



Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity

OFFICE OF BROADBAND



## UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS SYSTEM



## **Closing the Digital Divide in Illinois**

BEAD Deep-Dive Webinar: Connect Illinois Round 4 Application Templates, Forms, & Example Documents

January 15, 2025

## BEAD Deep Dive Webinar Series:

## Context and Goals



### Context:

To align with NTIA requirements, BEAD Funded Connect Illinois Round 4 differs from Connect Illinois Rounds 1-3

The Illinois Office of Broadband aims to **help all interested applicants become familiar** with these requirements ahead of the subgrantee process



### Goals:

Walk through key elements and requirements of the Connect Illinois Round 4 subgrantee process:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)
- Application process and tools
- Application templates
- Other tips and tricks

Clarify specific components of the BEAD and Connect Illinois Round 4 program requirements ahead of the subgrantee process



## Topics for Discussion Today

1

Recap of BEAD and progress to date

2

Overview of Connect Illinois Round 4 Application Templates, Forms, & Example Documents



# Recap of BEAD and progress to date



Δ

## BEAD is a \$42B federal grant program that aims to bring high-speed internet to all Americans

## \$42.45 billion

Funds provided for BEAD

The Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program is a federal grant program that aims to get all Americans online by funding partnerships between states or territories, communities, and stakeholders to build infrastructure where high-speed internet is currently unavailable

## **Program highlights**

### **Eligible entities**

- All 50 States, District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico
- Other Territories: U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

### Example eligible uses of funds

- Planning for the deployment of high-speed Internet, including conducting research, collecting data, outreach, and training
- Deploying or upgrading Internet in un/underserved areas
- Improving service to community anchor institutions
- Installing Internet and Wi-Fi in multi-unit residential buildings
- Workforce development, including Registered Apprenticeships and pre-apprenticeships, community college and/or vocational training for broadband-related occupations to support deployment, maintenance, and upgrades



## What are the goals of **BEAD**?



Ensure universal coverage across all un/underserved locations in the state, maximizing deployment of end-to-end fiber, and only using non-fiber where fiber costs are extremely high<sup>1</sup>



Run subgrantee selection process within one year of approval of the Initial Proposal, and complete implementation within four years of receipt of funds<sup>3</sup>



Prioritize projects providing broadband access to unserved and underserved locations and community anchor institutions, Wi-Fi equipment for Multi-Dwelling Units (MDUs) then other digital equity and inclusion priorities<sup>2</sup>



The BEAD Program awarded Illinois **\$1.04 billion** to connect all unserved and underserved locations to broadband over the next 5 years



Focus on improving broadband affordability through a low-cost broadband service option, and a middle-class affordability plan<sup>4</sup>

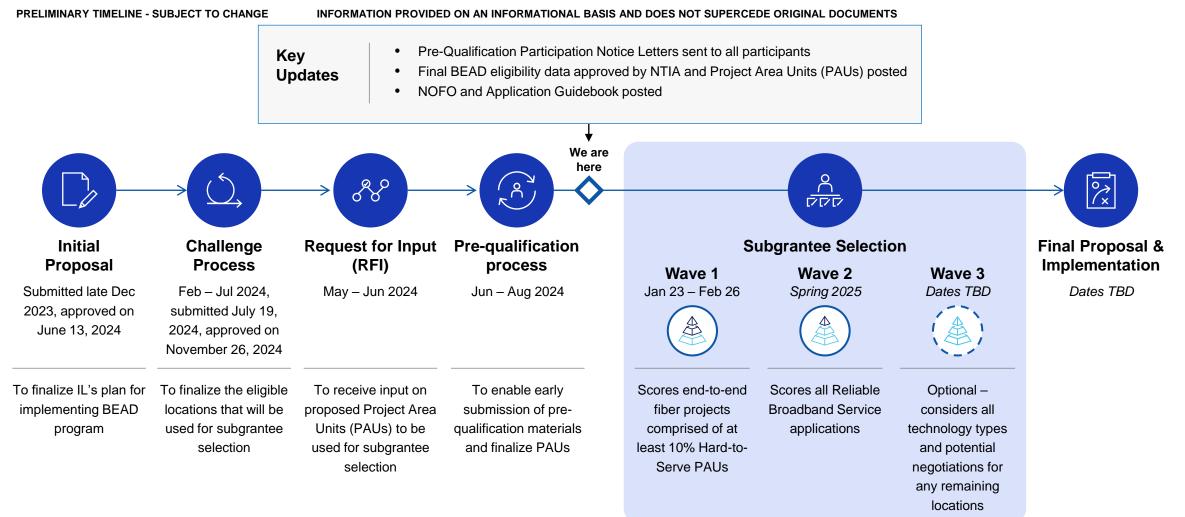


- Page 33 of BEAD NOFO, on the allocation of grant funds
- Page 65 of BEAD NOFO, on deployment deadlines and benchmarks 3.
- Page 42-46 of BEAD NOFO, on inclusion of affordability in the BEAD 4. scoring criteria

