

Fact Sheet I January 25, 2022

Treasury Makes \$10 Billion Available for States, Territories, Freely Associated States, and Tribal Governments through American Rescue Plan's Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund

<u>States</u>, <u>Territories</u>, <u>and Freely Associated States</u> now have access to \$9.9 billion in funding (with all having met the December 2021 application deadline), and Tribal Governments have access to \$100 million, from the U.S. Department of the Treasury's <u>Capital Projects Fund</u> (CPF) for capital projects that directly enable work, education, and health monitoring in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Created by the American Rescue Plan, the CPF promotes equity by prioritizing investments in unserved and underserved communities by addressing the infrastructure challenges laid bare by the Coronavirus pandemic, especially in rural America, Tribal communities, and low- and moderate-income communities.

The CPF will support high-quality affordable broadband services that will provide disadvantaged communities with access to job, educational, and health resources. Ensuring equitable access to affordable broadband for unserved and underserved populations provides them with the tools, including expanding broadband access and affordability, that are necessary to receive critical resources and participate in today's economy. The CPF can also be used to support digital connectivity technology projects, including the purchase or installation of laptops, tablets, desktop personal computers, and public Wi-Fi equipment, to facilitate broadband internet access for communities where affordability is a barrier to broadband adoption and use, as well as multi-purpose community facility projects designed to jointly and directly enable work, education, and health monitoring.

Highlights from the CPF program:

• **First Wave of Funding Available Now:** States, territories, and freely associated states are now able to access approximately \$495 million in administrative funds that can be used to prepare for investments in capital assets that meet communities' critical needs in the short- and long term, with a key emphasis on making funding available for a once-in-a-generation investment in broadband infrastructure. Treasury allows up to 5 percent of an eligible recipient's allocation to be used to develop eligible programs and projects, including working with communities to identify high-priority projects and with subrecipients on program design, along with meeting federal compliance and audit requirements. Intentional preparation and robust community engagement efforts, which recipients are required to describe in their grant plans, can also enhance projects' impact on equity and contribute to an equitable recovery from the pandemic.

- **Grant and Program Plans Now Being Submitted to Treasury:** States, territories, and freely associated states can now submit Grant and Program Plans to Treasury, detailing how the capital funds will increase community resilience and access to connectivity infrastructure, including broadband. Funds will enable investments in capital assets designed to address inequities in access to critical services such as modern infrastructure, including a high-quality and affordable broadband internet connection and equipment needed to close the digital divide, especially in communities disproportionately impacted by the pandemic.
- **Treasury Ready to Review and Approve Grant and Program Plans:** Treasury is ready to receive and review Grant and Program Plans as well as approve programmatic dollars to spend on CPF eligible uses, such as broadband infrastructure.
- **Treasury Continues to Review and Approve Tribal Government Applications for Funding:** The American Rescue Plan allocated \$100 million of the CPF for use by Tribal Governments in the form of \$167,504 allocations to each Tribe. Applications are being submitted now and continue to be reviewed and approved on a rolling basis. Treasury urges Tribes to submit their application before the June 1, 2022 application deadline for submission of Tribal applications.