What is Broadband?

Broadband refers to **high-speed Internet access** that is always on and is significantly faster than traditional dial-up access. Broadband includes several high-speed transmission technologies, such as **fiber optic, wireless, Digital Subscriber Line (DSL) and coaxial cable**.

Minimum upload and download speeds are essential to quality of service for end user customers. **The FCC currently defines high speed Internet access** as download speeds of at least **25 Mbps** and upload speeds of at least **3 Mbps**.

Why Does Broadband Matter?

- Broadband is the link that ties your community together and connects it to the world.
- It doesn't matter if your community is in an urban center or a remote area; high-speed Internet access is the tool that will help your community members and institutions thrive.

Education

K-12 schools **spend** more than **$7 billion a year** on textbooks

Going digital can **save** schools as much as **$600 per student** per year

Broadband helps schools reallocate funds to resources and activities that **enrich student learning.**

Telehealth

Hospitals without electronic health records will spend **$371 billion** more over 15 years than their counterparts
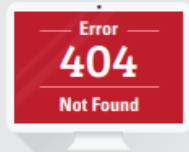
Telehealth reduces hospital admissions by **25 percent** and overall length of stay by **59 percent**

Broadband improves healthcare outcomes, controls costs and **extends the reach of healthcare.**

Why Does Broadband Matter?

Local Business

97 percent of Americans search online for local products and services, but **just half** of small businesses have websites
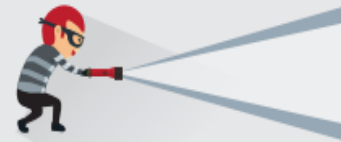
Small business owners report that using broadband **increases sales** and **cost savings, creates jobs** and **retains sales and jobs**

Broadband unleashes entrepreneurship and empowers small businesses to compete online.

Government

Without an online presence, governments are **slower** to **distribute information, address critical issues** and **receive feedback**

Broadband reinvents the concept of "business hours," **connecting** citizens to government **any time** and **anywhere**

Broadband **increases engagement and collaboration** between governments and citizens.

Public Safety

Communities without access to real-time data experience **25 percent** higher rates of lost lives, injuries and crime

Broadband enables emergency services to utilize **one integrated network** for coordinated responses times

Broadband enables quick access to emergency services so that first responders can save lives.

Community

Communities with adoption rates below 80 percent have **2,000 fewer businesses** than their counterparts

Broadband access can increase home values by an average of **3.1 percent**

Broadband is a pillar for community sustainability and growth.

The Connected Community

- Data Collection
- Economic Development
- Smart Technology
- Cost-Savings

- Access
- Mobility
- Inclusion
- Sustainability

- Innovation
- Education
- Health
- Mapping

- Resiliency & Business Continuity
- Civic Engagement
- Data Driven Decisions
- Workforce Development