**Section 548.100 Program Description**

The BEAD funded Connect Illinois Broadband Grant Program focuses on deploying broadband service to unserved locations and underserved locations. In accordance with the BEAD Program, this program is designed to prioritize projects that provide fiber connectivity directly to the end user, while considering projects that utilize alternative technologies to ensure universal coverage. The following documents are incorporated by reference in this Subpart and do not include any later amendments or editions:

a) The Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (BEAD NOFO), published by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration on May 13, 2022, which may be obtained from DCEO at 500 E Monroe St, Springfield IL 62704, or online at https://broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov/sites/default/files/2022-05/BEAD%20NOFO.pdf

b) Connect Illinois Initial Proposal Volume 2, Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD), Published by the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) in May of 2024 and approved by NTIA June 10, 2024, which may be obtained from DCEO at 500 E Monroe St, Springfield IL 62704, or online at https://dceo.illinois.gov/content/dam/soi/en/web/dceo/broadband/documents/may-2024-connect-illinois-initial-proposal-vol-2.pdf

(Source: Amended at 48 Ill. Reg. 17501, effective November 20, 2024)