

California Broadband Council

January 23, 2026



Broadband for All



WELCOME

Liana Bailey-Crimmins

STATE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER & DIRECTOR

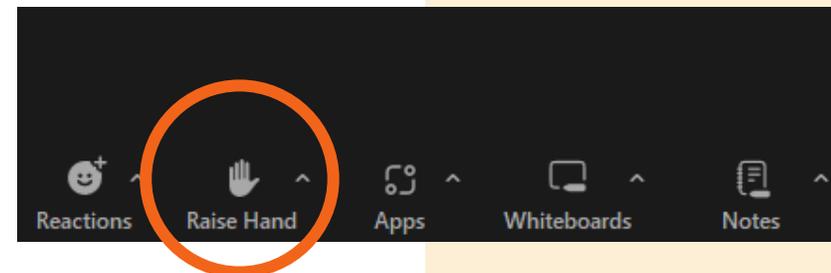
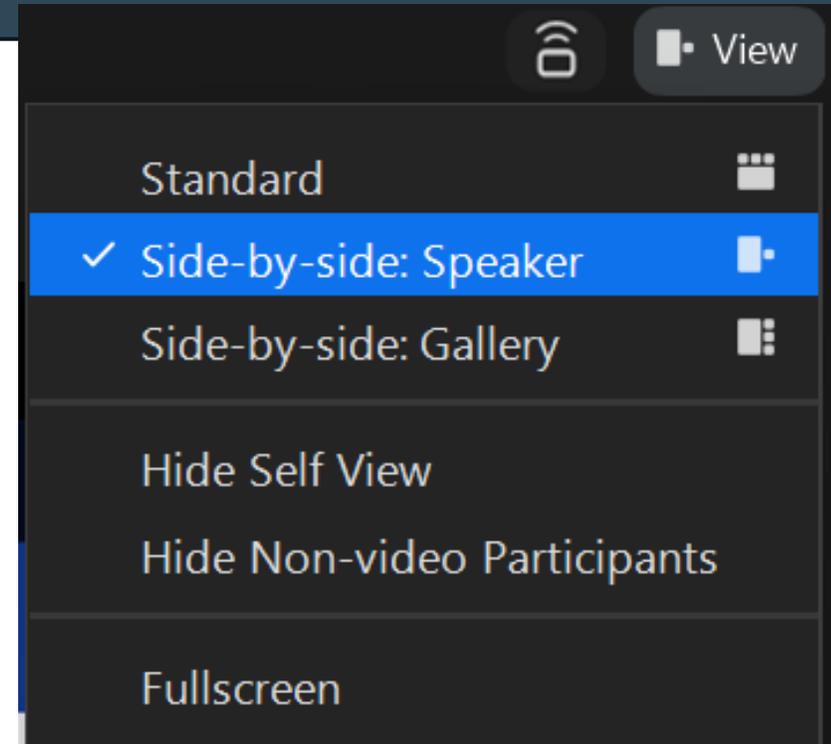
California Department of Technology

Housekeeping

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Agenda

Welcome

Executive Report

Broadband for All Updates

Member Spotlight

Community Spotlight

Public Comment

Closing



EXECUTIVE REPORT

Scott Adams

DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Office of Broadband and Digital Literacy
California Department of Technology

Executive Report

- Annual Review & Revision Process
- SDEP Update
- Request for Innovative Ideas
- Stakeholder Engagement



EXECUTIVE REPORT

Tribal Broadband Bootcamp



November 2025 TTB Participants



Crimping Workshop



Passive Optical Network



Huts & Splice Boxes



Fiber Splicing



Communications Tower



Outdoor Wireless Networks



Contracts & Vendors

BROADBAND FOR ALL UPDATES

Broadband for All Action Plan Review & Revision

Scott Adams

DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Office of Broadband and Digital Literacy
California Department of Technology

Annual Action Plan Review & Revision

2025 Updates

Completed:
19 Action Items

In Progress:
5 Action Items

Revisions:
Action Item #2
Action Item #16

BROADBAND ACTION ITEM UPDATES

Action Item 2: Identification of State and Federal Funding

Description:

Identify alternative financing opportunities with government and philanthropic partners to maximize funding for new infrastructure **and non-infrastructure deployment uses.**

2025 Revision:

Added non-deployment language to action item description text.

BROADBAND ACTION ITEM UPDATES

Action Item 16: Promote and Track Affordable Service Programs

Description:

Partner with state agencies and internet service providers to promote, track, and publicly report the progress of adoption of affordable internet services, **California LifeLine Home Broadband Pilot Program**, and devices throughout the state.

2025 Revision:

Remove mention of Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) and replace with California LifeLine Home Broadband Pilot Program.

BROADBAND ACTION ITEM UPDATES

Action Item Highlights

Action Item #6: Permitting

Local Broadband
Permitting v3

Action #8: Next Generation 9-1-1

Transition Plan was
published in
November 2025.

Action Item #12: LifeLine Program

Standalone
Broadband Pilot

Action Item #14: Contracting and Procurement

Released BB4All and
SDEP RFI²

Action #17: Technical Assistance

CPUC expanded
Consortia Account
program eligibility to
CA Tribes

Action Item #18: Digital Inclusion Stakeholder Network

12,000-plus

Action Item #19: Interactive Broadband Map

Serviceable locations
aligned with federal
maps/practices

Action Item #21: Broadband for All Portal

Site Expansion (DERF,
CalDEP, MMBI)



BROADBAND FOR ALL UPDATES

Middle-Mile Broadband Initiative

Mark Monroe

DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Middle-Mile Broadband Initiative
California Department of Technology

MIDDLE-MILE BROADBAND INITIATIVE

MMBI Project Update

Over 60%
of the network
permitted

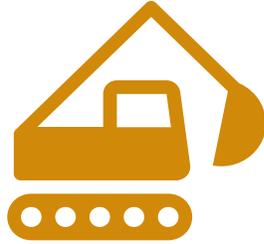
Over 40%
of the network
constructed

First Community Served
in Q1 2026

Operations
RFP on schedule

Coordination with CPUC
ongoing for FFA
Ready-to-Connect

MIDDLE-MILE BROADBAND INITIATIVE Installation Updates



- **5,279 Miles** have been permitted.
- **5,141 Miles** have gone to installation.
- **3,389 Miles** of fiber installation completed.

