

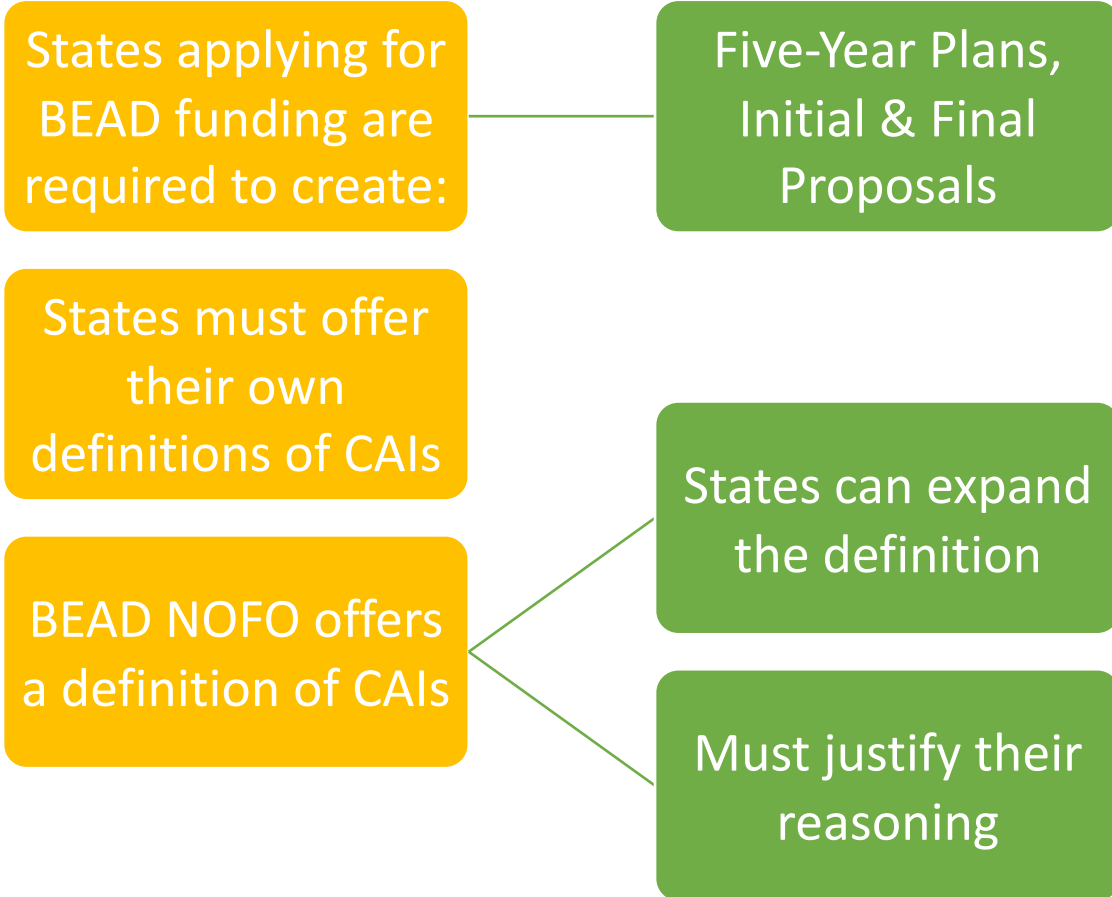
Defining Anchor Institutions

A Framework for Identifying CAIs in
Every Community



SHLB
SCHOOLS, HEALTH & LIBRARIES
BROADBAND COALITION

Background: Why do we need to define CAIs?





WHAT IS A COMMUNITY ANCHOR INSTITUTION?



What is a CAI?



Typically non-profit, public service organizations

Schools,
Libraries
healthcare centers
etc.



Gathering places for local communities

Rec centers
Public housing
Transportation hubs
Houses of worship
Fire and police stations, etc.



Broadband access points Connectivity

Help with electronic devices
and performing online
activities
Basic internet searches
Online job applications
Paying bills
Email
Device troubleshooting



Providing Connectivity to the wider community

Wireless
Hotspot lending devices,
etc.



Can a for-profit be a CAI?

- In communities where there aren't traditional anchors, a for-profit can serve as a CAI if they are the only point of gathering
 - Bar & Grills (Montana)
 - Entertainment centers, variety stores (Indiana)
 - Grocery stores dedicated to specific ethnic groups, hair salons (Ohio)

How are states defining CAIs?

