



Frequently Asked Questions

CASF Broadband Infrastructure Grant Account Application

General Questions

1. What is the application deadline for the next Broadband Infrastructure Grant cycle?

For 2025, applications for a Broadband Infrastructure Grant are due Friday, October 31.

2. Does the CPUC provide any resources to help applicants prepare their application?

Please refer to our [CASF Broadband Infrastructure Grant Account](#) page for data downloads and templates to help with your application. Additionally, please reach out to your local [CASF Rural and Urban Regional Broadband Consortia](#) for further guidance and resources.

3. How do I sign up to receive emails from the CASF Distribution List?

You can sign up on the [California Advanced Services Fund \(CASF\)](#) page. Scroll down the sidebar to the “Sign up to the CASF Distribution List” section, enter your email, and click “Sign up!” to begin receiving CASF Distribution List emails.

4. Where do I find the current CASF Distribution List to publicly post the Item 1- Project Summary?

Scroll to the bottom of the [CASF Broadband Infrastructure Grant Account](#) page under Applying for Funds and click on the [CASF distribution list](#) link to download the latest list.

5. Where do I find the CASF Broadband Infrastructure Grant Account Requirements, Guidelines and Application Materials approved in Decision (D.) 22-11-023?

You can find the current [CASF Program Guidelines](#) on the [CASF Broadband Infrastructure Grant Account page](#) under the Application Resources heading, and the Program Rules and Guidelines sub-heading.

Questions about applying for funding

6. How can I submit my application?

Applicants must electronically submit completed applications by requesting a secure FTP link from CASF Infrastructure staff before the application deadline. Applications are due on **Friday, October 31, 2025**. Requests for a secure link should be sent to [CASF Application Questions](#) and will be provided several weeks before the application deadline. Applicants are encouraged to request a link in advance of the application deadline to ensure timely submission.



7. How should I submit my application if I am submitting multiple projects?

If you are submitting multiple projects, you must submit a separate application for each project.

8. What will happen if an application is missing information?

For minor issues, (e.g., typos, non-substantive missing information, etc.) staff may reach out to an applicant by phone or email. If additional information is needed on a completed application, staff will send out a formal Data Request. Please ensure the application is complete before submission, incomplete applications may run the risk of not being evaluated.

9. What is the proper file-naming convention for CASF application items?

The filename of each application item must include its Application Item Number, name of applicant (service provider) and project name. Put a '0' in front of Items 01-09 and do not use symbols such as #, \$, *, !, etc., or extra spaces in the filename. The format for each of the 20 application items is as follows:

<Item Number>_<Name of Item>_<Service Provider Name>_<Project Name>

Example: Item 01_ProjectSummary_South Bay Telecom_Smugglers Notch

For multiple files submitted for the same application item, please number them as follows:

Item 01a_xxxx, Item 01b_xxxxx, Item 01c_xxxx, etc.

10. Will applications from previous application rounds be considered?

No, you must reapply to be considered for funding for the current application cycle and your submission must include the most recent eligibility data.

11. When will we be able to submit our application?

Applicants will be able to submit applications approximately a month before the deadline. The official date will be communicated to all stakeholders currently signed up to CASF Distribution List.

12. How much funding will be available for the 2025-2026 CASF program?

[Resolution T-17884](#) approved the Fiscal Year 2025-26 budget allocations for the CASF program. We encourage applicants to apply for funding consistent with the program goal.

13. What information should I include in Application Item 1 – Project Summary?

Please use the [Project Summary Template](#) on the Website that references Section 8.1 of the [CASF Rules and Guidelines](#). The full list of required information is in section 8.1.



14. What information should be included in Application Item 4 – Project Location Data for each unserved location?

Applicants must provide the address, latitude and longitude, and Location ID for each eligible and priority eligible location included in the project area. Applicants must also provide geographic location (address, latitude/longitude) of key network equipment.

Templates for these Application items are available on the [Project Development Resources – Data and Maps](#).

Applications must also include a shapefile or kmz/kml file showing the specific geographic boundary of the proposed project that includes all project locations.

The applicant must use the [California Interactive Broadband Map](#) to verify project and location eligibility.

15. What is CEQA?

CEQA is the California Environmental Quality Act: a law that requires state and local government agencies to inform decision-makers and the public about potential environmental effects of a proposed project. CPUC grantees' projects must comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). For detailed information, see: [California Environmental Quality Act \(CEQA\)](#)

16. Does the CASF reimburse costs associated with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) determination?

The CPUC will assess and consider all relevant and reasonable CEQA costs. Be sure to include the estimated cost of CEQA review in the grant request.

17. What is Ministerial Review of a Grant Application?

Ministerial Review is the process by which staff can approve applications without requiring a formal Resolution and vote by the full Commission. This provides an expedited path for projects that meet specific, predetermined criteria such as the grant amount not exceeding \$25 million dollars and exemption from CEQA review. For more details, see section 12 of CASF [guidelines](#).

California Interactive Broadband Map Questions

18. Where can I find the Broadband Map?

The [California Interactive Broadband Map](#) can be found on the [Project Development Resources – Data and Maps](#) page.



19. How do I use the Broadband Map?

The Broadband Map features a “How-To” button in the top right corner that provides basic information. For a more detailed guide, download the [User Guide](#).

20. Which locations on the Broadband Map are eligible/priority eligible?

All locations that are served at speeds less than 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload are eligible for CASF funding. Locations that are considered “Priority Eligible” are served at speeds less than 10 Mbps download and 1 Mbps upload and are marked red on the Broadband Map. Locations above 10/1 but below 25/3 are marked orange.

21. Can we use other CPUC programs’ maps to determine CASF eligibility?

No, each program has slightly different rules and data, please only use the [California Interactive Broadband Map](#) for Broadband Infrastructure Grant applications.

22. What is a Broadband Serviceable Location (BSL)?

According to the , a BSL is any residential or business location in the U.S. where fixed broadband service is or can be installed.

23. What is a “Location ID”?

Each BSL is uniquely identified by a Location ID within the master dataset known as the Location Fabric. The Location Fabric is a geospatial dataset provided by CostQuest Associates and overseen by the FCC that shows all broadband serviceable locations in the U.S. You can find guidelines on the [Data Dictionary Locations Geodata Guidelines](#) file.

24. Where can I obtain Location IDs?

Location ID data can be obtained by acquiring a license from [CostQuest Associates](#). The license is free for Tier D or E licenses. More details are available on the National Telecommunications and Information Administration’s [CostQuest Licensing](#) page. If you need assistance generating Location IDs from geocoded address data, please reach out to the [CASF Application Questions](#) inbox.

25. What is the data source for the eligibility layer of the Broadband Map?

The eligibility layer is derived by integrating the FCC Broadband Data Collection with actual subscriber location data collected during the CPUC’s annual Broadband Data Collection; verification is performed at the census block level.