As of 1/13/26	Total Miles	%	Permitted	%	Constructed	%
On Caltrans ROW	4,086	50%	1,734	42%	1,138	28%
Off Caltrans ROW	4,051	50%	3,545	88%	2,251	56%
Total MMBI Miles	8,137	100%	5,279	65%	3,389	42%



MIDDLE-MILE BROADBAND INITIATIVE

MMBN Hub Progress: In Numbers

Total: 139 hubs

Complete: **11**

In Active Construction: **5**

Starting Construction Q1 2026: **52**

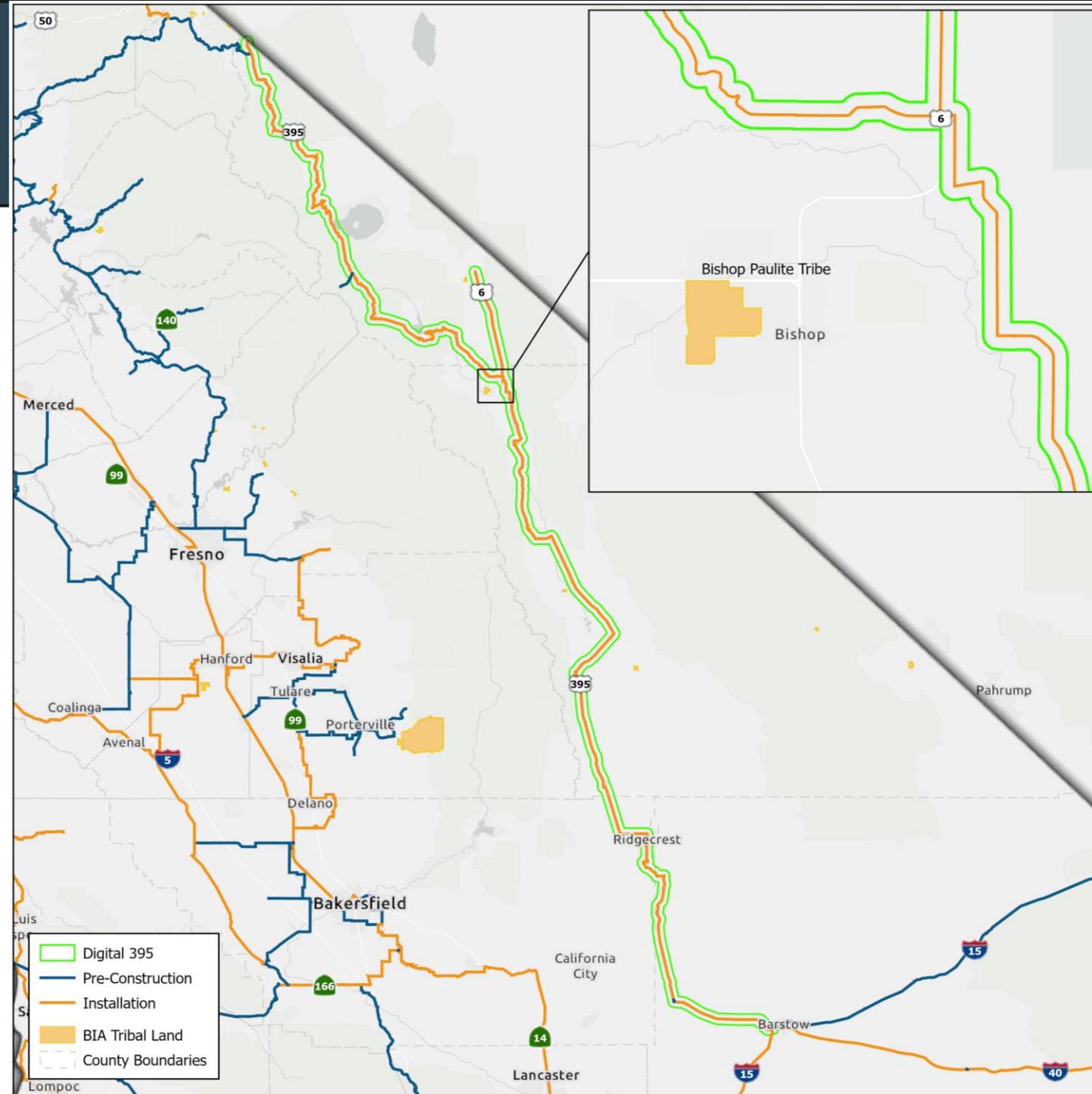


MIDDLE-MILE BROADBAND INITIATIVE

Early Win in Q1 2026

Digital 395

- **423** miles
- The first community to connect to the MMBN: **Bishop Paiute Tribe**
- **~10,000 Unserved and Underserved** Households



