis	Eldred
	Title	First Name	Last Name

Broadband Grants Core Application - Exhibits B, C, D, and D.1

Applicant requests that the contents of their application remain confidential in whole or in part, pursuant to Section 2.2.6.6. and 7.18 of the NOFA #006.

DISCLAIMER: An applicant requesting confidential treatment of portions of an application must attach a redacted public copy of the application. If the applicant fails to attach a redacted public copy pursuant to Section 7.18.1 of the NOFA #006, the Office shall be relieved from any responsibility for maintaining the confidentiality of the application pursuant to 7.18.4 of the NOFA #006.

NOTE: Applicants are ONLY required to submit a Public Redacted Copy IF they are requesting confidential treatment with respect to an aspect of their Application. Further, the mere fact that an Applicant submits a Public Redacted Copy (or otherwise requests confidential treatment) does not ensure the aspects of the Application that are redacted (or for which confidential treatment is otherwise sought) will be treated as confidential; the Office will only afford confidential treatment to the extent requests comply with the terms, conditions, and requirements of the NOFA #006, and solely to the extent permitted by Iowa Code Chapter 22 and the Office's corresponding fair information practices rules available at 129 IAC 2.

Full Unredacted Copy* [NOFA 006 - USA Communications - Core Application.xlsm](#)

Public Redacted Copy

Optional Upload: A letter from a professional engineer certifying that the proposed Project design will be capable of simultaneously Facilitating 100/100 Broadband or 100/20 Broadband, as applicable, to the Total Broadband Units Facilitated as represented in Applicant's proposed Project.

Professional Engineer Project Certification Letter [NOFA 006 - USA Communications - PE Certification.pdf](#)

Broadband Grants Program Grant Agreement - Exhibit E

5 of 5
Have you read and do you accept the terms and conditions set forth in the grant agreement (Exhibit E)?*

Yes

Certification, Authorization, and Release of Information - Exhibit F

Certification Letter (Public)*

NOFA 006 - USA Communications - Exhibit F.pdf

Request for Confidentiality or Form 22 - Exhibit G

Form 22 (Public)*

NOFA 006 - USA Communications - Exhibit G.pdf

Project Budget

Category	Description	Total Estimated Cost \$ (Exhibit D)	Total Estimated Cost \$ (Exhibit D1)	Total Estimated Project Budget (D+D1)	Requested Grant Support %(enter percentage here)	Grant Request (Est. Cost * Request %)
Conduit		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Fiber/Copper	Materials and Drop Fiber - Materials and Installation	\$10,285,581.21	\$471,418.79	\$10,757,000.00	49.58	\$5,333,320.60
OSP Engineering	Engineering	\$1,763,187.81	\$80,812.19	\$1,844,000.00	49.58	\$914,255.20
Design Engineering		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Construction Mgmt.		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Tower		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Antenna		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Boring		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Trenching		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Knifing		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Switching Equipment		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Routing Equipment		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Optical Equipment	FTTP Electronics (CO Electronics and ONTs)	\$1,503,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,503,000.00	49.58	\$745,187.40
Customer Premise Equipment		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Other		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Totals		\$13,551,769.02	\$552,230.98	\$14,104,000.00		\$6,992,763.20

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