

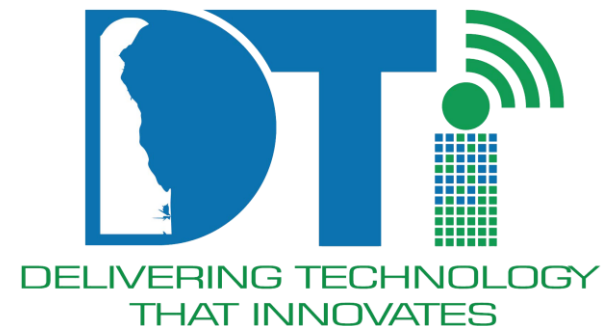


Delaware Stakeholder Public Meeting

March 2023

AGENDA

1. Broadband Technology Overview
2. Broadband Funding and Programmatic Opportunities
3. Broadband in Your Community
4. Community Input and Engagement



Welcome!

Delaware Department of Technology and Information: Who We Are



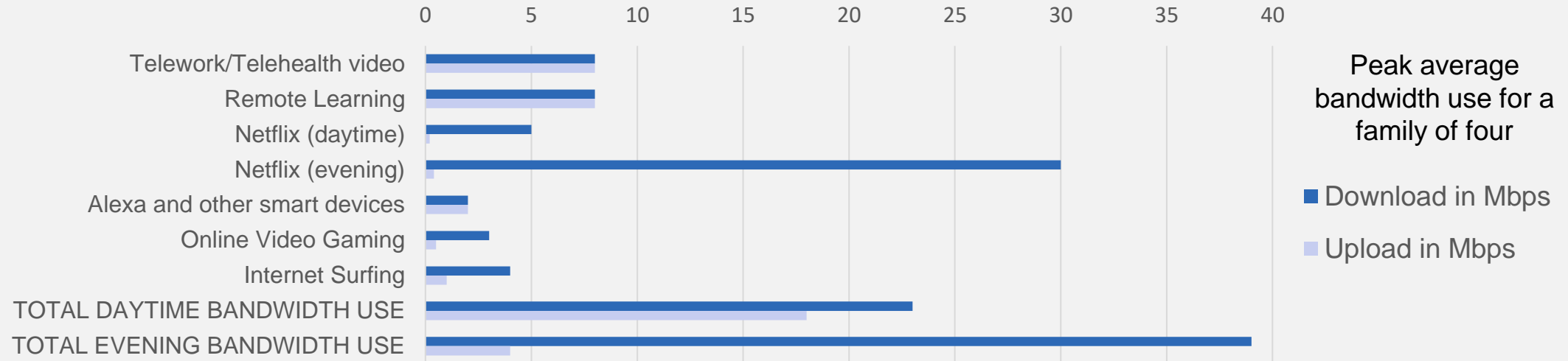


BROADBAND TECHNOLOGY OVERVIEW

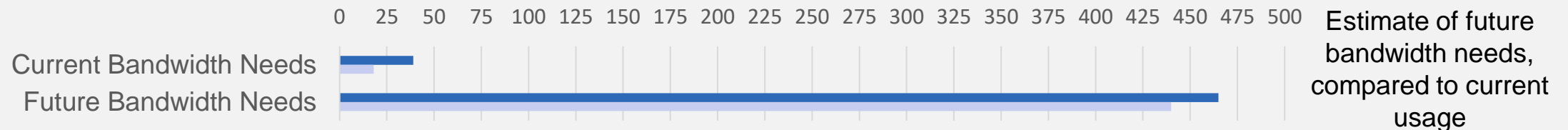
An introduction to broadband infrastructure and
technologies for communities and local
policymakers

HOW MUCH BANDWIDTH DO WE NEED?