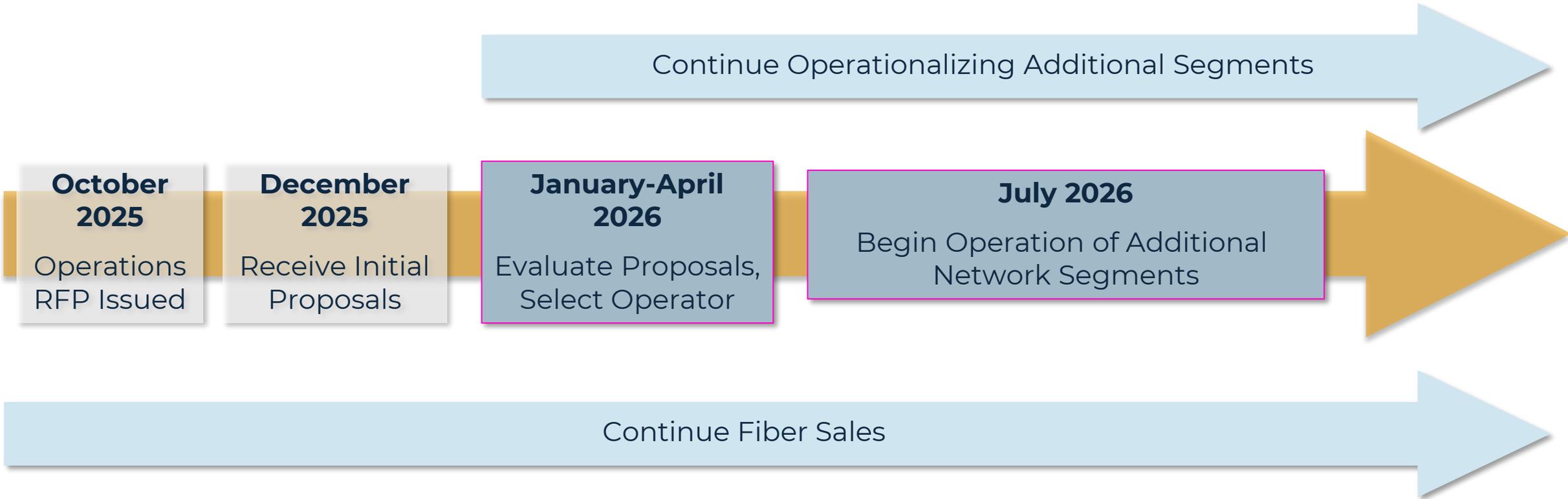
MIDDLE-MILE BROADBAND INITIATIVE

Sustainability: Potential Contracts

Opportunity	Quoted Total Contract Value		
Bay Area to LA	\$ 6,857,275	North Central	\$ 1,280,000
Bay Area to LA	\$ 18,953,000	Bay Area to South along coast	\$ 4,044,600
Bay Area to Sacramento	\$ 2,673,200	Coastal Northern California	\$ 488,000
Bay Area to Sacramento	\$ 2,037,000	Northern California Ring	\$ 15,828,000
Segment on D395	\$ 680,000	Sacramento Region	\$ 778,000
Bay Area to Reno	\$ 5,807,000	Bay Area to Reno	\$ 40,500,000
North of California to LA & Bay Area (multiple routes)	\$ 19,138,000	LA to San Diego	\$ 3,380,000
North of California to Bay Area & Central Valley (multiple routes)	\$ 21,224,000	North of California to Bay Area	\$ 16,000,000
Bay Area to LA	\$ 19,100,000	North California to SFO – SLO – LA	\$ 14,800,000
North of California to Central	\$ 17,048,200	Bay Area to LA	\$ 4,200,000
Bay Area to North California	\$ 8,644,150	Salton Sea Area	\$ 350,000
North of California to Central	\$ 1,164,000	Sacramento Region	\$ 5,200,000
Eastern California	\$ 26,257,800	Tahoe Region	\$ 920,000
Bay Area	\$ 1,204,000	North of California to Bay Area	\$ 51,200,000
		Tahoe Region	\$ 320,000
			\$ 310,036,225

MIDDLE-MILE BROADBAND INITIATIVE

Operations Look Ahead



MIDDLE-MILE BROADBAND INITIATIVE

2026 MMBI Stakeholder Engagement Schedule

Virtual Meetings

10:00-11:00 a.m.

Friday, January 30

Friday, May 1

Friday, July 31

Friday, October 30

For a link, contact CDT at:
middlemile@state.ca.gov



A portrait of Darcie Houck, a woman with long dark hair, smiling, wearing a dark blazer and a necklace. The portrait is set against a dark background and is framed by a light-colored border.

BROADBAND FOR ALL UPDATES Last Mile Program

Darcie Houck

COMMISSIONER

California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC)

LAST MILE PROGRAM

The MMBN is Transformational



Part of California's infrastructure innovation

- Benefits for decades of connectivity
- Keystone project of Broadband for All
- Foundation for statewide broadband work

Great benefits for all users

- Catalyst for rural economic development
- Reliable service where most needed
- Enabler of affordable broadband for end users

Enables new public entity users

- Empowered to serve their communities
- Community anchor institutions with new choices
- Investments in areas where most needed

LAST MILE PROGRAM

Broadband Programs & Investments Overview

	Broadband Equity Access and Deployment (BEAD)	California Advanced Services Fund (CASF)	Loan Loss Reserve Fund (LLR)	Last Mile Federal Funding Account (FFA)
Amount	~\$1.86 billion	\$136 million for 2025-26	\$50 million	~\$2 billion total thru Fiscal Year 27-28 ~\$550 million appropriations outstanding
Summary	Funds for planning, infrastructure and adoption starting in 2026	Funds broadband infrastructure and adoption in low-income housing, Tribal communities, and unserved areas	Provides collateral to local government, Tribes, and nonprofits to finance their own broadband Infrastructure	Funds for last-mile broadband infrastructure projects in every county
What's Next?	BEAD Final Proposal	Infrastructure, Line Extension, Tribal Tech Assistance, Adoption and Public Housing	Awarded \$50 million	2nd Round Applications for Award