Source: BEAD NOFO



## **Overview of the BEAD-Funded Connect Illinois Round 4 timeline**



7

## **Pre-qualification participants can apply their pre-approved qualifications** to their Entity Submission Form response

ILLUSTRATIVE INFORMATION PROVIDED ON AN INFORMATIONAL BASIS AND DOES NOT SUPERCEDE ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS

**Submission Form** 

email in E.AD.8.B

#### Illustrative Pre-Qualification **Final Determination email**

	Illinois Department of Commerce
ALC: NO	OFFICE OF BROADBAND

ILLUSTRATIVE

Dear Sample Corporation (EIN: 12-3456789),

The Illinois Office of Broadband appreciates your participation in the Pre-Qualification process for the BEAD-funded Connect Illinois Round 4. This letter is a summary of all approved gualifications from the Pre-Qualification process, and we encourage you to participate in the formal subgrantee selection process when it opens

#### (1) Summary of Approved Qualifications

The following gualifications have been approved across your pre-gualification submissions:

- A. Financial Capabilities: A1, A2
- B. Managerial Capabilities: B1
- C. Technical Capabilities: C2
- D. Legal and Regulatory Compliance: D1, D2
- E. Operational Capabilities: E2
- F. Ownership: F1
- G. Other Public Funding: G1

During the subgrantee selection process, you do not need to re-submit materials for approved qualifications, unless any materials originally submitted to support an approved gualification have become outdated. However, the State reserves the right to re-assess the qualifications, capabilities, and resources of all prospective subgrantees based on the application-specific technical, geographical, and financial details of the actual proposed projects prior to making final awards.

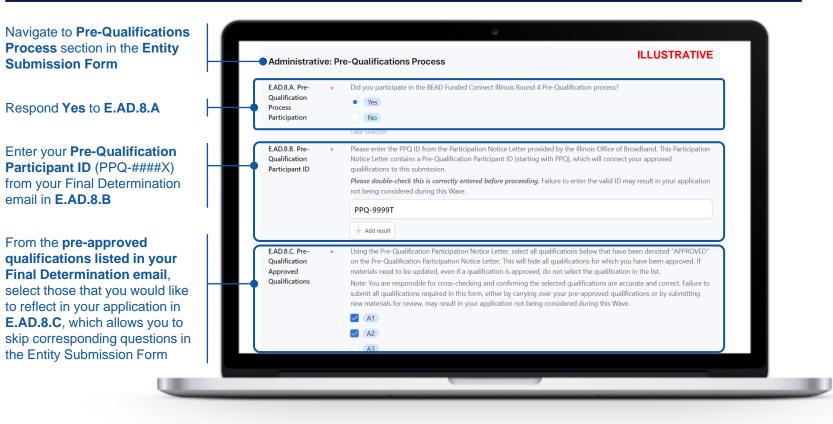
#### (2) Next Steps for Application Process

To link your pre-approved qualifications to your application during the subgrantee selection process, please enter the following in the Entity Submission Form (Part 1 of the application):

EIN: 12-3456789

 Pre-Qualification Participant ID: PPQ-9999T Pre-Qualification Approved Qualifications: Please populate based on list provided above

#### How to apply pre-approved qualifications during Connect Illinois Round 4



Note: All RDOF awardees are required to submitted updated materials for G4



## 175,293 locations are eligible to be connected through BEAD

**Today, many Illinoisans cannot access highspeed internet service**, barring them from essential online services and the 21<sup>st</sup> century digital economy

**BEAD funds will help build infrastructure** so that every Illinoisan who wants high-speed internet can subscribe to internet service through a provider

Broadband service availability in Illinois, per BEAD-eligibility data

## ~4.2M

Total Broadband Serviceable Locations (BSLs)

