



FACT SHEET
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program
Post-Award Modifications

Overview

The Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) award recipient may request post-award modifications to its originally approved project plan. Modifications are allowed if the request meets the following criteria:

- The recipient proposing the post-award modifications demonstrates that the statutory purposes of BTOP are still served after the modification.
- The recipient and Federal Program Officer (FPO) follow the required procedural steps when seeking approval for the modification.

The recipient must comply with the general statutory and programmatic requirements of BTOP. The recipient may have to fulfill additional obligations depending on the modification requested.

Post-Award Modifications

The recipient can request post-award modifications for its award. The table below provides detail on permissible technical changes and associated recipient responsibilities.

Categories	Recipient Responsibilities
Purchasing or Leasing New Fiber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Provide a description of the fiber to be purchased and the capacity difference between the original fiber and new fiber. ■ Detail the type of fiber being purchased and state how it will comply with the Buy American provision of the Recovery Act and implementing regulations. ■ Provide a color-coded map of the project area that designates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The approved route. • The unserved and underserved areas within the project area. • The areas along the map where the new fiber will be located.
Route Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Provide a color-coded map of the project area that designates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The approved route. • The unserved and underserved areas within the project area. • The originally approved route contrasted with the proposed route change. ■ Provide a narrative describing the unserved and underserved areas in the project area. The narrative must demonstrate that the project area(s) continue to meet the definition of unserved or underserved.
Microwave System Location Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Provide a color-coded map of the project area that designates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The approved route. • The unserved and underserved areas within the project area. • The originally approved microwave system locations within the proposed changed locations. ■ Provide a narrative describing the unserved and underserved areas in the project area. The





Categories	Recipient Responsibilities
	narrative must demonstrate that the project area(s) continue to meet the definition of unserved or underserved.
Equipment Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Provide a description of the substitution equipment to be purchased. ■ Demonstrate the reasons that the substituted equipment is of equal or greater quality than the original equipment. ■ Describe the type of substitution equipment to be purchased and state how it will comply with the Buy American provision of the Recovery Act and implementing regulations.

Submitting a Post-Award Modification

To start the post-award modification process, recipients must complete the actions outlined in the table below.

Post-Award Modification Request Process: Recipient Actions
<p>Contact the assigned FPO with the nature of the post-award modification requests.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Request prior written approval of the deviation(s) or change(s) from the FPO. ■ Provide a narrative with a full explanation of the proposed deviation(s) or change(s). The narrative must discuss how the deviation(s) or change(s) serve the BTOP statutory purposes established through the Recovery Act.
<p>Verify that the proposed deviation(s) or change(s) will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Not increase the approved budget. ■ Not delay or interfere with the timely completion of the project.
<p>Additional Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ If the deviation(s) or change(s) is/are proposed after the completion of the EA, an addendum to the EA will be necessary. The recipient may need to obtain environmental regulatory clearances depending on the size and scope of the deviation or change.

Additional Resources

For additional information and guidance post-award modifications, please refer to the following resources:

- BTOP Recipient Handbook FY 2010.
- 15 CFR § 14.25 and 15 CFR § 24.30.

