



**Homes and
Community Renewal**



ConnectALL

A Division of Empire State Development

Affordable Housing Connectivity Program :

Presentation for Property Owners of Regulated, Affordable Housing
(Updated August 2024)

Agenda

Welcome

HCR and ConnectALL Partnership

Overview of the Affordable Housing Connectivity Program

Property Eligibility

How to Participate

Q&A

Next Steps

INTRODUCING CONNECTALL



Governor Hochul delivering the 2022 State of the State address.

- New York State's ConnectALL is tasked with implementing Governor Hochul's \$1B+ ConnectALL initiative, a comprehensive plan to bring affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband service to all New Yorkers.
- Homes and Community Renewal (HCR) is the State's affordable housing agency, with a mission to build, preserve, and protect affordable housing and increase homeownership throughout New York State.

ConnectALL and HCR are partnering on the **Affordable Housing Connectivity Program** to both improve the broadband infrastructure in affordable housing and Public Housing Authority properties as well as the quality of internet service and pricing for building tenants.

A woman and a young girl are sitting at a desk, both wearing large headphones. They are looking at a laptop screen together. The woman is on the right, and the girl is on the left, leaning in towards the laptop. The scene is dimly lit, with a blue tint. In the foreground, there is a white cup and some papers on the desk. A stuffed animal is visible on the left side of the desk.

Affordable Housing Connectivity Program Overview

BROADBAND AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Affordable housing—whether in urban, suburban, or rural settings—is linked with low broadband adoption rates.

- More than **one-third** of New York Households with annual incomes below **\$35,000** have **no home broadband subscription**.¹
- Nearly a million New York households, or 13.1%, do not subscribe to fixed broadband service.²
- 2.46% of New York State are unserved, meaning that location has no wired or fixed wireless providers offering 25mbps.³

1. ACS 2019; 2. US Census 2021; 3. NYS Public Service Commission Report 2023

AFFORDABLE HOUSING CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM

This is the **nation's largest program to upgrade broadband infrastructure in affordable housing** properties and connect low-income residents with in-unit internet access.

- New York has been **awarded \$100 million** from the US Dept. of Treasury to deploy broadband infrastructure to 100,000 affordable housing units.
- **The Affordable Housing Connectivity Program will increase low-income communities' access to employment, education, and healthcare services.**
- **ConnectALL**, in consultation with **New York State Homes and Community Renewal**, is **granting funds** to eligible internet service providers (ISPs) and broadband deployment entities to **provide high-speed broadband infrastructure** to affordable housing properties.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM

How the Program Works

ConnectALL will match pre-approved grantees (Internet Service Providers) with owners of affordable housing properties and Public Housing Authorities that have expressed interest in no-cost broadband via an online survey at broadband.ny.gov.

Eligible Grantees

- Internet Service Providers (ISPs)
 - Owners of broadband infrastructure
 - Builders of broadband infrastructure
 - Managed Service Providers (MSPs)

Eligible Use Grant Funds

- Fiber or other broadband connections to Property premises
- In-building equipment and wiring retrofits

AFFORDABLE HOUSING CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM

Program Timeline

Program Rollout	2023	2024	2025	2026
1. Program Design and Property Pipeline Preparation				
2. Grantee and Property Matching				
3. Awarding Grants				
4. New Infrastructure Deployed				
5. New Service Available				

A woman and a young girl are sitting at a desk, both wearing large headphones. They are looking at a laptop screen together. The woman is pointing at the screen, and the girl is smiling. There is a stuffed animal on the desk to the left of the laptop. The background is blurred, suggesting an indoor setting like a home or office.

Property Eligibility

PROPERTY ELIGIBILITY

Properties with affordable rental units supported by a range of HUD, state, county, or local funding programs may be eligible for participation in the Affordable Housing Connectivity Program.

Examples of Eligible Programs*

- USDA 515 program
- 4% and 9% Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC)
- 420-c Tax Incentive Program
- HOME
- HUD Section 202/8; 221d(3); 236
- Mitchell-Lama
- Project-Based Section 8
- Project Rental Assistance Contract / 202
- Public Housing

**This is a non-exhaustive list.*



A woman and a young girl are sitting at a desk, both wearing large headphones. They are looking at a laptop screen together. The woman is on the right, and the girl is on the left, leaning in towards the laptop. The scene is dimly lit, with a blue tint. In the foreground, there is a white cup and some papers on the desk. A stuffed animal is visible on the left side of the desk.

How to Participate

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Complete the Building Conditions Self-Assessment Survey



Owners indicate interest and provide building-specific details in the online survey located on the ConnectALL AHCP webpage: <https://broadband.ny.gov/affordable-housing-connectivity-program>

ConnectALL is reviewing submissions weekly to develop Portfolios of Properties that ISPs will apply to serve.