~107K (~3%) Unserved BSLs (locations with <25/3Mbps speed)

~172K BEADeligible BSLs

~65K (~1%)

Underserved BSLs (locations with ≥25/3Mbps and <100/20Mbps speed)

## ~4.0M (~96%)

Served BSLs (locations with ≥100/20Mbps speed)

Plus **3,356** eligible community anchor institutions (CAIs)



Connect Illinois Round 4 Application Templates, Forms, & Example Documents



## Some qualifications will be evaluated using a standard template that applicants must complete

Qualification includes template

Qualifications included in pre-qualification phase Qualifications not included in pre-qualification phase

#### $\hat{\mathcal{O}}$ Ц % ۲÷ P B С D ്ച Α Financial Technical Compliance **Project overview** Managerial and locations with law capabilities capabilities capabilities impacted $\bigcirc$ <u>Eö</u> F G /!` Ε Н E Other public Risk Operational Ownership Regulatory capabilities capabilities funding management information based

Qualifications approved during the pre-qualification process generally do not need to be resubmitted, but the State reserves the right to re-assess the qualifications, capabilities, and resources of all prospective subgrantees

#### **Project application qualifications**



Regardless of pre-qualification status, all applicants must submit project-based qualification materials



In-depth guidance can be found in the Application Guidebook

Entity application gualifications

## Today, we'll walk through a few of these templates

Focus for today

Submission always required (

Submission conditionally required

Submission not required for application

#### **Overview of documents pertaining to BEAD-Funded Connect Illinois Round 4**

	Document and applicable question index	Document required for application?	Document type
	E.F1.A. Ownership Information Template		Template
Entity	G E.G3/G4. Existing Broadband Projects Template	(For applicants with other public projects)	Template
Submission Form	E.I1. Mandatory Disclosure Form		Form
	E.I2. Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form		Form
	E.I3. W-9 Form		Form
	A P.A2. Project Area Selection Sheet Template		Template
	B P.B1. Project Timeline Template		Template
	P.B2.B Fixed Wireless Access (FWA) Design Template	(For proposed FWA projects)	Template
Drainat	P.B3. Example Logical Network Diagram	(Network Diagram is required)	Example document
Project Submission	P.B4. Project Cost & Capital Investment Schedule		Template
Form	P.B5. Professional Engineer Certification Template		Template
	C P.C1. Pro Forma Template	(Pro Forma is required, but template is optional)	Template
	P.C2. Model Letter of Credit	(Required if awarded)	Example document
	<b>Z</b> P.Z1. Uniform Grant Application Form		Form

**Templates** require applicants to input specific project-related information in a Statedefined format

Forms require applicants to submit standard information and/or disclosures required by the State

**Example documents** demonstrate information that applicants must provide



Source: BEAD NOFO; Connect Illinois Initial Proposal Volume II; Connect Illinois Round 4 Entity and Project Submission Forms

## **Ownership Information Template**



nstruction ist the na		olding 10 percent or more of stock in the appli	cant, whether voting or nonvoting, commo	n or preferred, including the specific amount
	cable, write "N/A" in Cell C8.			
	Name	Address	Citizenship	% interest owned

Form: Entity Submission FormSection: F – Ownership CapabilitiesDocument required for application?: Yes

### **Overview:**

- Allows applicants to satisfy BEAD requirements for ownership information reporting in line with 47 C.F.R. § 1.2112(a)(1)-(7)
- Provides standardized approach for reporting all required ownership information



## **Existing Broadband Projects Template**



				Discl	osure of othe	r existing broad	dband project	ts			
					-	nstructions					
									submit, and eve pplication using		
									SAct (Public Lav Law 117-2; 135		
		,	,			dband deployme			,		
	1	Т	T	1	Re	equired fields	T	1	I	1	
	Source of	Current project or	High-speed program	Highest speed offering for residential	Cost of service to	Maximum latency of broadband to	Technology	Geographic area to be covered	Number of un- and underserved locations	Amount of public funding	Matching commitment provided by the
Project name	public funding	upcoming application?	requirement (down/up) <sup>1</sup>	customers (down/up) <sup>2</sup>	consumer (\$) <sup>3</sup>	be provided (ms)	to be provided	(county name(s)) <sup>4</sup>	committed to serve <sup>5</sup>	to be used (\$) <sup>6</sup>	subgrantee or its affiliates (\$)

