

GREAT GRANT PROGRAM (STATE)

Growing Rural Economies with Access to Technology Program

Implemented: Feb. 5, 2020

Modified: March 1, 2022

To: GREAT Grant Program Grantees (State)

From: Broadband Infrastructure Office

Subject: Fee and Easement Acquisition

Definitions

- Land Acquisition in Fee: A fee simple purchase where an owner of real property conveys all rights, title, and interest in the real property to a buyer. Also referred to herein as “purchase of land in fee” or “purchase in fee.”
- Easement: Legal right to enter upon, access, or utilize real property owned, leased, or operated by another entity for a specified and limited purpose.

Use of funds for purchasing land in fee or for obtaining easement rights are eligible costs in the GREAT Grant program that can be counted towards reimbursement from the grant or attributed to the local match requirement. A grantee must provide evidence that either type of acquisition will facilitate last-mile service towards specific end-users.

Land Acquisition in Fee

The following items must be submitted to seek reimbursement from the grant or to attribute the costs to meet the local match requirement:

1. Address of the property
2. Appraisal of the property or the property tax value assessment from the county in which the property is located
3. Evidence of closing or sale of the property such as a proof of payment (copy of the canceled check)
4. Explanation of how this property will facilitate last-mile service towards specific end-users.

Easement

The following items must be submitted to seek reimbursement from the grant or attribute the costs to meet the local match requirement:

1. Copy of the deed or agreement of easement from the office of register of deeds from the county in which the property is located
2. Appraisal of the property subject to the easement
3. Evidence of payment to the holder rights, title or interest in the property
4. Explanation of how this easement will facilitate last-mile service towards specific end-users.

Ineligible Costs

- Recurring fees such as a multi-year lease
- Operating costs
- Any costs not directed at broadband service to end-users