

VERMONT AFFORDABLE INTERNET DROP GRANT PROGRAM - If you missed the first round, there is still time. Sign up by August 27th to be eligible for a subsidy to pay up to 100% of your underground drop.

The Vermont Community Broadband Board is announcing an Affordable Drop Grant Program to fund underground and long aerial drops necessary to provide high speed broadband internet service to your home. (A drop is the fiber that is required to get from the road to your house.) As your Communications Union District, NEK Broadband is eligible to apply for these funds on behalf of our potential customers. *If there is a long distance from the road to your house or your utilities are buried underground - be sure to sign up at get.nekbroadband.org by August 27th so we can add your address into the grant request. The first request was sent in June and if you responded then, you are set.*

NEK Broadband is committed to serving the communications needs of our customers. We are working hard to expand our network to everyone in the Kingdom (with utility service) who does not yet have access to truly high-speed reliable internet. Currently customers are responsible for all underground from our fiber line on the road to the home and for any aerial footage beyond the first 500 feet. This grant is intended to help off-set these costs.

These drop grant funds will only be available if customers have registered with NEK Broadband. The rules of the grant will give priority to lower-income Vermonters for full funding but all addresses will be eligible for some level of funding IF you have signed up at get.nekbroadband.org. Customers that actually pick a speed package upon sign up will also be provided priority under the grant rules.

We need verification that you are interested in this program that will facilitate becoming an NEK Broadband customer.

If you or someone you know lacks reliable internet and if you have not registered for service, please visit get.nekbroadband.org and sign up as pre-signups are prioritized under this program. If you have already registered (**do not re-register**) but want to make sure you are on our list of customers facing issues due to a long-drop or underground utilities, please email us at info@nekbroadband.org with the subject line 'Interested in the Long-Drop Program. Be sure to include your contact information and address. Applications from eligible providers will be accepted starting August 29, 2025, until September 12, 2025.

The Affordable Long Drop Program will prioritize funding for lower-income Vermonters, and customers at eligible addresses who have signed up and have picked a package.