



“How to Apply” Workshop For

THE USDA RURAL BROADBAND ACCESS LOAN AND LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM

*Nashua, NH: Tuesday, October 19, 2004.
St. Louis, MO: Thursday, October 21, 2004.*

Come to a **FREE workshop** and learn about the USDA Rural Broadband Access Loan and Loan Guarantee Program!

- **Improve the quality of your Broadband loan application!**
- **Learn how to use the Broadband Loan Application Guide!**
- **Speak with Broadband Program experts from Washington, D.C. and state offices!**
- **Consult with the Broadband Program experts about your specific project or application!**

THIS WORKSHOP WILL PROVIDE INFORMATION FOR PROSPECTIVE APPLICANTS ON THE BROADBAND LOAN PROGRAM'S APPLICATION AND REQUIREMENTS, INCLUDING:

- √ *Loan Purpose*
- √ *Loan Maturity*
- √ *The Business Plan*
- √ *The Market Survey*
- √ *Proposed Communities*
- √ *The Engineering/System Design*
- √ *Financial Information*
- √ *Credit Support*
- √ *Loan Collateral and Security Requirements*

Hear from Rural Development's Broadband experts on:

- ❖ What the Broadband Program is all about
- ❖ What types of loans are available
- ❖ Information on loans made to date and pending applications
- ❖ Common problems with submitted applications
- ❖ Requirements for a comprehensive market survey
- ❖ Eligibility requirements for:
 - Borrowers
 - Communities
 - Broadband services
 - Types of technology

The workshop features a Guest Speaker from an Approved Broadband Loan Applicant!

Please Register Today!

DETAILS ON HOW TO REGISTER ON THE REVERSE SIDE.

Nashua, NH, Tuesday, October 19, 2004.

Crowne Plaza Nashua, Ballroom, 2 Somerset Parkway, Nashua, NH; phone: 603-886-1200;

www.crowneplazanashua.com

St. Louis, MO, Thursday, October 21, 2004.

St. Louis Marriott West, Salon C, 660 Maryville Centre Dr., St. Louis, MO; phone 314-878-2747;

www.marriottstlouiswest.com

*How to Register for the Free
"How to Apply" Broadband Workshop:*

Nashua, NH: Tuesday, October 19, 2004.

Crowne Plaza Nashua, Ballroom, 2 Somerset Parkway, Nashua, NH

To register, please contact Karen Demers, USDA Rural Development, Concord, NH at karen.demers@nh.usda.gov; 603-223-6045. Please provide attendee name, organization/company, address, phone number, and email address. For information on the workshop, please contact Mary Campanola, USDA Rural Development, Washington, DC at mary.campanola@usda.gov; 202-720-8822. Media contact: Claiborn Crain at claiborn.crain@usda.gov; 202-720-1263.

St. Louis, MO: Thursday, October 21, 2004.

St. Louis Marriott West, Salon C, 660 Maryville Centre Dr., St. Louis, MO

To register, please contact Raymond Homer, USDA Rural Development, Columbia, MO at raymond.homer@mo.usda.gov; 573-876-0976. Please provide attendee name, organization/company, address, phone number, and email address. For information on the workshop, please contact Mary Campanola, USDA Rural Development, Washington, DC at mary.campanola@usda.gov; 202-720-8822. Media contact: Claiborn Crain at claiborn.crain@usda.gov; 202-720-1263.

The workshop will begin at 8:30 a.m. in St. Louis and 9:00 a.m. in Nashua, and will continue until approximately 4:00 p.m. local time. There will be a one-hour lunch break. Workshop attendees will need to make their own arrangements for lunch. The Rural Development Broadband staff will be available at the same location from 8:30 a.m. until 12:00 noon the day after the workshop for individual guidance by prior appointment. Please indicate when registering if you would like an individual appointment.

Agenda

8:00 a.m.-8:30 a.m. (9:00 a.m. Nashua): Refreshments
8:30 a.m. (St. Louis), 9:00 a.m. (Nashua): Introductions & Welcome
 USDA Rural Development Director Vermont/New Hampshire, Jolinda LaClair (Nashua)
 USDA Rural Development Director Missouri, Gregory C. Branum (St. Louis)
 Hilda G. Legg, Administrator, Rural Utilities Service, USDA
8:45 a.m. (St. Louis), 9:15 a.m. (Nashua): Broadband Workshop: Broadband Staff and General Field Representatives
Approximately 11:00 a.m.: Guest Speaker – Approved Broadband Loan Applicant
Approximately 12:00-1:00 p.m.: Lunch Break
Approximately 3:00 p.m.: Individual meetings with Broadband Staff and Rural Development General Field Representatives for interested attendees (following the conclusion of the workshop, and from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. the next day)

NOTE: The Broadband Loan Application Guide will be provided at the workshop. You can also download the guide from the Rural Development website at <http://www.usda.gov/rus/telecom/broadband.htm>.

About the USDA Rural Broadband Access Loan and Loan Guarantee Program:

The USDA Rural Broadband Access Loan and Loan Guarantee Program provides loans and loan guarantees for the construction, improvement, and acquisition of facilities and equipment for broadband service in eligible rural communities. Priority is given to applications that are proposing to serve areas where no residential broadband service currently exists. Information on the USDA Rural Broadband Access Loan and Loan Guarantee Program is available at: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>.

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To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Issue Date: October 2004
