

## The Ranger

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### Broadband Line Extension Connection Program funding available



In the 2022 Legislative Session, the Office of Broadband Development (OBD) was directed to create a new program, the Broadband Line Extension Connection Program. The purpose of the program is to award grants for the extension of existing broadband infrastructure to unserved locations. An unserved location is a location that does not have a wired broadband service of at least 25Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload.

[View the Line Extension Connection fact sheet.](#)

**How the program works:** People can report to OBD that a wired broadband service is unavailable at their residence or business by entering information on the online application below, by calling 651-259-7610 and requesting a paper application or by talking to someone at OBD who will complete the application on their behalf.

**What happens after an application is submitted:** Every six months, OBD will send the list of addresses to each broadband provider offering service in Minnesota. Providers then have ten days to notify OBD that they can provide service at any of the addresses on the list. OBD will then contact those people to let them know the name of the broadband provider that can offer them service and any discounted pricing plans available.

For those addresses that are not served by a provider or in an area that will be built with an already awarded Border-to-Border Broadband grant project, OBD will hold a 60-day reverse auction where broadband service providers can bid to extend service to one or more of the addresses on the list.

[View the online application.](#)