Today we need more bandwidth than minimum 25/3 Mbps broadband speeds defined by FCC



With augmented reality, other anticipated applications, and increased usage we will soon need much higher speeds



FEDERAL AND STATE BROADBAND SPEED THRESHOLDS

25/3
Mbps

The FCC's definition is 25 megabits per second down and 3 megabits per second up (25/3 Mbps)

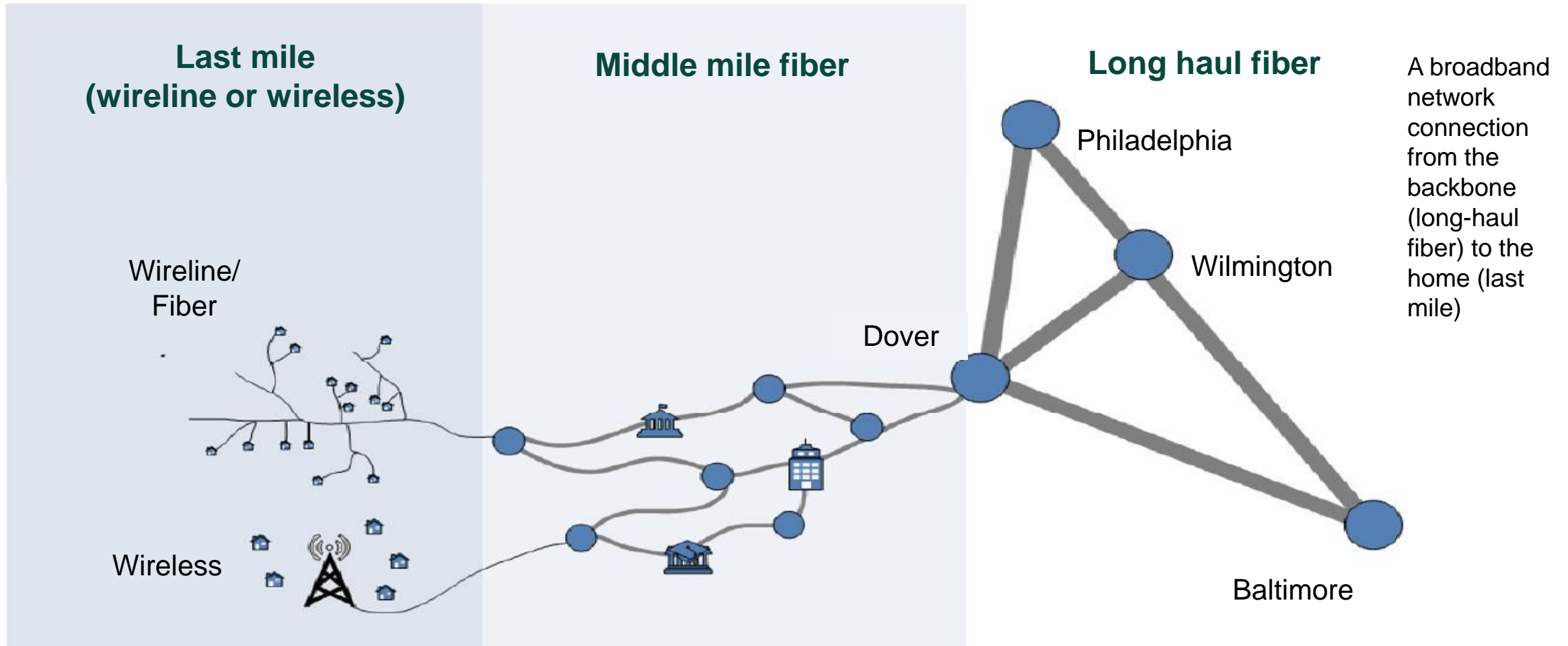
100/20
Mbps

Congress set a new 100/20 Mbps standard in the American Rescue Plan Act and Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act

