

FCC Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF)

Summary

January 30, 2020

Predecessors: Universal service fund; Connect America Fund

Order: <https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-launches-20-billion-rural-digital-opportunity-fund-0>

About 100 pages long.

Amount \$20.4 Billion

Funding period 10 years (10% each year)

Phase I – At least \$16 Billion

Phase II – Balance up to 4.4 Billion

Eligible Area

Phase I -- Census Tracts wholly without terrestrial 25/3 service

Per FCC 477 Reports Dec. 2018

See: <https://allthingsmissouri.org/missouri-map-room/>

Phase II – Polygons – To be determined

Award Procedure

Must be an “eligible telecommunication carrier (ETC) – Designation from State PSC – generally must provide lifeline service

Logical requirements “operating companies”

Reverse Auction -- Similar to CAF II (Cover the most for least amount of subsidy)

Weighted based on service commitment:

E.g. 25/3 Mbps; 50/5 Mbps; 100/20 Mbps, 1 Gbps/500 Mbps

Any technology works

Build out process – (e.g., CAF-II award Dec. 2018 – 40% buildout end of 2022 100% build out by end of 2025)

Phase I –Initial Award October 22, 2020

Phase II – (Partially served etc.) TBD