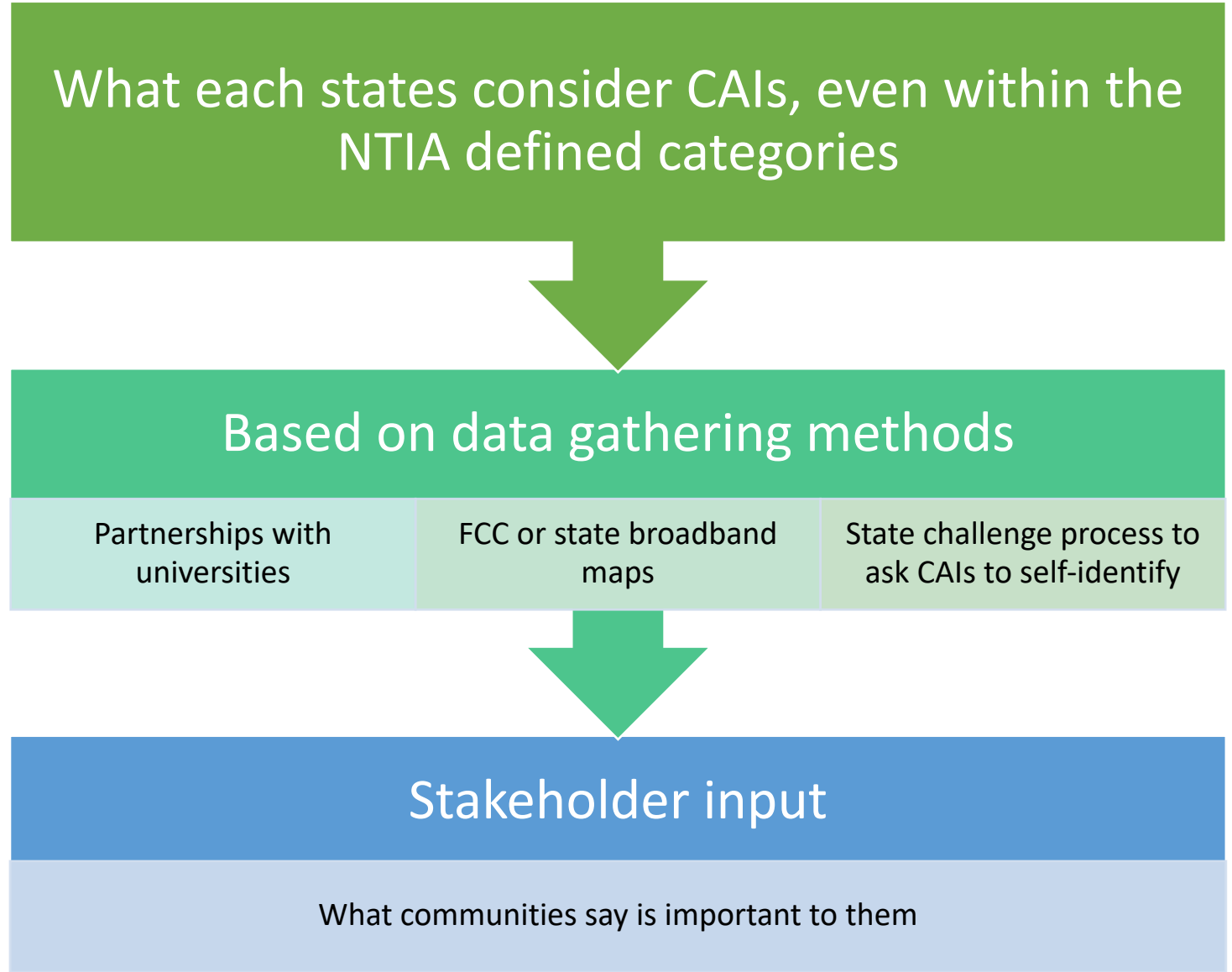
Most states choosing to adopt the NTIA definition provided in the BEAD NOFO:

“an entity such as a school, library, health clinic, health center, hospital or other medical provider, public safety entity, institution of higher education, public housing organization, or community support organization that facilitates greater use of broadband service by vulnerable populations, including, but not limited to, low-income individuals, unemployed individuals, children, the incarcerated, and aged individuals.”





Differences arise:





CAIs should be defined state-by-state,
and community-by-community.



Top-down vs Bottom-Up: A framework for defining CAIs



Top-Down

Includes traditional categories of CAIs like those included in the NTIA definition.

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graph TD; A[Includes traditional categories of CAIs like those included in the NTIA definition.] --> B[Encompasses CAIs like schools, libraries, hospitals, higher ed, etc.]; B --> C[Sub-groups of traditional CAIs that extend the same functions.]; C --> D[Typically non-profit, public service organizations];
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Encompasses CAIs like schools, libraries, hospitals, higher ed, etc.

Sub-groups of traditional CAIs that extend the same functions.

Typically non-profit, public service organizations

Top-Down Examples



Schools

Public and private schools (DE, HI, OH)
Childcare centers (IN, OH)



Institution of higher Education

Job training/Workforce development
(VT)



Public housing organizations

Homeless shelters (IN, VT)
Halfway houses (OH)
Refugee centers (OH)



Public safety entities

Fire houses (IN, VT)
EMS stations (OH, VT)



Medical care providers

Urgent Care centers (OH)
Nursing homes (OH)



Health Clinic

Rural health clinics (OH)

Bottom-Up



Every community is different

Asking communities what's important to them

BEAD opened an opportunity for states to engage their local communities



Considers the kinds of institutions that serve the functions of CAIs, but don't fall under traditional categories

Where do people go to get connected to the internet/help with devices?



Communities that benefit from a bottom-up approach include

Sparsely populated, rural, unincorporated, low-income urban

Tribal nations often have non-traditional anchors




Included as "community support organizations"



“In rural areas, it is important to consider that these communities may not have access to the same resources and locations that other communities have, and places of community gathering may look quite different”

--Indiana Five-Year Plan (p. 34)



Bottom-up Examples (by state)

Kansas

- Local grocery store, grain elevators, pork rotunda

Indiana

- Religious centers, outdoor parks, car parks/gas stations, fairgrounds, public transportation stations

Montana

- Ranger stations, bar and grills

Vermont

- houses of worship, correctional facilities and juvenile detention centers, public access television station facilities, and public outdoor spaces

Things to consider when defining CAIs

- States will use a combination approach to defining CAIs
- What kinds of institutions are available in local communities?
- Where do people go to access the internet and/or get help with devices?





Questions?

Comments?

erubin@SHLB.org