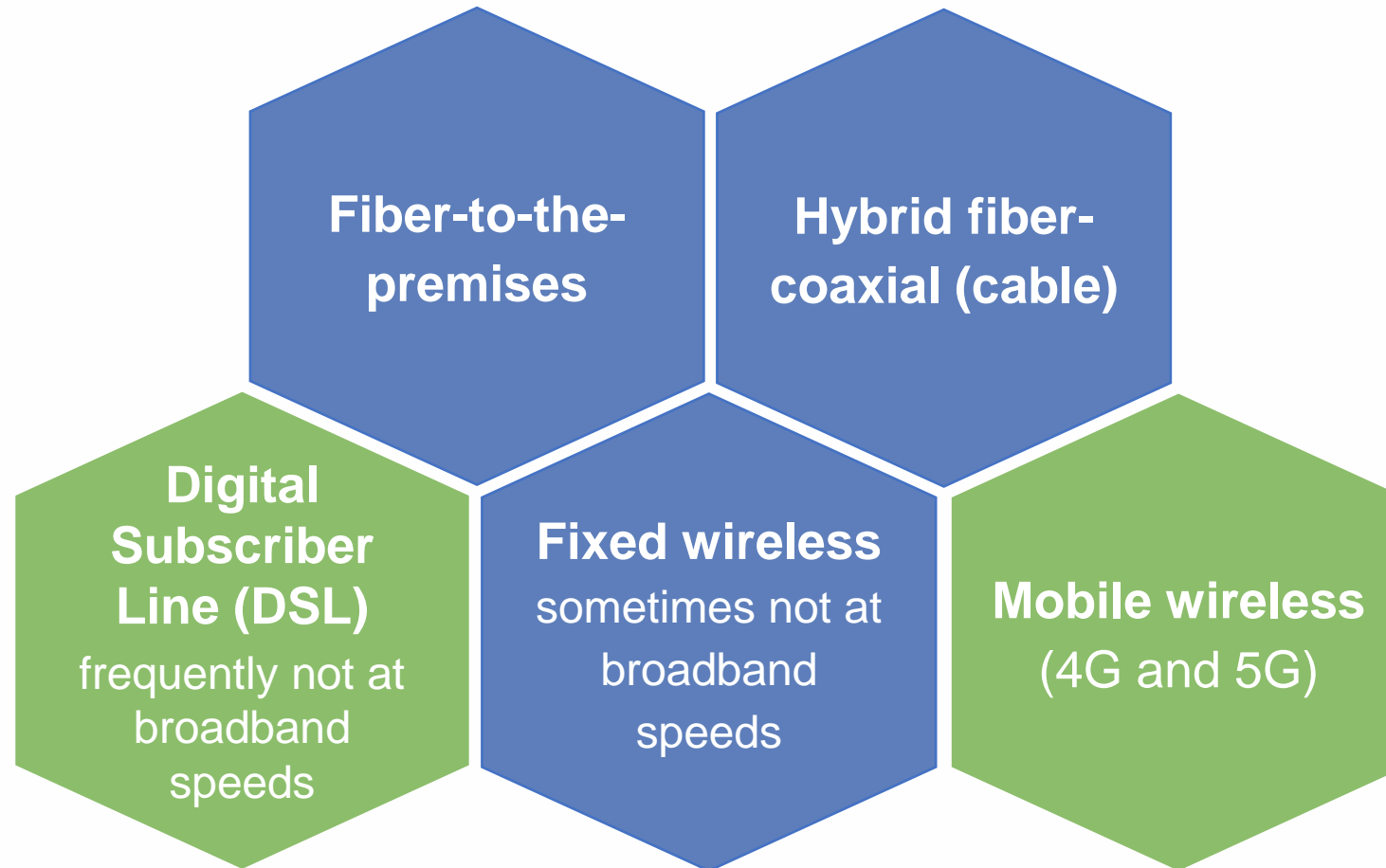
100/100
Mbps

The state threshold for adequate broadband 100/100 Mbps

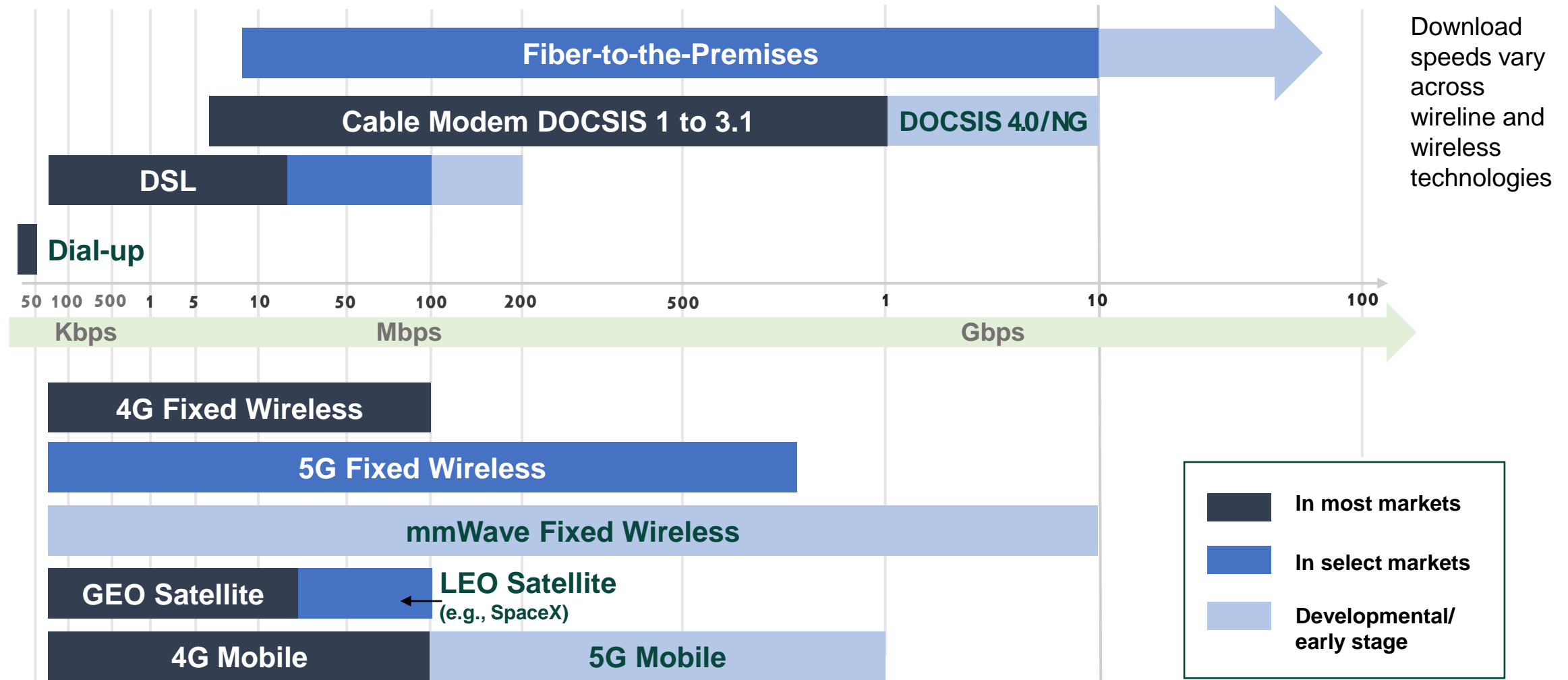
THE ELEMENTS OF A BROADBAND NETWORK



TYPES OF BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE

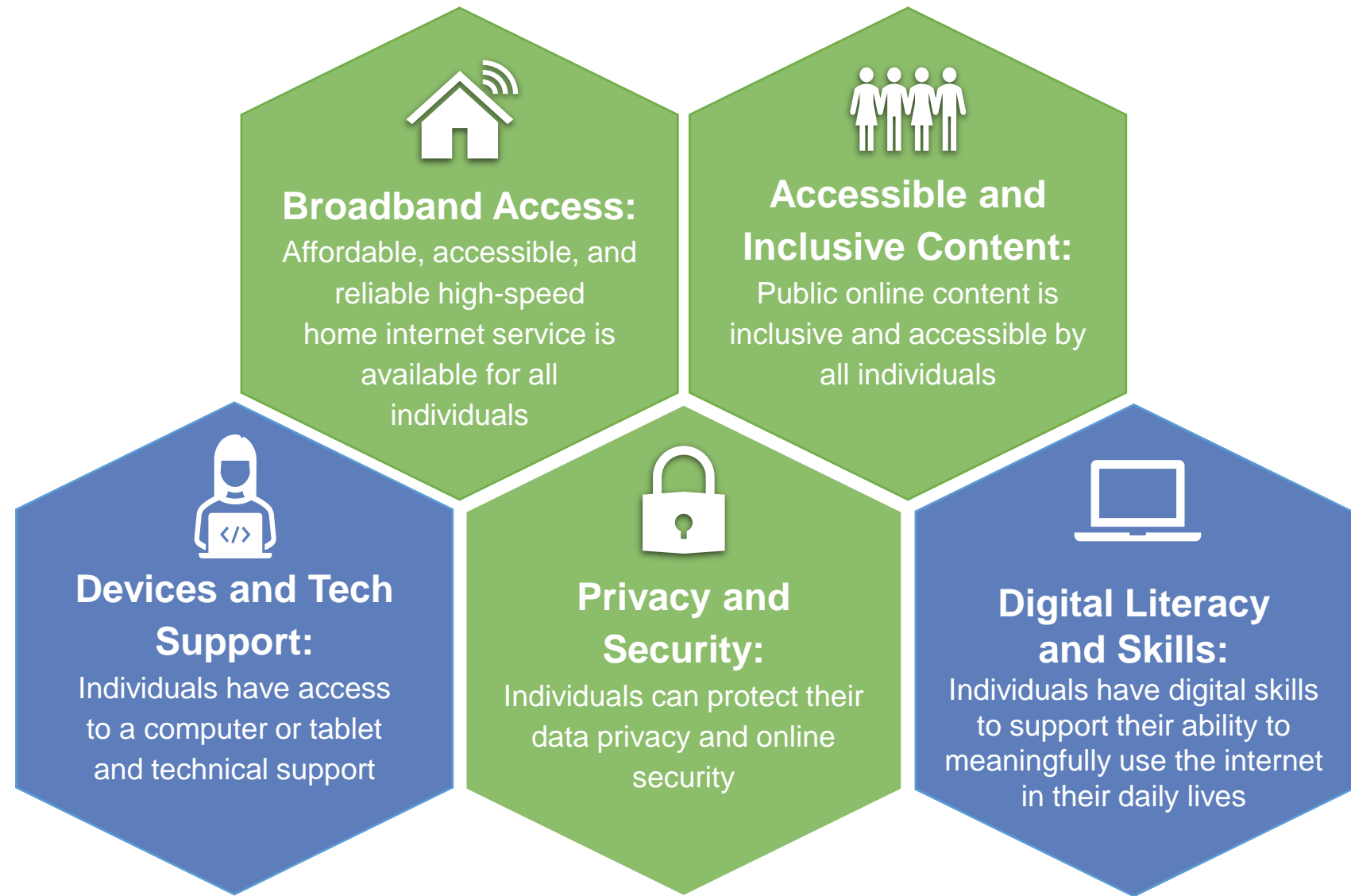


TYPICAL DOWNLOAD SPEEDS: WIRELINE AND WIRELESS TECHNOLOGIES



What is “Digital Equity?”

Generally, experts have identified five elements of digital equity





FUNDING AND PROGRAMMATIC OPPORTUNITIES

Funding overview and timeline

BROADBAND PLANNING OVERVIEW

DTI is developing a statewide plan for expanding broadband to all Delaware addresses including through upcoming federal funds of at least \$100 million

Funding target areas:

1. **Unserved locations:** those that cannot get internet service at least 25/3 Mbps