Form: Entity Submission Form

Section: G – Other Public Funding

#### **Document required for application?:**

Conditionally (for applicants with other public projects)

#### **Overview:**

- Allows applicants to satisfy:
  - Qualification G3: Reporting other publicly funded broadband projects in Illinois
  - Qualification G4: Reporting progress on RDOF / CAFII projects, if applicable

*Note: RDOF awardees must* provide an updated template for G4 regardless of pre-qualification



## **Project Timeline Template**

	0			
Connect Illinois Round 4	- Project Timeline			
Program Milestone	There are 48 months in the four-year implementation timeframe. Month 1 = the project start (the day the grant agreement is executed). The start of each individual milestone should be provided in relation to the project start.		Milestone Start In what number month does this milestone begin?*	
			i.e., 6 months into the project is month 6, one year in is month 13	
Detailed Project Planning				
Network Design				
National Environmental Policy Act (NEP National Historic Preservation Act (NHP Assessment				
Permitting				
Make Ready				
Material & Equipment Procurement				
Contracts Signed for Contractors				
Network Deployment (Construction)				
Passed 10% Project Locations				
Passed 20% Project Locations				

Form: Project Submission Form
Section: B – Technical Project-Based
Qualifications
Document required for application?: Yes

#### **Overview:**

- Details build-out timeline and milestones for proposed project
- Enables applicants and evaluators to review the proposed project progression against Statedefined milestones



## Project Cost and Capital Investment Schedule Template

	Cost Item	Cost Designation	
Category			Unit Typ
Select from drop-down	Simple description of cost item (e.g., Labor – Directional Drilling 2x2" conduits, Material - 24"x26"x26" handhole)	If expense is a PRE-AWARD or CLOSEOUT expense, please select below. If not, leave blank.	(e.g., Fee hours, etc

Form: Project Submission Form

**Section:** B – Technical Project-Based Qualifications

Document required for application?: Yes

### **Overview:**

- Includes project budget and a capital investment schedule per BEAD requirements
- Captures project costs and justifications against State-defined categories, and breaks down requested grant funds at a granular level



## **Pro Forma Template**

•		
Pro Forma Financials: Income Statement		
Forecast Year	1	2
Revenue		
Passings		
Take Rate		
Customers (All Passings)	-	
Monthly Average Revenue Per User (ARPU)		
Subscriber Revenue	\$0	
Other Revenue*		1
Total Revenue	\$0	
_		
Expenses		
Recurring Operating Expenses [negative values]		
Maintenance & Network Ops	-	
Backhaul Expenses (e.g., IP Transit, operating leases for middle-mile)	-	

Form: Project Submission Form

**Section:** C – Financial Project-Based Qualifications

**Document required for application?:** Pro forma is required, but template use is not

#### **Overview:**

- Substantiates financial sustainability of the proposed project per BEAD requirements
- Sets up high-level financial analysis and cost / revenue estimates for proposed broadband networks, and allows applicants to demonstrate their need for a grant in a template tailored to meet State application requirements

*Note:* While use of template is not required, all applicants **must** submit a satisfactory pro forma

## **Example Document: Model Letter of Credit**

<b>Requires PE</b>
certification?
□ Yes ☑No

	e
	Illustrative Model Letter of Credit
-	
-	[Subject to Issuing Bank Requirements]
-	No
	[Name and Address of Issuing Bank]
	[Date of Issuance]
-	
-	
-	[EXPIRATION DATE] BENEFICIARY
•	Illinois Office of Broadband
-	Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity 1101 S. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Street
-	Springfield, IL 62704
-	
-	LETTER OF CREDIT PROVIDER
-	[Subgrantee Name]
-	
-	Ladies and Gentlemen:
	We hereby establish, at the request and for the account of [Subgrantee], in your favor, as required under the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program (BEAD) Notice of
	Funding Opportunity (NOFO), issued by the National Telecommunications and Information
	Administration (NTIA) of the U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC) in May 2022, pursuant to the

Form: Project Submission Form

**Section:** C – Financial Project-Based Qualifications

**Document required for application?:** No (only required for awardees after selection)

#### **Overview:**

 Exemplifies an irrevocable standby letter of credit that meets NTIA guidelines and State requirements, which must be provided by applicants prior to entering a Connect Illinois Round 4 grant agreement should they be selected for a Connect Illinois Round 4 award

