

Attachment J

If the project includes underserved customers, a digital inclusion plan must be attached for consideration. The plan should specify how the project will impact access to and use of information and communication technologies within the communities it serves, including individuals and communities that are the most disadvantaged. The plan must describe the specific needs of the community intended to be served by the project, and how the project will be tailored to meet those needs, including the carrier's efforts to ensure members of the community to be served will be able to afford the services offered, and must describe any discounts and/or support programs to be offered for low-income individuals. Additionally, the plan should include the pricing structure of the plan being offered to low-income subscribers in addition to the availability of Lifeline or Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) discounts and any terms and conditions of service.

Applicant Response

Nextlink Internet understands that affordability and digital literacy are critical to adoption and utilization of connectivity offered. As a company that has served rural and distressed communities when no other company would, we are acutely aware of the challenges that many rural Nebraskans face when it comes to affordable, high-quality connectivity.

Nextlink Internet, in addition to participating in the EBB and ACP programs, has a significant partnership with Microsoft (please see support letters in Attachment M) that provides access to robust digital inclusion and educational resources, including digital literacy courses, coding courses and skills development for in-demand jobs (also in partnership with LinkedIn). The following link to the Nextlink Internet website provides more details of the company's digital literacy offerings: <https://nextlinkinternet.com/about-us/partnerships-and-acquisitions/digital-literacy/>

Nextlink Internet will include a low-cost plan offering at 25 Mbps/5 Mbps for \$49.95 in the proposed service areas, which would result in \$19.95 total out-of-pocket for low-income households after the current ACP discount offered by the company. Nextlink promotes the ACP in most of our marketing materials and promotes the ACP to our existing customers through mailers and email campaigns.