About the BCORD Office

The BCORD Office was established by Governor Lemanu P.S. Mauga via Executive Order # 007-2023 on April 3, 2023. The key mandates of the office are to:

- Apply for, manage, and coordinate the use of broadband funding available to American Samoa.
- Develop strategies to facilitate buildout and implementation of broadband infrastructure necessary to achieve universal broadband access for American Samoa.
- Develop and advocate for policies that make high quality broadband service more accessible, affordable, and reliable in American Samoa

SCAN QR CODE TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

broadband.as.gov

BCORD
BROADBAND COORDINATION, OPPORTUNITIES, REDEVELOPMENT & DEPLOYMENT AMERICAN SAMOA

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WHO WE ARE

BCORD

BROADBAND COORDINATION OPPROTUNITIES REDEVELOPMENT & DEPLOYMENT OFFICE



BCORD Programs & Initiatives

The BCORD Office is home to several programs and initiatives:

Under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) also known as the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), $65 billion dollars was set aside within the law for broadband development nationwide. This national initiative is known as “Internet for All” and is a collection of multiple broadband development programs throughout the federal government. The BEAD program and the DE program are specifically funded through the U.S. Department of Commerce - National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)

In total, American Samoa has been allocated or awarded over $37.75 million so far in funding from these two specific program initiatives; BEAD and DE.

Updated March 8, 2024

Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD)

American Samoa has received a grant award for $1,244,300 in Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program planning funds which thus far has helped in assisting the funding of the BCORD Office as well as the necessary resources to organize and plan the use of the $37.6 million dollar funding allocation for broadband infrastructure and development in the Territory.

Since January of 2023, American Samoa has complied with grant requirements to issue a series of grant documents to support the establishment and organization of this grant program in the Territory. This includes the BEAD 5-Year Action Plan, the Initial Proposal Volume 1 and the Initial Proposal Volume 2. American Samoa remains on track with the compliance of these programs and is slated to start the “challenge process” described in Initial Proposal Volume 1 by May of 2024.

Digital Equity

American Samoa has not yet been allocated funding for the Digital Equity Capacity Grant program, however it is estimated that the allocation will be about $3.6 million over an eight year time period. These program funds, while limited, will go toward improving digital adoption, skills training development and boosting community resources surrounding the use of technology within our community.

In addition to the Digital Equity Capacity Grant program, the Digital Equity Competitive Grant program will be rolled out to eligible entities for application directly to the grantor NTIA.

To support both of these initiatives and accompany the BEAD 5 Year Action Plan, the Territory is in the process of launching its Digital Equity Plan for public comment.

ARPA - BroadbandiNEI

In 2022, the BCORD office received funding under ARPA for the initial BROADBANDiNEI initiative - which focuses on building broadband capacity in the Territory facing the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and building capacity for future potential pandemics. The $10m in funding was sub-granted to eligible entities for the improvement of broadband infrastructure, including 5G Cellular networks and domestic submarine fiber-optic cable repairs.

Tech Park (Capital Funds Project)

A $14.3m multi-purpose community facility to improve resources for communities that enable work, education and health monitoring. Funded by the U.S. Department of Treasury - Capital Funds Project

American Samoa Territorial Broadband Strategy

A "living" strategic plan to help the territory create digital inclusion plans to reduce the digital divide and prioritize digital equity for its residents (2021-2026)

