

Qwest Broadband Grant Application

Qwest has filed an application for a federal grant to bring or upgrade broadband at speeds of 12 to 40 Mbps to more than half a million homes, schools, businesses and hospitals in rural communities throughout the West and Midwest. The total cost of the proposed deployment would be \$467 million. Qwest is requesting \$350 million from the Broadband Initiatives Program (BIP), a federal program that provides funding for broadband deployment to hard-to-serve rural areas. The BIP provides 75 percent of the build-out costs. The remaining 25 percent, or \$117 million, would be funded by Qwest.



Here is a summary of how Qwest's application would benefit Minnesota:

Total Network Investment: \$54.5M
 Number of New Sites: 228
 Number of Newly Served/Upgraded Living Units: 47,793

The Proposed Deployment Would Reach:

- Business: 4,505
- Community Support Organizations: 257
- Government Facilities: 108
- Institutions of Higher Education: 12
- Libraries: 1
- Medical and Healthcare Providers: 103
- Public Safety Entities: 22
- Schools (K-12): 42

Economic Impact:

- Create/Retain 2,725 jobs
- Increased State Income Tax Revenue: \$8.6M¹

Areas Included in the Proposed Deployment:

Adolph, Anoka, Avon, Barnum, Battle Lake, Bovey, Braham, Brainerd, Buffalo, Cambridge, Carlton, Cloquet, Cohasset, Cold Spring, Dalbo, Detroit Lakes, Dover, Duluth, Elk River, Esko, Eveleth, Eyota, Faribault, Fergus Falls, Gilbert, Grand Marais, Grand Rapids, Grasston, Harris, Hastings, Henning, Hermantown, Iron, Kilkenney, Kimball, Lake Elmo, Litchfield, Little Falls, Lutsen, Mahtowa, Merrifield, Moorhead, Moose Lake, Mora, Morristown, Nashwauk, Nisswa, North Branch, Northfield, Ogilvie, Oronoco, Park Rapids, Pengilly, Pillager, Pine City, Princeton, Proctor, Rice, Richwood, Rochert, Rochester, Rush City, Saginaw, Saint Augusta, Saint Cloud, Saint Joseph, Sartell, Sauk Centre, Sauk Rapids, Stanchfield, Stillwater, Sturgeon Lake, Swanville, Twig, Welch, West Lakeland, Wrenshall and Zimmerman.

¹ This assumes each job has an annual salary of \$45,000. Taxes are at the "married, filing jointly" rate.