Infrastructure Financing
Regional Broadband Meeting
January 2018

Finance Authority of Maine at http://www.famemaine.com/business/

- Available for private companies, not municipalities:
  - Financing in the form of business loans or guarantees on direct lending
  - Equity financing would go through CEI
- If a not-for-profit structure is in place for the project
  - Conduit bond program (Private Entity Bond), provides tax-free rates which reduces investment by 1/3

State statute authorizing municipal OR regional utilities to issue revenue bonds: https://legislature.maine.gov/legis/bills/bills_127th/chapters/PUBLIC222.asp

Maine Municipal Bond Bank at http://www.mainebondbank.com/ provides assistance with taxed and tax-exempt bonds, providing access to low-cost capital funds.

- Tax-exempt bonds: Toni at tir@mmbb.com
- Taxed bonds: http://www.mainebondbank.com/BondCounsel.aspx

ConnectME Authority Broadband Infrastructure Project Funding at http://www.maine.gov/connectme/grants/index.shtml provides for broadband projects that meet certain goals, which vary year to year.

- Matching funds of at least 50% are required

Northern Border Regional Commission Grants at http://www.nbrc.gov/content/economic-infrastructure-development-investments provide grants to increase access, affordability, and use of broadband

- Application window February-April 2018

US Department of Agriculture Community Connect Grants at http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/community-connect-grants provide for the construction or leasing of land and/or buildings used to deploy broadband services.

- Matching funds of at least 15% from non-federal sources required

US Department of Agriculture Telecommunications Infrastructure Loans and Loan Guarantees at http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/telecommunications-infrastructure-loans-loan-guarantees provide for constructing, expanding or improving broadband.

- Applications accepted year-round