California BEAD Final Proposal



In June 2025, NTIA made substantial program changes

- Technology neutral, focus on low-cost solutions
- Required states to redo selection process
- Expedited timeline

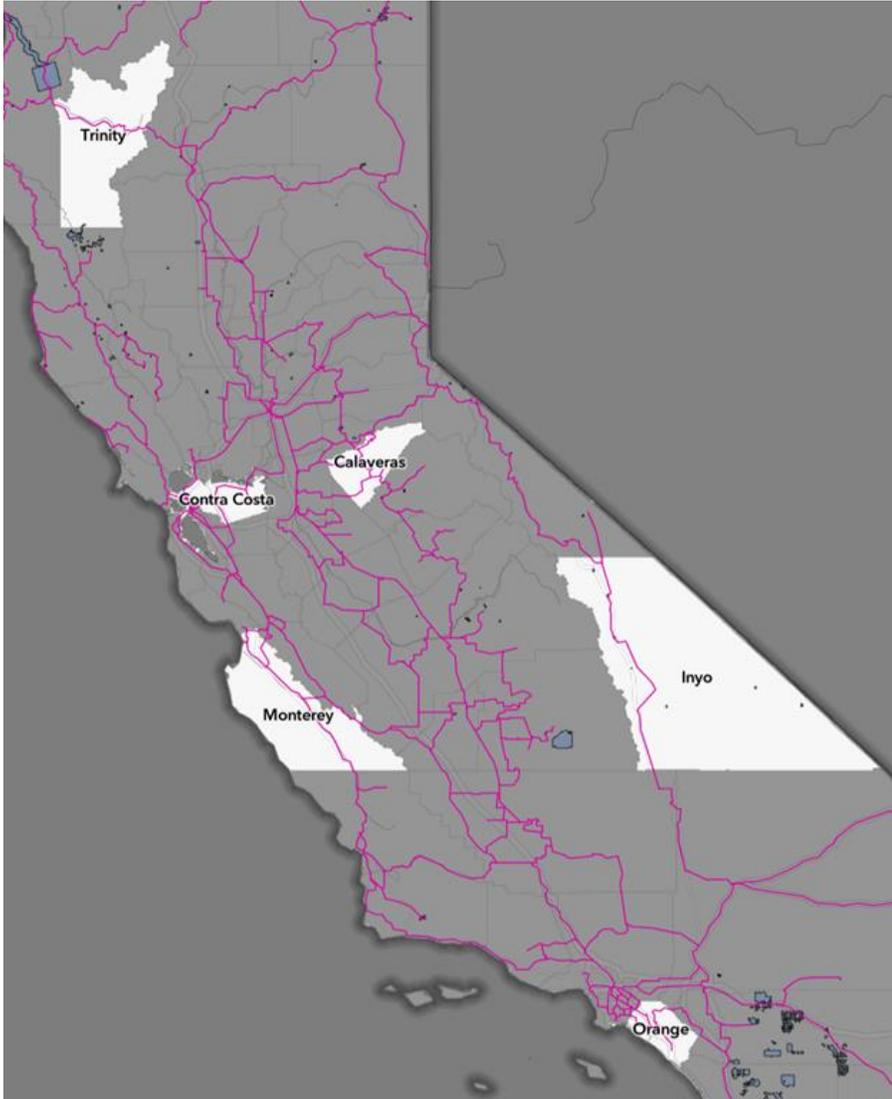
CPUC obtained positive outcome

- Achieved 100% coverage for all BEAD-eligible locations
- Reached more locations than any other state (338K)
- Increased efficiency
- Maximized the state's allocation for deployment
- Priority projects maximized

Next Steps:

- CPUC is complying with “curing requests” from NTIA to remove most expensive locations.

Last Mile Federal Funding Account



Round 2: Limited Six-County Opportunity

- 72 applications from 21 entities requesting \$600 million in grant funding
- 5+ applications in all six counties without round 1 awards

Resolution T-17896

- Approved by the Commission, December 18, 2025
- Awards 5 grants for \$96 million in 3 counties: Calaveras, Orange, and Los Angeles
- Benefits 14,992 Californians and provides service to 4,587 unserved locations

Resolution T-17900

- Approved by the Commission, January 15, 2026
- Awards 4 grants for \$21 million in 3 counties: Contra Costa, Inyo, and Monterey
- Benefits 64,296 Californians and provides service to 1,742 unserved locations

Last Mile Grantee Spotlight



City of Gustine in Merced County
Federal Funding Account

Total Award: **\$4,762,091**

Completed December 2025:

- **37 Miles** Buried Conduit and Fiber
- Central Office

Project Outcomes:

- **Conduit and Fiber to every Home, Business and Anchor Institution** in the City
- Benefitting ~**6,500 Californians**
- Oversize fiber cables by **25% for future growth**

Verizon-Frontier Merger Approved

At the January 15 Voting Meeting, the Commission approved the merger of Verizon and Frontier.

Approves Settlements:

- Cal Advocates
- California Emerging Technologies Fund Settlement
- Communications Worker of America Settlement
- Notes support from Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians who withdrew opposition after receiving service commitments.

Major Conditions:

- Infrastructure Deployment:
 - Requires buildout of fiber and cell towers benefitting over 75,000 unserved locations.
 - Lays out path for buildout to 88 additional Frontier wire centers through applications for state/federal grants.
- Affordability:
 - Requires Verizon to promote LifeLine Broadband Pilot, making Verizon broadband plans free for low-income Californians.
- Public Benefits:
 - Verizon accepts Frontier's existing obligations to Tribes and commits to hiring Tribal liaisons to inform Tribes of their options relating to the merger agreement.
 - \$50M for digital equity ecosystem and workforce training with CSUs
 - \$500M spend commitment for diverse suppliers

Affordability: LifeLine Home Broadband Pilot

The CPUC continues its efforts to help close the digital divide and address the Broadband affordability gap through the creation of the California LifeLine pilot program that will increase the amount of data provided to low-income households.

Official Launch Date:
January 26, 2026

This three-year technology-neutral pilot program allows eligible consumers to apply their California LifeLine subsidy to internet plans that meet the minimum service standards.

Subsidy Amount:

- \$20 subsidy for broadband service.
- \$30 for broadband service bundled with a wireline or wireless voice service through the same provider.
- Reimbursement for new connections, up to \$39, once per year per household.

Minimum Service Standard:

- 100/20 Mbps with 1,280 GB usage per month.
- Exception for areas where 100/20 Mbps is not feasible.
- Exception for low-cost plans.



BROADBAND FOR ALL UPDATES

Adoption / Affordability

Robert Osborn

**DIRECTOR, BROADBAND CONSUMER PROGRAMS & CARRIER
OVERSIGHT, COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION**

California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC)

CA Lifeline Home Broadband Pilot Program

Three-year, voluntary, technology-neutral pilot program provides a subsidy for standalone broadband service or bundled broadband/voice service and allows eligible consumers to apply their California LifeLine subsidy to any internet plan that meets the minimum service standards.

Minimum Service Standards

- 100/20 Mbps with 1280 GB usage allowance

Two exceptions to meeting the minimum service standards.

- Areas where 100/20 Mbps is not feasible.
- Income-qualified, low-cost plans

Specific Support Amount

- \$20 for standalone broadband service.
- \$30 for broadband service bundled with a wireline or wireless voice service through the same provider.

CA Lifeline Home Broadband Pilot Program

Eligibility for the California LifeLine Home Broadband Pilot requires applicants to meet either program-based or income-based eligibility requirements.

Program-Based

- At least one household member is enrolled in a qualified public assistance program.
 - Medi-Cal
 - CalFresh
 - Women, Infant & Children (WIC)
 - Other qualified programs

Income-Based

- A household's annual gross income must be at or below the income levels outlined in the table.
 - Set at 150% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

Household Size	Annual Income Limits
1	\$24,200
2	\$32,600
3	\$41,100
4	\$49,600

CA Lifeline Home Broadband Pilot Program

Program Goals To provide eligible low-income families with essential access to broadband services, increase participation in the LifeLine program, and achieve provider participation rates comparable to those of the Affordable Connectivity Program.

Key Milestones

January 26, 2026 – Pilot launch date

- California LifeLine service providers
- Service providers with Commission-issued Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) or Wireless ID Registration(WIR)

Quarter 1 of 2026 – Issue guidance for non-CPCN/WIR service providers through Staff Resolution

- Establish pathway for Tribes and Public Entities to register and participate in the Pilot program.

CA Lifeline Home Broadband Pilot Program

- **Participating Service Providers**

- Advice letters received: 11
 - Approved: 2
 - Ducor Telephone Company
 - Sierra Telephone Company
 - Pending Review: 9
 - Comcast Phone of California
 - Charter Fiberlink
 - Time Warner Cable
 - Bright House Network
 - Calaveras Telephone Company
 - Foresthill Telephone Company
 - Kerman Telephone Company
 - Ranch WiFi
 - Pinnacles Telephone

- **Consumers Resources**

- **February 1, 2026:**

- Consumers will be able to search for approved home broadband service providers and their plans.
- <https://www.californialifeline.com/en>

BROADBAND FOR ALL UPDATES

State Digital Equity Plan

Scott Adams

DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Office of Broadband and Digital Literacy
California Department of Technology

Go Forward Plan



**Stakeholder
Engagement
(DE COP)**



**Tools & Resources
(DE Resource
Survey & Finder)**



**Partnerships
(RFI²)**

Digital Equity Resource Survey

Service Focus

Residents: **188**; Organization to Organization: **153**

Overview

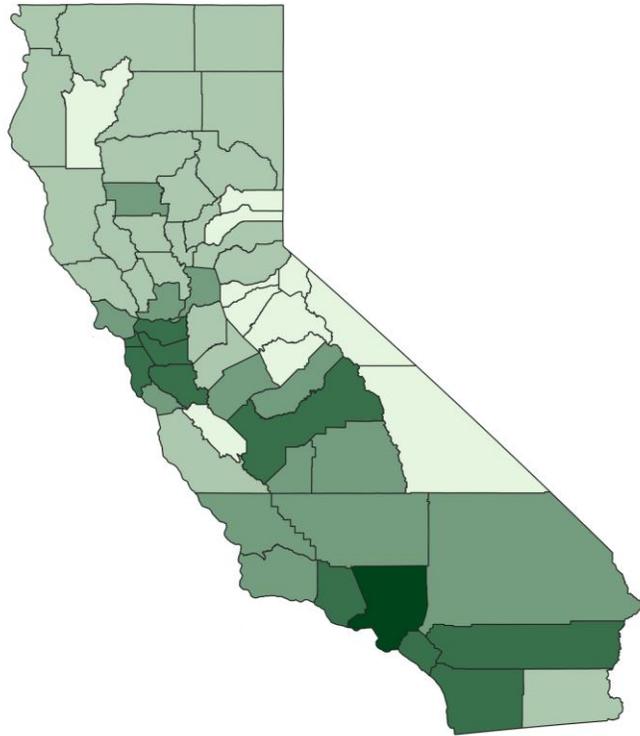
Responses	188
Presentations/Demos	3
Bulk Upload Requests	23
Bulk Uploads Received	23
Total Locations	788

By Org Type (Responses/Locations)

Libraries	43	508
CBO	95	190
Schools & Colleges	8	8
Broadband Consortia	8	10
Other	57	72

Digital Equity Resource Survey

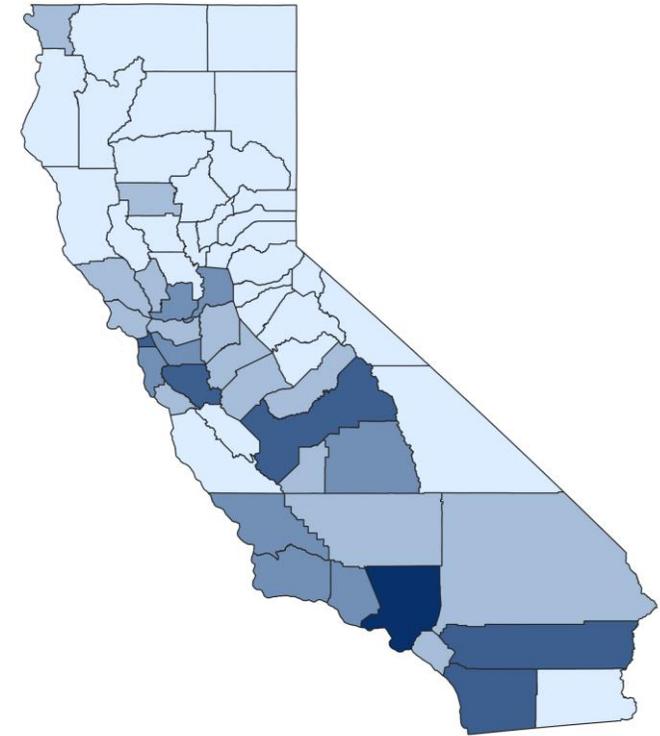
Responses by County



30 31 35 40 50 90



Locations by County



30 35 50 70 120 270



STATE DIGITAL EQUITY PLAN

Digital Equity Resource Finder

Digital Equity Resource Finder

Welcome to the California Digital Equity Resource Finder – a tool designed to assist residents and organizations to find digital inclusion programs and services in their communities. The Resource Finder was updated in January 2026.

Use this tool to find resources like free/low-cost devices, public Wi-Fi, or digital skills training.

I am a... I am located in... I am seeking the following service...

Services that include (select all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Computer centers	<input type="checkbox"/> Digital navigation (in-person or virtual/call center)	<input type="checkbox"/> Digital skills training	<input type="checkbox"/> Free or low-cost devices
<input type="checkbox"/> Free or low-cost hotspots	<input type="checkbox"/> Low-cost internet enrollment assistance	<input type="checkbox"/> Low-cost internet programs	<input type="checkbox"/> Online educational resources
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Wi-Fi	<input type="checkbox"/> Technical support	<input type="checkbox"/> Workforce development	

Showing 58 results for Fresno County

Clear all

Binational of Central California

3302 N Blackstone Ave.
Suite 221, CA, 93726

Low-cost internet programs, Digital navigation (in-person or virtual/call center), Digital skills training, Technical support, Public Wi-Fi, Workforce development

<https://binationalca.org/>

Learn more

Community Media Access Collaborative

1555 Van Ness Ave, Fresno, CA, 93721

Digital skills training, Public Wi-Fi, Computer centers, Online educational resources

<https://cmac.tv>

Learn more

Education and Leadership Foundation

4290 E. Ashlan Ave., Fresno, CA, 93726

Digital navigation (in-person or virtual/call center)

<https://www.elfus.org>

Learn more

Digital Equity Resource Finder

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Use this tool to find resources like free/low-cost devices, public Wi-Fi, or digital skills training.

I am a... I am located in... I am seeking the following service...

Support that includes (select all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Collective action	<input type="checkbox"/> Digital equity grant writing	<input type="checkbox"/> Information sharing	<input type="checkbox"/> Mutual aid (financial)
<input type="checkbox"/> Organizational training	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Partnership opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/> Train-the-trainer programs

Showing 56 results for Fresno County

Clear all

Community Media Access Collaborative

1555 Van Ness Ave, Fresno, CA, 93721

Organizational training, Train-the-trainer programs, Partnership opportunities, Information sharing

<https://cmac.tv>

Learn more

Education and Leadership Foundation

4290 E. Ashlan Ave., Fresno, CA, 93726

Partnership opportunities, Information sharing

<https://www.elfus.org>

Learn more

Everyone On

1110 N. Virgil Ave, Los Angeles, CA, 90029

Organizational training, Train-the-trainer programs, Partnership opportunities, Collective action, Information sharing

<https://www.everyoneon.org>

Learn more

Request for Innovative Ideas (RFI²)