**Note:** Those leveraging the <u>NTIA's Letter of Credit</u> <u>Waiver</u> may choose to submit a qualifying Performance Bond instead of a Letter of Credit



## Additional Resources & Helpful Links

Connect Illinois Round 4 NOFO Preview: [Link]

Connect Illinois Round 4 App Guidebook: [Link]

BEAD Landing Page: [Link]

BEAD Subgrantee Selection Process Page: [Link]

 Includes materials from BEAD Deep Dive Webinar Series and FAQs

Connect Illinois Initial Proposal, Volume II: [Link]



For further questions, **please email** broadband@illinois.gov

ILL NOIS.gov	AGENCIES 🕺 SERVI				
Illinois Department of Commerce	Stay Connected ⊕ English >				
& Economic Opportunity	search C				
Assistance for Businesses Assistance	e for Individuals Assistance for Communities About Us				
DCEO > Broadband Equity Acces					
Broadband	Due adle and Equity Assess and				
About Us	Broadband Equity Access and				
Staff	Deployment (BEAD) Program				
Events	The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) included over \$1.3 billion in federal support for the <i>Connect Illinois Broadband Grant Program</i> and related				
Previous Webinars	digital equity initiatives. This page will include regular updates on the planning, preparation, and progress underway in advance of historic state-federal collaboration to eliminate the digital divide.				
Impact and Publications	All of this work is data driven, applying sophisticated analytics on current conditions and key findings from our ambitious 54-stop statewide listening tour.				
Connect Illinois and BEAD	All dates referenced in BEAD materials are subject to change, per National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) direction and approval.				
BEAD	To learn more about BEAD basics, watch the IOB's <b><u>BEAD 101 webinar</u></b> or <u>view the slides</u> .				
Connect Illinois Rounds 1-3	Landing Pages, Links, & Resources:				
	Sub-Grantee Selection Process				
Connect Illinois Rounds 4	Pre-Qualification Period				
Digital Equity Initiatives	Access pre-qualification resources				







Sign up to receive updates from the Illinois Office of Broadband (IOB)

https://bit.ly/IOBPartner

Sign up for Illinois Broadband Connections Newsletter

https://bit.ly/IOBnewsletter



## Form Deep Dive: E.I1. Mandatory Disclosure Form

#### Mandatory Disclosure

Award applicants and recipients of awards from the State of Illinois (collectively referred to herein as "Grantee") must disclose, in a timely manner and in writing to the State awarding agency, all violations of State or federal criminal law involving fraud, bribery, or gratuity violations potentially affecting the award. *See* 30 ILCS 708/40; 44 Ill. Admin. Code § 7000.40(b)(4); 2 CFR § 200.113. Failure to make the required disclosures may result in remedial action.

Are there any violations of State or federal criminal law involving fraud, bribery, or gratuity violations potentially affecting the awarding of a grant to your organization?

If there any violations of State or federal criminal law involving fraud, bribery, or gratuity violations potentially affecting the awarding of a grant to your organization, please describe them all here:

Grantee has a continuing duty to disclose to the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (the "Department") all violations of criminal law involving fraud, bribery or gratuity violations potentially affecting this grant award.

By signing this document, below, as the duly authorized representative of the Grantee, I hereby certify that:

All of the statements in this Mandatory Disclosure form are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject Form: Entity Submission FormSection: I – Regulatory InformationDocument required for application?: Yes

#### **Overview:**

 Requires disclosure of all violations of relevant Federal / State laws, in line with 30 ILCS 708/40; 44 III. Admin. Code § 7000.40(b)(4); 2 CFR § 200.113



## Form Deep Dive: E.I2. Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form

#### Conflict of Interest Disclosure

Award applicants and recipients of awards from the State of Illinois (collectively referred to herein as "Grantee") must disclose in writing to the awarding State agency any actual or potential conflict of interest that could affect the State award for which the Grantee has applied or has received. See 30 ILCS 708/35; 44 Ill. Admin Code § 7000.40(b)(3); 2 CFR § 200.112. A conflict of interest exists if an organization's officers, directors, agents, employees and/or their spouses or immediate family members use their position(s) for a purpose that is, or gives the appearance of, being motivated by a desire for a personal gain, financial or nonfinancial, whether direct or indirect, for themselves or others, particularly those with whom they have a family business or other close associations. In addition, the following conflict of interest standards apply to governmental and non-governmental entities.