2. **Underserved locations:** those that get internet service between 25/3 and 100/20 Mbps
3. **Community Anchor Institutions** (schools, libraries, hospitals, community centers): locations that cannot get 1 Gbps internet
4. **Low income and affordable housing**

BEAD & Digital Equity
Preliminary Activities

Planning

Provisional grant program

New infrastructure

2022

2023

2024

2025

- Letter of intent
- Application submissions

DIGITAL EQUITY FUNDING PRIORITIES

Delaware is developing a statewide plan for advancing digital equity, including for how to utilize upcoming federal funds

Program areas

- **Broadband Access:** Individuals have more affordable, accessible, and reliable high-speed home internet service
- **Devices and Tech Support:** Individuals have access to a computer or tablet and technical support
- **Digital Literacy and Skills:** Individuals have digital skills to support their ability to meaningfully use the internet in their daily lives
- **Accessible and Inclusive Content:** Public online content is inclusive and accessible by all individuals
- **Privacy and Security:** Individuals can protect their data privacy and online security

Covered populations

- Rural residents
- Low-income individuals
- Veterans
- Individuals over 60
- Individuals with disabilities
- English learners and individuals with low levels of literacy
- Racial and ethnic minorities
- Incarcerated individuals



DIGITAL EQUITY FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

State Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program

In 2024, Delaware will receive money from NTIA to implement the Delaware Statewide Digital Equity Program over five years.

Digital Equity Competitive Grant Program

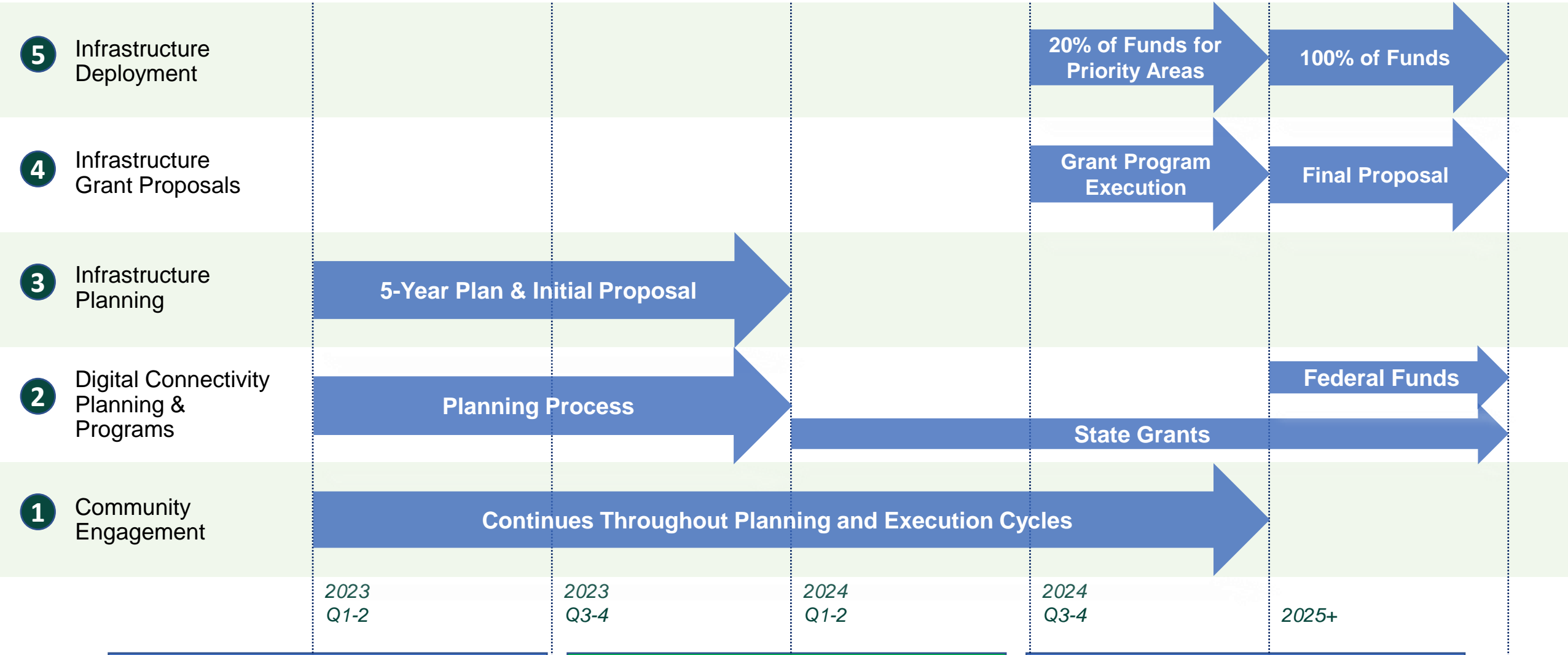
In 2025, NTIA will open a program to fund annual digital equity grants for four years. Delaware communities and organizations can apply directly to NTIA.

NTIA is soliciting input on how to best structure the State Digital Equity Capacity Grant program and the Digital Equity Competitive Grant programs.

***EVERYONE* is welcomed to comment.**

Please go to [Regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov) to review and submit your input.

BROADBAND PROGRAMS TIMELINE





BROADBAND IN YOUR COMMUNITY

What can you do?

AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM (ACP)

FCC subsidy program helps households better afford internet services and devices

The Affordable Connectivity Program is an FCC program that helps connect families and households struggling to afford internet service

Benefits for eligible households

- Up to \$30/month internet service discount
- Up to \$75/month internet service discount on qualifying Tribal lands
- One-time discount up to \$100 for a device
- Some low-cost service plans can be entirely subsidized

Household income and federal assistance programs determine eligibility*

Apply for ACP: affordableconnectivity.gov

ACP Enrollment Support: (877) 384-2575

* See all eligibility criteria at affordableconnectivity.gov

SUBMITTING AN FCC CHALLENGE

Upcoming funding allocations will be determined by FCC's new map

Map contains errors which can be remedied via a challenge process

Types of information to challenge

Address fabric data (building locations and unit counts)
Reported service coverage

Ways to challenge

Challenge an individual address*

What can I do?

Educate residents
Support coordination of bulk challenges

* <https://help.bdc.fcc.gov/hc/en-us/articles/10475216120475-How-to-Submit-a-Location-Challenge->

Need High-Speed Internet?

CHECK THE NATIONAL BROADBAND MAP!

High-speed, high-quality internet service is essential for participation in modern life. The FCC has a new map showing where high-speed service is – and is not – available across the country. The map shows where internet service providers report service and includes input from consumers.



This is where YOU come in!

Help Improve the Map

Search for your home or small business to see if your location and service availability are accurate on the map. If you think the map is incorrect or incomplete, you can submit a challenge to the FCC to correct it.

- ▶ **Location Challenges can:**
 - Add a missing location.
 - Correct the address or other details of your location.
 - Correct the geographic placement of your home or small business.
- ▶ **Internet Availability Challenges can:**
 - Correct services not offered or reported speeds that are not available for purchase.
 - Report that a provider denied a request for service or demanded connection charges that exceed its standard installation charge.
 - Report that a provider failed to schedule an installation within 10 business days of a request for service or failed to perform the installation.
- ▶ **Mobile Availability Challenges**

Will be created using the FCC Speed Test App. To participate, download the App. The data that you share will be combined with other speed tests conducted in your area and may be used to create a challenge.



Accurate Maps = Improved Internet Access
An accurate map will help identify the communities most in need of funding for high-speed internet projects.

BROADBAND AVAILABILITY & SERVICES IN DELAWARE

Delaware Broadband GIS Map

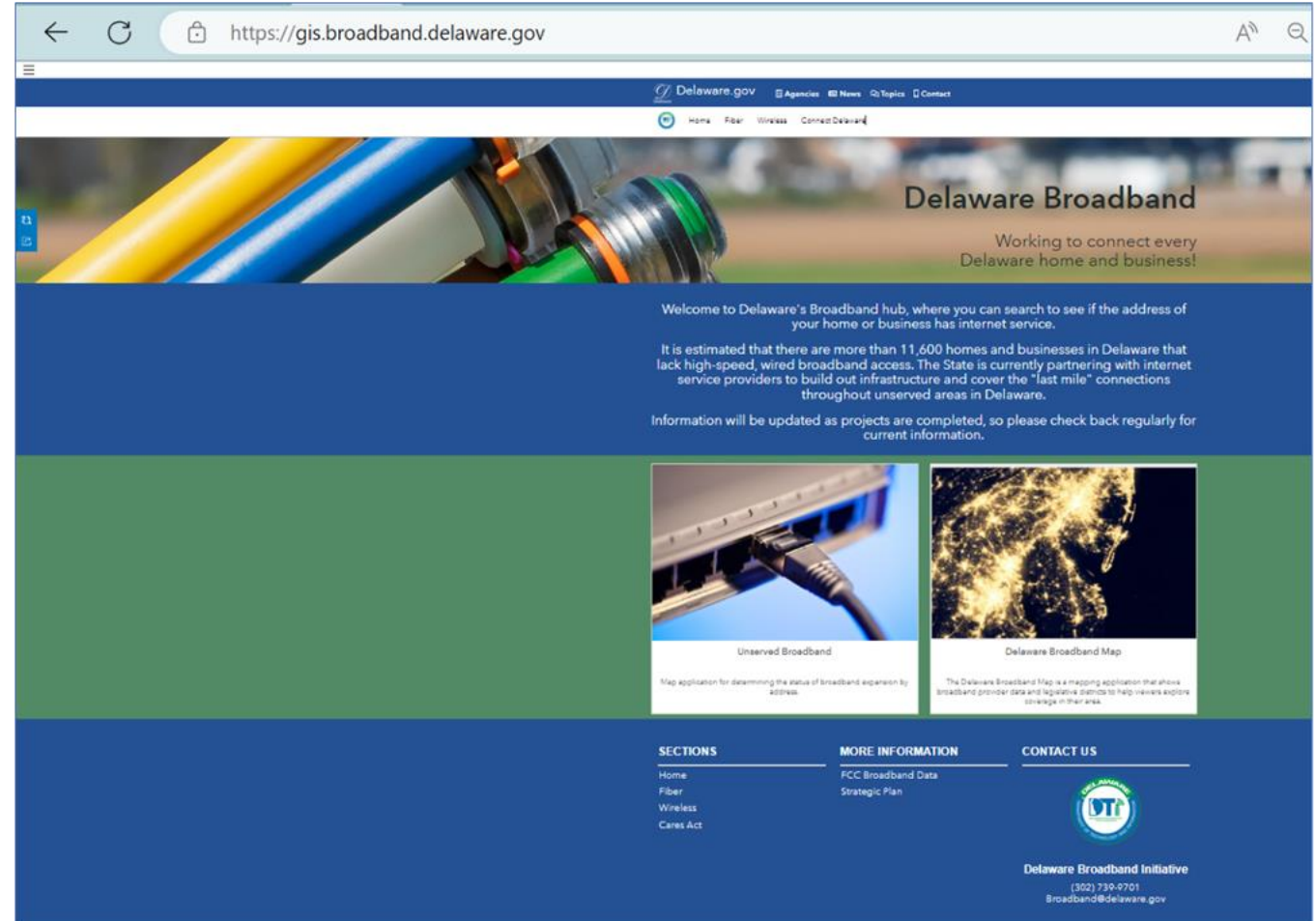
Search your address and learn when broadband internet is coming to your area

Visit the site

<https://gis.broadband.delaware.gov/>

Is your address unserved?

Please let us know on the Unserved Broadband Map





COMMUNITY INPUT AND ENGAGEMENT

How you are part of planning

STATEWIDE RESIDENT BROADBAND SURVEY

Delaware conducted a statewide resident phone survey in February 2023 to assess digital connectivity participation

The survey data, along with stakeholder interviews, supported the development of measurable objectives in the following areas:

Broadband access and adoption

Devices and technical support

Digital skills and literacy

STAKEHOLDERS SURVEY

For State planning for broadband deployment and digital capacity grant funds



State & Local Government Asset Inventory

Infrastructure-related assets that may help facilitate or reduce the cost of broadband deployment in the state



Community Anchor Connectivity

Barriers and obstacles to clients, facility access, criticality of internet to mission and program capacity



ISP Workforce Preparedness

Sources for hiring, workforce programs, ACP, internet skills and adoption, collaboration in community, deployment approaches, disaster recovery plans



Workforce Programs Inventory

Workforce programs profile, barriers to developing diverse & skilled workforce, ISP workforce-related questions



Digital Equity Program Inventory

Program details, planned program types & areas of focus, broadband impacts on programmatic outcomes



Barriers & Obstacles for Covered Populations

Internet, computer & content access, digital skills, data security, barriers & obstacles, broadband impacts on programmatic outcomes

BROADBAND PUBLIC MEETINGS



Delaware Broadband Initiative
**CONNECTING
EVERY HOME AND BUSINESS**

Delaware Broadband Initiative

wants to hear about your digital experience to help state-wide connectivity planning. Learn what Delaware is doing to improve broadband access for all.

MARCH 1

6:30 pm

**Dover Public
Library**

35 Loockerman
Plaza, Dover

[Zoom Meeting
Link](#)

MARCH 2

6:30 pm

**Georgetown Public
Library**

123 West Pine Street,
Georgetown

[Zoom Meeting
Link](#)

MARCH 6

6:30 pm

**Appoquinimink
Library**

204 E. Main Street,
Middletown

[Zoom Meeting
Link](#)

MARCH 14

6:30 pm

**Seaford Public
Library**

600 North Market St,
Seaford

[Zoom Meeting
Link](#)

MARCH 15

6:30 pm

**Wilmington Public
Library**

10 E 10th Street
Wilmington, DE
19801

[Zoom Meeting
Link](#)



Resources

Contact information for Broadband Project Team:

Broadband@Delaware.Gov

302- 739-9701

Please visit broadband.delaware.gov for more information!

Broadband Map: [GIS Hub](#)

Broadband Plan: [Broadband Strategic Plan](#)

BEAD Notice of Funding: [NoFo](#)

Digital Equity Planning Grant Notice of Funding: [NoFo](#)

NTIA Internet For All: [Internet for All](#)

Public Comments and Meeting Survey: [Survey](#)

Please also reach out to William Rau (NTIA Federal Program Officer) at

Email: wrau@ntia.gov

Phone: 202-441-2848

Please fill out your survey!

If you are attending this meeting in-person, please fill out your paper survey.

If you are attending virtually, please use the virtual survey linked in the Zoom chat:

<https://broadband.delaware.gov/pages/index.shtml?dc=public-comments>





Question & Answer

If you are attending virtually, please put your questions into the Q&A prompt



**Thank you for
attending!**