Promote/Track Low-Cost Offers/Subsidies/Streamline Enrollment



Digital Literacy Skills & Training Platform



Digital Navigation Training & Services



Devices & Statewide Device Ecosystem



Annual DE Survey



Online Educational & Workforce Development Resources



Collective Funding Action

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

California State Library

Josh Chisom

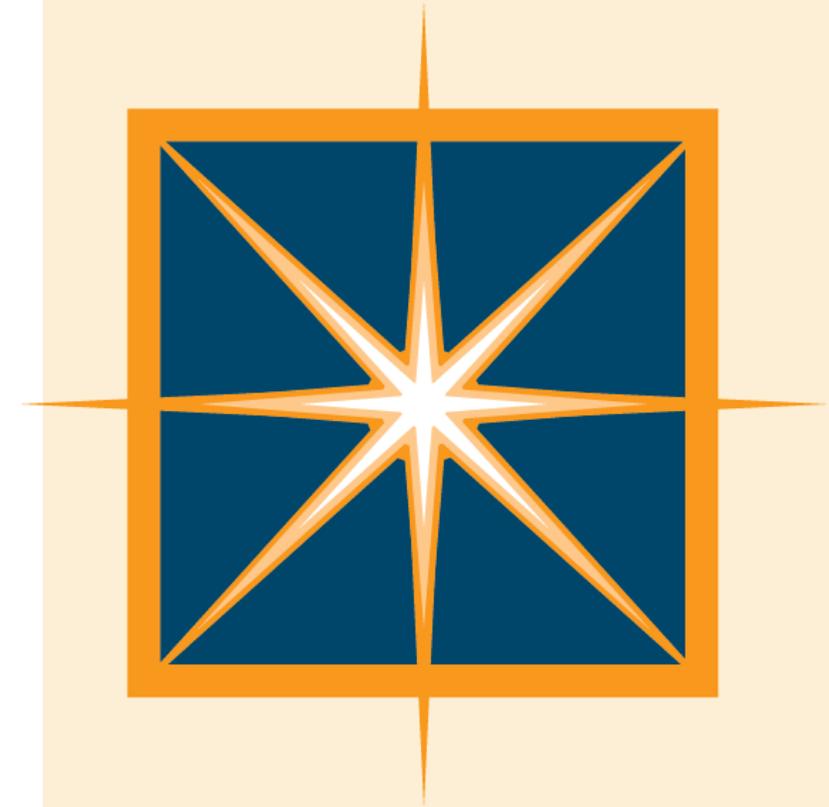
BROADBAND OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM MANAGER

California State Library

California Library Connect

The State Library's Broadband and Technology Support Programs

- Broadband Program/CENIC
- Member Spotlight: SJVLS
- E-Book Program
- Tech Challenges for Libraries



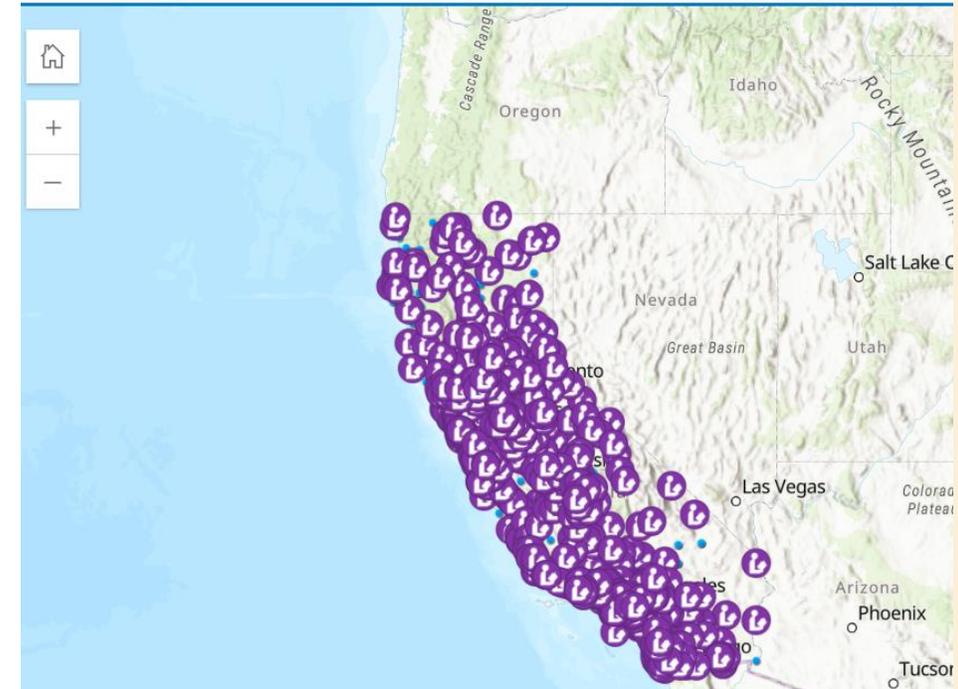
California Library Connect

10+ Years of Connecting Libraries

- Funded via State Legislature - \$4.3M/year
- Member libraries connect to CENIC
- E-rate/CTF Support
- Currently 155 jurisdictions, 975 locations benefit
- Equipment Grants – over \$10M in last 10 years
- Correlates with goal 1 of Broadband for All



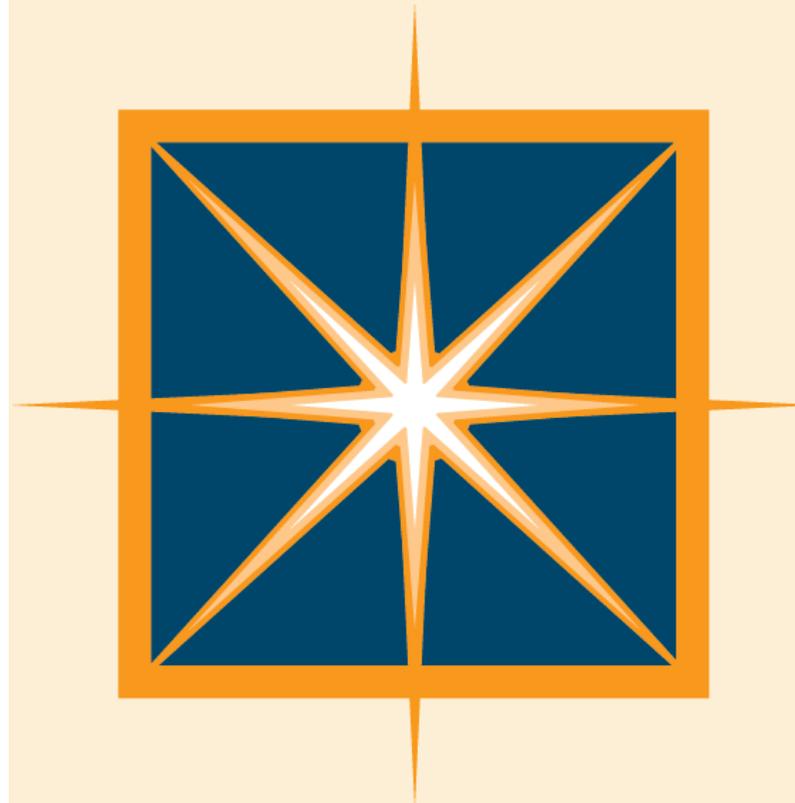
K-12 Connections to the CENIC / State Libraries