#### Definitions:

Governmental Entity. If the Grantee is a governmental entity, no officer or employee of the Grantee, member of its governing body or any other public official of the locality in which the award objectives will be carried out shall participate in any decision relating to a State award which affects his/her personal interest or the interest of any corporation, partnership or association in which he/she is directly or indirectly interested, or which affects the personal interest of a spouse or immediate family member, or has any financial interest, direct or indirect, in the work to be performed under the State award.

Non-governmental Entity. If the Grantee is a non-governmental entity, no officer or employee of the Grantee shall participate in any decision relating to a State award which affects his/her personal interest or the interest of any corporation, partnership or association in which he/she is directly or indirectly interested, or which affects the personal interest of a spouse or immediate family member, or has any financial interest, direct or indirect, in the work to be performed under the State award.

The Grantee shall also establish safeguards, evidenced by policies, rules and/or bylaws, to prohibit employees or officers of Grantee from engaging in actions, which create or which appear to create a conflict of interest as described herein.

The Grantee has a continuing duty to immediately notify the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (the "Department") in writing of any actual or potential conflict of interest, as well as

Form: Entity Submission FormSection: I – Regulatory InformationDocument required for application?: Yes

#### **Overview:**

 Requires disclosure of any actual or potential conflicts of interest that could affect the State award, in line with 30 ILCS 708/35; 44 III. Admin Code § 7000.40(b)(3); 2 CFR § 200.112



## Form Deep Dive: E.I3. W-9 Form

Depar	W-9 March 2024) Itment of the Treasury al Revenue Service	Request for Taxpaye Identification Number and Ce Go to www.irs.gov/FormW9 for instructions and th	ertificatior	-		Give form to the requester. Do not send to the IRS.		
		I guidance related to the purpose of Form W-9, see Purpose of Form,	below.					
	1 Name of entity/i entity's name of	individual. An entry is required. (For a sole proprietor or disregarded entity, en in line 2.)	ter the owner's nam	ne on line 1	, and ente	r the business/disregarded		
	2 Business name/	/disregarded entity name, if different from above.						
n page 3.		ropriate box for federal tax classification of the entity/individual whose name is following seven boxes.	_		certain	ions (codes apply only to entities, not individuals; ructions on page 3):		
Print or type. See Specific Instructions on page	LLC. Enter t Note: Chec classificatio box for the	C. Enter the tax classification (C = C corporation, S = S corporation, P = Partnership)						
Prin Specific In	3b If on line 3a you and you are pro- this box if you h	instructions) i checked "Partnership" or "Trust/estate," or checked "LLC" and entered "P" i oviding this form to a partnership, trust, or estate in which you have an owi nave any foreign partners, owners, or beneficiaries. See instructions	nership interest, che	eck	(Applies	to accounts maintained de the United States.)		
See	5 Address (numbe	er, street, and apt. or suite no.). See instructions.	nd address	s (optional)				
	6 City, state, and	ZIP code						
	7 List account nu	mber(s) here (optional)						
_		er Identification Number (TIN)		Social sec	urity pumb			
back resid	up withholding. For ent alien, sole prop	propriate box. The TIN provided must match the name given on line r individuals, this is generally your social security number (SSN). Hov rietor, or disregarded entity, see the instructions for Part I, later. For yer identification number (EIN). If you do not have a number, see <i>Ho</i>	vever, for a other					
. 181								

Form: Entity Submission FormSection: I – Regulatory InformationDocument required for application?: Yes

#### **Overview:**

• Standard IRS W-9 Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification



## Form Deep Dive: P.Z1. Unform Grant Application Form

<b>Illinois</b> <b>Department of Commerce</b> & Economic Opportunity						
	Uniform Application for State Grant Assistance					
	Agency Completed Section					
1. Type of Submi	ssion:					
$\bigcirc$	Pre-Application					
	Application					
Ŏ	Changed/Corrected Application					
2. Type of Applica	tion:					
	New					
Ŏ	Continuation (i.e. Multiple Year Grant)					
Ŏ	Revision (Modification to Initial Application)					

Form: Project Submission FormSection: Z – Regulatory InformationDocument required for application?: Yes

### **Overview:**

 Requires applicants to submit applicant information, project information, and certifications through a standardized form required by the State of Illinois for all applicants of grant opportunities by the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity

