

USDA Rural eConnectivity Program—ReConnect \$1.15 billion in loans and grants to expand the availability of broadband in rural areas with <100 Mbps downstream/20 Mbps upstream

- Provide 100 Mbps symmetrical broadband service to all locations (<25/3 Mbps score higher)
- Funds may be used for construction, reconstruction, and acquisition of broadband facilities and not for services (public-private partnerships must have a lead applicant primarily responsible)
- Up to 40% of total requested funding for acquiring existing facilities
- Applicant must own the facilities and cannot use funds to lease dark fiber for network
- Up to 5% of requested funds may be used for application costs
- 5-year build out requirement
- Project must be technically feasible
- All project costs must be able to be fully funded or accounted for
- Facilities funded with ReConnect funds will provide the broadband service proposed in the application for the composite economic life of the facilities

Application Deadline: November 24, 2021-February 22, 2022 <https://www.usda.gov/reconnect>

Why a Financial Wellness Platform?

~TrueConnect

Your employees need options. Retirement plans and HSAs are great, but they aren't always relevant to employees who live paycheck to paycheck and aren't planning for their financial future...

These employees need tools more relevant to where they are in their financial wellness journey—like loan programs, access to free online banking, and savings accounts to name a few.

A No Credit Check Advance will help those 40% who don't utilize the other benefit offerings you provide, but in order to feel fully secure in their finances, they need an entire Financial Wellness Platform.

The **TrueConnect Loan Benefit Program** for counties can help fill part of that need: no credit check, small loans up to \$3,000, payroll deductions over 12 months, financial education & credit counseling, rebuilds credit, no financial cost or risk to county, @24.99%APR, an alternative to payday loans, interest 11%-14% paid. Contact Susan, smayes@nmcountries.org

NMC & New Mexico Legislative Reports

The 2022 legislative session is just around the corner! NMC provides access to NMLR so county members can follow important legislation, receive tracking reports, and get real-time updates and alerts via cell or email.

Also, access general legislative updates such as agendas, calendars, and capital outlay project information. Open to all 33 counties as part of your membership

If you are interested in a NMLR account, contact Beverly Garcia (505-670-3022 or beverly@nmlr.com) for your NMLR credentials and training.

Governor Lujan Grisham proposes gross receipts tax cut on her agenda

The proposal would trim NM's GRTs by .25%, putting the rate at 4.875%, saving New Mexicans an estimated \$145 million annually. Stay tuned...

Treasury Department releases updated guidance for the Recovery Fund project and Expenditure Reports

The updated guidance on the Recovery Fund Project and Expenditure Report, adding a new field titled "Adopted Budget;" required for counties with more than 250,000 residents.

Counties explore innovative transportation and infrastructure programs

Counties are trying new and interesting ways to revolutionize their transportation infrastructure.

Apply now! NACo County, Court, and Justice Initiative

Counties and courts will apply together to participate to enhance cross-systems collaboration and address justice system priorities. Funding up to 10 counties.

Fri Nov 19 NACo Webinar: Tips and trick for maximizing ARPA spending Noon-1PM

NM County Managers Meet Up

Twenty county managers met to learn more about NMC services, ARPA funds, capital outlay w/Stevie Olson, high achiever leadership, NM Mortgage Finance Authority programs, recruiting/retaining employees, adult detention standardized housing, PERA return-to-work, destination source GRT, and the NMFA small business recovery grant program.



Training for Trainers Instructor Development class this week with Luna, Curry, San Juan, Bernalillo, Chaves, Sandoval, Socorro, and Valencia Counties participating.

Link to NMC Meetings [Annual Calendar](#)

Link to NMC Loss Prevention Trainings [RSVP](#)

All trainings open to county elected officials & employees

~~Thu Nov 18-19 Online CPR Instructor Development 8AM-11AM~~ Postponed

Tue Nov 30 Advisory Council meeting 11 AM TBD

Wed Dec 8 Virtual NMCIA Board meeting 8:30 AM

Tue & Thu Jan Live online NMEDGE Classes Jan. 11, 13, 17, 18, 25, 27

Mon Jan 17-18 Live online NM EDGE Classes

Tue Jan 18-20 NMC Legislative Conference Hybrid-In person & virtual, Santa Fe County

Tue Jan 18 Legislative Session Begins Noon

Tue Jan 18 NMCIA Membership meeting 9AM TBD

Tue Jan 18 NMC Board of Directors meeting 2PM

Thu Jan 27 Virtual NMC Executive Committee meeting 11AM

Wed Feb 2 Deadline for Bill Introduction

Sat Feb 5 NMC Board of Directors meeting 8:30AM Santa Fe County

Thu Feb 10 Virtual NMC Executive Committee meeting 11AM

Sat Feb 12-16 NACo Legislative Conference D.C.

Thu Feb 17 Legislative Session ends Noon

Tue & Thu Mar NM EDGE Classes Live Online, Mar. 8, 10, 15, 17, 22, 24, 29, 31

Wed Mar 16 NMCIA Board of Directors meeting 8:30AM TBD

Wed Mar 23 Legislative Regional meeting 10AM Dona Ana County

Thu Mar 24 Legislative Regional meeting 10AM Chaves County

Share your county news and photos at

www.facebook.com/pg/nmcountries33/posts

Submit county job postings [here](#)

View recent job postings [here](#)

New Employee? Add Directory updates [here](#)

Did someone forward you this email? [Sign up](#)