PARTNERSHIPS

BEAM has a statutory duty to coordinate all broadband expansion and accessibility efforts on behalf of the state and to ensure an effective and efficient use of broadband grant funds. To improve broadband access, affordability, and literacy, identifying partners was a critical first step that has proved advantageous to BEAM's efforts. Many of the partners identified below have mutually beneficial interests in providing internet for all.

PARTNERS	DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT OR PLANNED ROLE IN BROADBAND DEPLOYMENT AND ADOPTION
MS Department of Education	Access, devices, and affordability for Students
MS Institutions of Higher Learning	Adoption, access, digital skills, devices, affordability, workforce upskilling for students, digital skills and accessibility core planning group
MS Community College Board	Adoption, access, digital skills, devices, affordability, workforce upskilling for students, digital skills and accessibility core planning group
MS Library Commission	Adoption, access, digital skills, devices, affordability
MS Planning and Development Districts	Access, digital skills planning, technical assistance
Accelerate Mississippi	Workforce development
MS Office of Homeland Security	Cybersecurity, climate resilience for infrastructure
MS Municipal League	Local Coordination
MS Band of Choctaw Indians	Tribal Coordination
MS Dept. of Finance & Admin.	Financial and technical reviews; grant reimbursements
MS Dept of Transportation	Infrastructure Permitting, Mapping assistance

MS Dept. of Medicaid	Telehealth access and planning
Univeristy of Mississippi Medical Center	Telehealth access, digital skills, accessibility
MS Board of Supervisors Assoc.	Local Coordination
MS Broadband Association	Engagement with internet service providers and stakeholder engagement and grant program rules feedback
Electric Co-Ops of Mississippi	Engagement with internet service providers and stakeholder engagement and grant program rules feedback.
AARP of Mississippi	Engagement with stakeholders, access, digital skills and affordability
MS Schools for Blind and Deaf	Identify obstacles for disabled, access and digital skills
Education SuperHighway	Develop strategy for Wi-Fi for multi-family Dwelling Units
MS Veterans Affairs Board	Adoption, access, digital skills, devices, affordability, workforce upskilling for students, digital skills and accessibility core planning group
MS GIS Counsel	Mapping and data assistance
Broadband Association of Alabama and Mississippi	Engagement with internet service providers and stakeholder engagement and grant program rules feedback.
MS Alliance of Nonprofits	Stakeholder engagement
MS Dept. of Information Technology	Access to provision of governmental services
MS Dept. of Human Services	Affordability
MS Field Office HUD	Wi-Fi Accessibility for Multi-Dwelling Units