California Library Connect

Impacts of Joining the Library Connect Program

- Support for online learning
- New services and programs
- Expanded WiFi footprint
- Fewer issues for patrons using mobile devices
- Better support for jobseekers, small businesses, workforce
- More efficient administration
- Improved staff training



California Library Connect

Impacts of Library Connect Grant Program

SJVLS WiFi Expansion Project

- 92 of 105 branches added WAPs
- 88 installed outdoor WAPs
- Allowed cancelling of outside vendor contracts, now all branches on SJVLS managed WiFi
- Allows afterhours/holiday access
- Library Connect Grant + E-rate
- Increased Patronage
 - 2019: 84,022 monthly users
 - 2025: 181,982 monthly users



Shaver Lake Branch, Fresno County Public Library

eBooks For All

A Statewide Digital Collection at no Local Cost

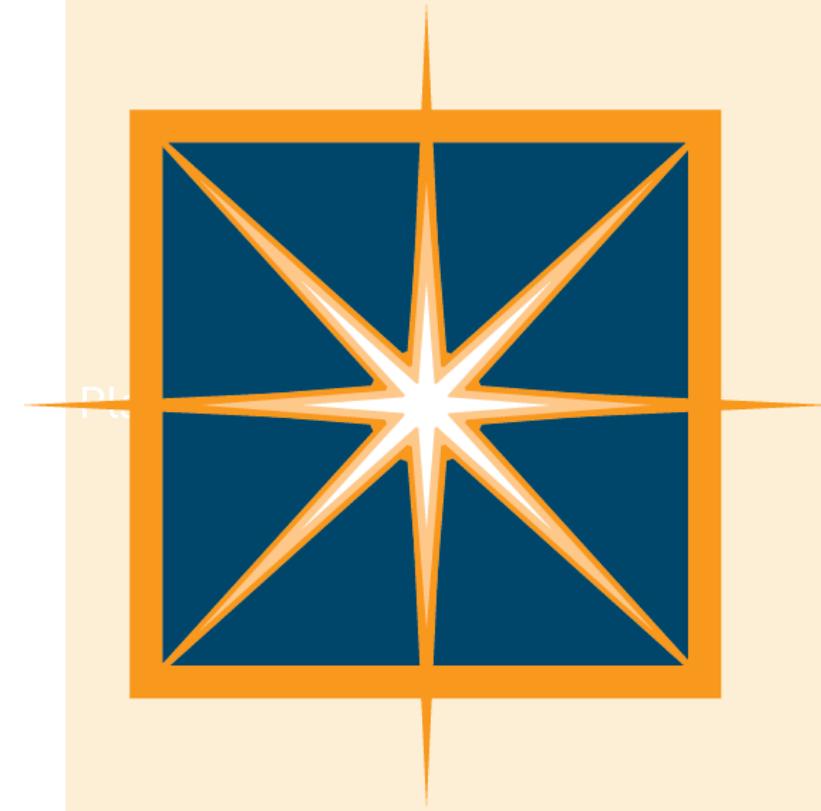
- Funded via a combination of federal funds, state funds and local contributions
- Anyone with CA IP address can access
- Includes over 140 library jurisdictions
- Over 200,000 copies in the collection
- Materials in over 20 languages
- 222,000+ checkouts in 2025
- Patrons can request items be added



California Library Connect

Tech Challenges for CA libraries

- Uncertain future of IMLS
- Local budgets/staffing
- Loss of E-rate support for WiFi hotspots
- Lack of in-house IT support
- Cost of connecting/lack of fiber





COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

Dev/Mission

Leonardo Sosa

FOUNDER & CEO

Dev/Mission

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

About Dev/Mission

Dev/Mission is a 501c3 Bay Area-based non-profit organization that trains young people for careers in the tech industry through post-secondary and employment pathways.

Registered Pre-Apprenticeship Program

- Training
- Exposure
- Opportunities

Community Technology Program

- Tech Support
- Basic Digital Literacy
- Computer Distribution



COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

Dev/Mission Apprenticeship Program

Dev/Mission offers a FREE Registered Pre-Apprenticeship program for young adults who reside in the Bay Area between 18-24 years of age to use tech skills in an engaging learning environment.

Graduates receive a \$1,100 stipend, a laptop, and access to internship opportunities and apprenticeships in the tech industry.

Sessions occur three times per year: Spring, Summer and Fall.



Dev/Mission Video Highlight

Dev/Mission YTD Numbers

Registered Pre Apprenticeship

- 500 Enrollments
- 90% Graduation Rate
- 351 Placements

Community Technology Program

5K Low Income Residents Served

- Free Tech Support
- Basic Digital Literacy Workshops
- Refurbathons
- 2100 Computers Distributed



COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

Dev/Mission Video



Inside Dev/Mission's Pre-Apprenticeship | Summer 2025 Cohort Highlights

PUBLIC COMMENT



Broadband for All

THANK YOU!

Sign up:

Broadband for All Email Update



Next CBC Meeting:

Friday, April 24, 2026

9:30 am – 11:30 am

Website:

BroadbandForAll.cdt.ca.gov

Contact:

CABroadbandCouncil@state.ca.gov



Broadband for All