

ARKANSAS REGISTER



Proposed Rule Cover Sheet

Secretary of State
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Name of Department Department of Commerce
Agency or Division Name AR Economic Dev. Commission
Other Subdivision or Department, If Applicable Legal Division
Previous Agency Name, If Applicable _____
Contact Person Steven Porch
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Name of Rule Arkansas Rural Connect Broadband
Grant Program
Newspaper Name Ark Dem. Gaz.
Date of Publishing Saturday, October 12 - 14
Final Date for Public Comment November 13th, 2019
Location and Time of Public Meeting Arkansas State Library
Bessie Moore Conference Rm
900 West Capitol Ave. 2nd floor
Little Rock, AR 72201
8:30 AM



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
ASA HUTCHINSON | Governor MICHAEL PRESTON | Secretary

DATE: OCTOBER 10, 2019
TO: ALL INTERESTED PARTIES
FROM: ARKANSAS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
SUBJECT: RULE: "ARKANSAS RURAL CONNECT BROADBAND GRANT PROGRAM"

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Please find attached or available by electronic publication by the Arkansas Economic Development Commission ("AEDC") Proposed Rule, "ARKANSAS RURAL CONNECT BROADBAND GRANT PROGRAM." The Director of AEDC ("Director") is filing for public comment and public hearing a proposed regulation implementing the Governor's Broadband Plan. The proposed Rule proposes to establish eligibility, participation and operation requirements for governmental entities and various other stakeholders to participate in a grant based program to expand broadband coverage in this State through the Arkansas Rural Connect Grant Program (hereafter, the "ARC Program").

Pursuant to Arkansas Administrative Procedures Act, and other applicable laws or rules, NOTICE is hereby given that a PUBLIC HEARING will be held on November 12, 2019, at 8:30 at the location of the Bessie Moore Conference Room located at the Arkansas State Library, 900 West Capitol Avenue, 2nd Floor, Little Rock, Arkansas 72201.


The purpose of the Public Hearing will be to determine whether the Director should adopt the proposed Rule, "ARKANSAS RURAL CONNECT BROADBAND GRANT PROGRAM."

All interested persons are encouraged to make comments, statements or opinions to the address below or attend the Public Hearing and present, orally or in writing, statements, arguments or opinions on the proposed Rule. All licensees and other interested persons are responsible for notifying all their personnel, agents, and employees about this Public Hearing.

Persons wishing to testify or make comments are requested to submit intended statements in writing in advance. Direct your inquiries to: Dr. Nathan Smith, Broadband Manager, 501-682-5464, email: Nathan.smith@arkansas.gov.

A copy of the proposed Rule may be obtained or viewed on the AEDC Web Site at arkansasedc.com.data-reports/rules.

Sincerely,


Steven Porch
Chief Legal Officer
Arkansas Department of Commerce
501-682-1121

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