**EMbargoed until 4 p.m. on APRIL 29**

**Governor Josh Stein Announces 30 More Counties to Receive High-Speed Internet**

*$63 Million in Broadband Projects Set to Connect 18,889 Homes and Businesses*

**(RALEIGH)** Governor Josh Stein announced today more than $63 million in Completing Access to Broadband (CAB) program projects to connect 18,889 households and businesses in 30 counties to high-speed internet.

“North Carolinians’ need access to high-speed internet to connect them with friends and family, business opportunities, telehealth, and more,” **said Governor Josh Stein.** “Broadband is key 21st Century infrastructure, and these partnerships between counties across the state and internet providers will help connect more North Carolinians.”

"Access to high-speed internet is not just about connectivity; it's about empowering individuals and communities to thrive in the digital age," said **NCDIT Secretary and State Chief Information Officer Teena Piccione**. "We will continue collaborating with counties and internet service providers to fund projects to expand high-speed internet access to all North Carolinians."

These projects will be awarded by NCDIT and are funded by more than $44 million from the federal American Rescue Plan and nearly $19 million from selected broadband providers:

* **Alamance: Connect Holding II, LLC (Brightspeed) and Spectrum Southeast, LLC**
* These awards will provide high-speed internet access to 469 homes and businesses (20.51% of the county’s 2,287 eligible locations).
* **Alexander: Yadkin Valley Telephone Membership Corporation (Zirrus)**   
  This award will provide high-speed internet access to 394 homes and businesses (14.78% of the county’s 2,665 eligible locations).
* **Bertie: Roanoke Connect Holdings, LLC (Fybe)**   
  This award will provide high-speed internet access to 1,380 homes and businesses (91.39% of the county’s 1,510 eligible locations).
* **Brunswick: Atlantic Telephone Membership Cooperative (FOCUS Broadband)**   
  This award will provide high-speed internet access to 192 homes and businesses (57.31% of the county’s 335 eligible locations).
* **Burke: Connect Holding II, LLC (Brightspeed)**   
  This award will provide high-speed internet access to 82 homes and businesses (3.32% of the county’s 2,473 eligible locations).
* **Camden: Wilkes Telephone Membership Corporation (RiverStreet Networks)**
* This award will provide high-speed internet access to 921 homes and businesses (82.97% of the county’s 1,110 eligible locations).
* **Catawba: Connect Holding II, LLC (Brightspeed)**   
  This award will provide high-speed internet access to 648 homes and businesses (28.38% of the county’s 2,283 eligible locations).
* **Chowan: Atlantic Telephone Membership Cooperative (FOCUS Broadband)**   
  This award will provide high-speed internet access to 132 homes and businesses (91.67% of the county’s 144 eligible locations).
* **Columbus: Atlantic Telephone Membership Cooperative (FOCUS Broadband)**   
  This award will provide high-speed internet access to 108 homes and businesses (14.86% of the county’s 727 eligible locations).
* **Currituck: Connect Holding II, LLC (Brightspeed)**   
  This award will provide high-speed internet access to 1,354 homes and businesses (83.94% of the county’s 1,613 eligible locations).
* **Durham: Frontier Communications of the Carolinas, LLC**   
  This award will provide high-speed internet access to 123 homes and businesses (22.49% of the county’s 547 eligible locations).
* **Franklin: Connect Holding II, LLC (Brightspeed)**   
  This award will provide high-speed internet access to 1,415 homes and businesses (53.80% of the county’s 2,630 eligible locations).
* **Granville: Roanoke Connect Holdings, LLC (Fybe)**   
  This award will provide high-speed internet access to 2,164 homes and businesses (90.96% of the county’s 2,379 eligible locations).
* **Harnett: Spectrum Southeast, LLC**    
   This award will provide high-speed internet access to 300 homes and businesses (7.87% of the county’s 3,810 eligible locations).
* **Jackson: ERC Broadband, LLC**   
  This award will provide high-speed internet access to 570 homes and businesses (12.63% of the county’s 4,512 eligible locations).
* **Johnston: Connect Holding II, LLC (Brightspeed)**   
  This award will provide high-speed internet access to 1,439 homes and businesses (24.10% of the county’s 5,970 eligible locations).
* **Martin: Roanoke Connect Holdings, LLC (Fybe)**   
  This award will provide high-speed internet access to 215 homes and businesses (35.66% of the county’s 603 eligible locations).
* **Montgomery: Connect Holding II, LLC (Brightspeed)**  
   This award will provide high-speed internet access to 1,661 homes and businesses (73.40% of the county’s 2,263 eligible locations).
* **Northampton: Roanoke Connect Holdings, LLC (Fybe)**   
  This award will provide high-speed internet access to 288 homes and businesses (73.47% of the county’s 392 eligible locations).
* **Perquimans: Atlantic Telephone Membership Cooperative (FOCUS Broadband)**
* This award will provide high-speed internet access to 121 homes and businesses (77.07% of the county’s 157 eligible locations).
* **Person: Spectrum Southeast, LLC**    
   This award will provide high-speed internet access to 240 homes and businesses (9.34% of the county’s 2,189 eligible locations).
* **Rockingham: Spectrum Southeast, LLC**    
   This award will provide high-speed internet access to 198 homes and businesses (13.24% of the county’s 1,495 eligible locations).
* **Rowan: Windstream North Carolina, LLC**   
  This award will provide high-speed internet access to 507 homes and businesses (17.51% of the county’s 2,896 eligible locations).
* **Scotland: Spectrum Southeast, LLC**    
   This award will provide high-speed internet access to 135 homes and businesses (20.06% of the county’s 673 eligible locations).
* **Union: Windstream North Carolina, LLC and Spectrum Southeast, LLC**   
   These awards will provide high-speed internet access to 1,189 homes and businesses (28.94% of the county’s 4,108 eligible locations).
* **Watauga: SkyBest Communications, LLC**   
  This award will provide high-speed internet access to 178 homes and businesses (67.94% of the county’s 262 eligible locations).
* **Washington: Connect Holding II, LLC (Brightspeed)**   
  This award will provide high-speed internet access to 1,043 homes and businesses (96.48% of the county’s 1,081 eligible locations).
* **Warren: Connect Holding II, LLC (Brightspeed)**   
  This award will provide high-speed internet access to 793 homes and businesses (66.86% of the county’s 1,186 eligible locations).
* **Wayne: Spectrum Southeast, LLC**    
   This award will provide high-speed internet access to 420 homes and businesses (13.96% of the county’s 3,008 eligible locations).
* **Yadkin: Yadkin Valley Telephone Membership Corporation (Zirrus)**   
  This award will provide high-speed internet access to 210 homes and businesses (88.61% of the county’s 237 eligible locations).

The CAB program’s procurement process creates a partnership between counties and NCDIT to identify areas that need access, solicit proposals from [prequalified internet service providers](https://www.ncbroadband.gov/funding-programs/cab-program),and quickly make awards. Awardees must agree to provide high-speed service that reliably meets or exceeds speeds of 100 Mbps download and 100 Mbps upload.

Governor Stein is committed to closing the digital divide. Today’s awards add to the $533 million in Growing Rural Economies with Access to Technology (GREAT) grants and previous CAB projects that will connect more than 211,000 North Carolina households and businesses to high-speed internet. See progress [here](https://www.ncbroadband.gov/dashboards).

For more information about the NCDIT Division of Broadband and Digital Opportunity, visit [ncbroadband.gov](https://www.ncbroadband.gov/).

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