NEW: Support is available for owners with questions about the program and survey. Contact AHCP@esd.ny.gov

If you have not yet submitted survey, now is the time to fill out the Building Conditions Self-Assessment!

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Access the survey link on ConnectALL's AHCP webpage:

<https://broadband.ny.gov/affordable-housing-connectivity-program>

TOP ^ **Affordable Housing Connectivity Program** SHARE   

SECTIONS

- Program Overview
- Program Dates
- Eligible Applicants: Internet Service Providers
- How to Apply
- Eligible Affordable Housing Properties**

Property Owners Take Our Survey to Express Interest

If you are a building owner interested in receiving no-cost new or upgraded broadband infrastructure at your property, regardless of whether your building already has broadband wiring, please complete the [Building Conditions Self-Assessment](#). The information provided will be used to match your property with an Internet Service Provider that will develop an installation plan tailored to your building(s).

Property owners who submitted an initial Broadband in Your Property survey, this is the next step.

We recommend owners review all questions before preparing a submission to the Building Conditions Self-Assessment to understand the building and technical information you may need to retrieve. Assistance completing the form is available by emailing Civix (ConnectALL's outreach partner) at AHCPOutreach@gmail.com or calling 1-504-399-8520.

To learn more, you can review the:

- [Recording on YouTube](#) and [presentation](#) from the Affordable Housing Connectivity Program January 30, 2024 Virtual Forum for Property Owners
- [Building Condition Self-Assessment Survey](#) for property owners interested in participating in the program
- [Q&A for property owners](#) (Updated 3/29/2024)

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Navigating the Survey

A link to the full set of survey questions is embedded in the survey introduction.

Reviewing the questions before starting the survey is highly recommended.

Note:

One survey must be completed for EACH property.

A single property may consist of one or multiple buildings. (Only one survey is necessary for a property with multiple buildings.)

ConnectALL AHCP Building Conditions Self-Assessment

Introduction

The following survey is for owners of regulated, rental, affordable housing properties interested in no-cost broadband infrastructure deployments at their properties through New York's Affordable Housing Connectivity Program (AHCP). The AHCP will grant funds to internet service providers (ISPs) and other broadband deployment entities to build or upgrade broadband infrastructure in 100,000 units of affordable housing. Properties with responses to this survey will be prioritized for grant-funded projects.

This survey will ask detailed questions about your property. Your responses will be shared with ISPs who will develop proposals for broadband infrastructure deployments tailored to the specific conditions of your property. We recommend you [review the survey questions here](#) before starting the survey to gather necessary information (e.g., we encourage respondents to consult property or asset managers, contractors, development teams, architects or others who have knowledge of your property).

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Navigating the Survey

To gather necessary information, consider consulting property or asset managers, contractors, development teams, architects or others with relevant knowledge of your property.

This survey will request information about:

1. The buildings that make up your property (number of buildings, their size -- including number of units and number of floors, residential square footage, year of construction, and rooftop access)
2. The affordability of the property (subsidy or regulatory programs that govern the property's affordability and when they expire, number of affordable units, etc.)
3. Plans for renovations or construction in the next two years including roof replacement
4. Electrical services at the property (e.g., does each unit have connection to internet infrastructure, and does the building have fiber, fixed wireless, copper telephone, or coaxial cable connections)

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Navigating the Survey

Section 2 begins with a request for owners to provide property location information. This section also has questions about the property's affordability.

Section 2: Property Location and Affordability Information

Please provide the property's primary address. For properties with multiple buildings, enter only one address, the primary address associated with the property/campus.

11. Property Primary Street Address *

12. City *

13. ZIP Code *

14. County *

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Navigating the Survey

Section 3 asks for information regarding broadband access and needs at the property.

Section 3: General Property Information

19. Why are you interested in receiving broadband infrastructure or upgrades to this property? Please select all that apply. *

- No fiber connection currently available
- Only one fiber provider currently available
- Poor quality of currently available service
- Cost of currently available service
- Need updated wiring
- Connection not available to all units
- Other - Please specify *

20. How would you describe the quality, affordability, reliability, or speed of the internet service that residents in your property currently receive? Please select all that apply.

