

*New Hampshire Implementation -American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009*

Program Title:           **Distance learning, Telemedicine, and Broadband Program**

Short Description:       Grants, loans and loan guarantees for broadband infrastructure in any area of the United States: Provided further, That at least 75 percent of the area to be served by a project shall be in a rural area without sufficient access to high speed broadband service to facilitate rural economic development.

ARRA Appropriation nationwide:   \$2,500,000,000

Estimated New Hampshire Funds:   Unknown – competitive application process

Granting Agency:       Rural Utilities Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture

Applying Agency:       To be determined. DRED is working with the Telecommunications Advisory Board and USNH to develop a New Hampshire grant proposal.

Status:                    Awaiting USDA, Rural Utilities Service announcement of grant conditions and application process

Award Criteria:         ARRA establishes the following funding priorities:

- Systems that will deliver end users a choice of more than one service provider;
- Projects that provide service to the highest proportion of rural residents that do not have access to broadband service;
- Applications from borrowers or former borrowers under title II of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 and for project applications that include such borrowers or former borrowers;
- Project applications that demonstrate that, if the application is approved, all project elements will be fully funded:
- Activities that can be completed if the requested funds are provided;
- Activities that can commence promptly following approval;
- No area of a project funded with amounts made available under this paragraph may receive funding to provide broadband service under the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program

Time Line for use:       Awaiting USDA announcement.

Details:                   ARRA - pages 4-5

<http://www.commerce.gov/Recovery/index.htm>

All information is the best available as of 5/7/09 and is subject to change. Estimated funds may change significantly as federal agencies finalize allocations and/or competitive grants are awarded.