

Mississippi Broadband Association MSBA - Connecting MS



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2023 Spring Broadband Summit

When: May 11th, 2023

Time: 8am to 4 pm (Breakfast and Lunch Provided)

Where: Millsaps College - Jackson, MS

Email: quinnjordan@msba.info

RSVP: Broadband Community RSVP

The State of Mississippi will receive unprecedented federal funding opportunities over the next 3-5 years that will be managed and awarded by Office of Broadband Expansion and Accessibility of Mississippi (BEAM) to eligible service providers. The Mississippi Broadband Association (MSBA) will host a Spring Broadband Summit focused on funding opportunities and requirements, compliance issues, policies and procedures, workforce and career tech development needs, and technology.

The target audience for this event is any internet service provider, contractor, professional service provider (accounting / engineering / legal, community college workforce and career tech development teams, high school administration and vocational instructors, and state agency personnel. Local governments planning to use ARPA funds for broadband expansion are encouraged to attend.

Morning sessions will focus on the 'State of Broadband" and provide an overview and update on federal funding, industry technology updates from state and industry leaders including Sally Doty, Director of BEAM. Workforce and Career Tech Directors for MS Community Colleges, Accelerate MS, Nokia, Gary Bolton – National Fiber Broadband Association. Highly focused individual breakout sessions in the afternoon will be geared toward providers, workforce and career tech development and state and local governments. These sessions will provide pertinent information beneficial to the individual targeted groups. Break out session guest will be BEAM, Horne CPA, Neel Schaffer, Archives and History -Section 106 Review, AT&T, C Spire, Incompas, TEC, MDOT, MCCB, Workforce and Career Tech Panel and we have invited representative from various federal agencies – NTIA, BEAD, USDA and the FCC.

MSBA is a standalone 501 C (6) association poised to take on the role of championing and assisting broadband expansion efforts through our member services, community engagement, roundtable discussions, and policy and procedure committees. MSBA seeks to provide resources to all parties involved through cooperation and trusted high levels of transparencies. MSBA committees will work to synergize assets, develop partnerships, gather and disseminate information, provide assistance and guidance with the grant process, community education, and work to overcome other industry obstacles to provide high-speed internet to all Mississippians.

Remember to RSVP for the upcoming free event "MS Spring Broadband Summit May 11th 2022- <u>Broadband Community RSVP</u> .