- The internet service is not reliable (the internet service cuts out, varies in speed, etc.).
- The internet service options are too expensive for residents.
- The internet service is often too slow.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

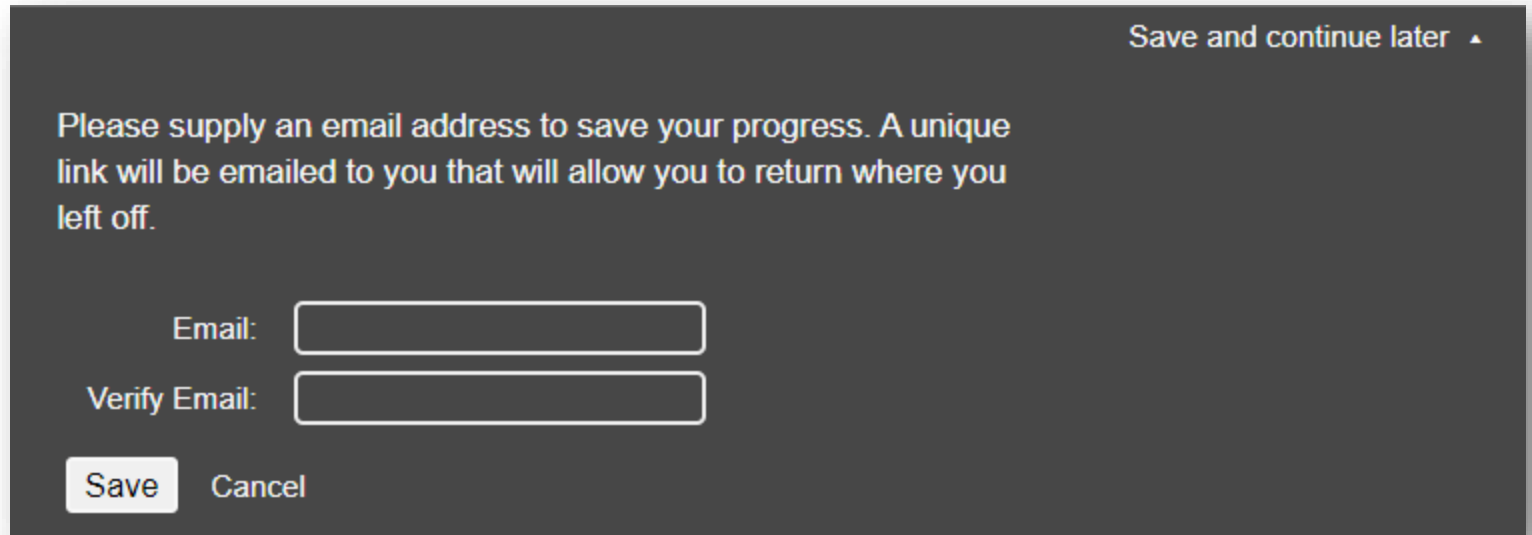
Navigating the Survey

You can save your progress and return to the survey at any time.

Select “Save and continue later” in the upper right corner of the survey.

Enter your email address and receive a unique link to access your survey in the future.

This link can also be used to update a submitted survey.



Save and continue later ▲

Please supply an email address to save your progress. A unique link will be emailed to you that will allow you to return where you left off.

Email:

Verify Email:

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Navigating the Survey



Have questions about the survey? **Contact us!**



AHCP@esd.ny.gov

GRANTEE/ ISP SELECTION

Grantee/ISP selection and property matching will be based upon:

1. The quality of the prospective grantee's/ISP's approach
2. Property specific deployment plans

Owners will have the opportunity to review deployment plans before entering into an agreement with a Grantee.

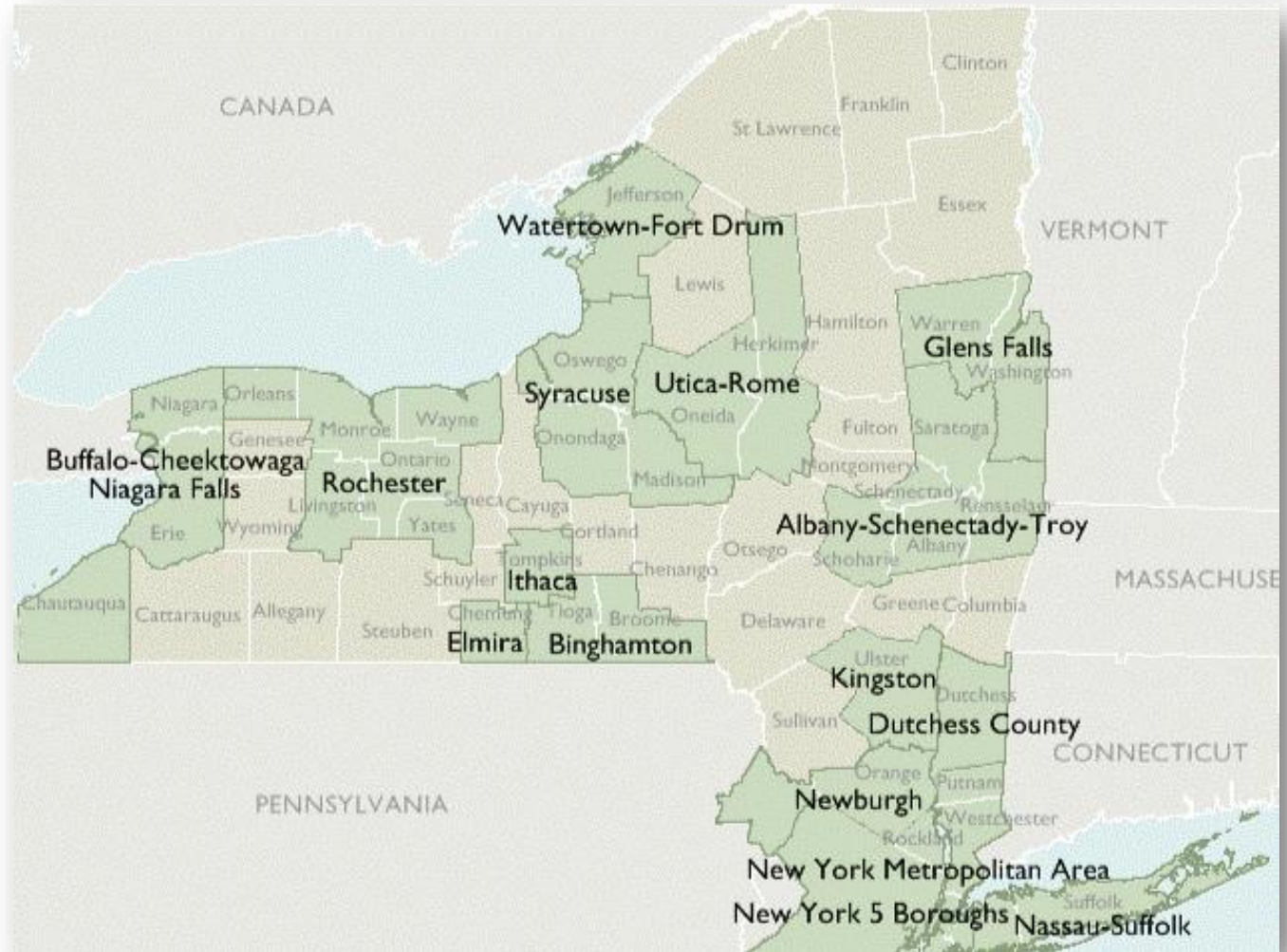
****Already working with an ISP? Let us know in the survey and encourage the ISP to submit an application.**



PROPERTY PORTFOLIOS

Based on owner survey responses, ConnectALL will assemble substantial Portfolios of affordable housing properties within 15 established metropolitan areas to create opportunities for ISPs to enter new markets.

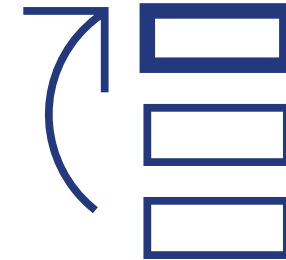
Properties within these metro areas will be prioritized, but eligible properties outside of those areas may be included in Portfolios.



PROPERTY PRIORITIZATION

Properties will be prioritized for participation based on factors such as:

- **Submission of a Building Conditions Self-Assessment survey**
- Analysis of Federal Communications Commission fabric data demonstrating **the property is unserved, underserved, served but with no fiber, or served but with no choice of retail broadband service**
- Length of time units will remain affordable under regulation
- Proportion of units reserved under regulation for households with extremely low, very low, and low incomes



PROGRAM PARTICIPATION

Internet Service Provider's/grantee's primary responsibilities will include:

- Designating a **primary point of contact** for each property
- Designing and implementing property-specific broadband deployment **plans, subject to Owner/PHA review**
- **Entering into an agreement** with the assigned Owner/PHA
- Coordinating all site-based activities with the Owner/PHA
- Limiting disruption to residents and **communicating planned disruptions** in advance
- Returning the property in a **broom-clean state and repairing any damage** caused by installation
- Operating, monitoring, and maintaining infrastructure and equipment and providing ongoing **customer support**
- **Marketing the service to tenants and supporting broadband adoption and digital literacy**

PROGRAM PARTICIPATION

Property Owners' primary responsibilities will include:



Designating a primary point of contact for ConnectALL and the assigned Grantee



Entering into an **agreement** with the assigned **Grantee**



Providing interior and exterior building **access to the Grantee** as necessary



**Homes and
Community Renewal**



ConnectALL

A Division of Empire State Development

Thank you!

Direct questions related to AHCP to:
AHCP@esd.ny.gov

A Q & A document can be found on ConnectALL's AHCP webpage:

<https://broadband.ny.gov/affordable-housing-connectivity-program>