Wabash County Broadband FAQs

The following resources are meant to answer some of the most frequent questions related to broadband.

Question: What can/should I do to get faster/reliable internet in my home?
Answer: Consult the "find internet provider" portal, take the speed test, challenge the FCC maps, apply to the Indiana Connectivity program, and subscribe to the IN Broadband Office for updates.

Provider Portal
[Find internet providers](#) in your area portal allows you to see plans, prices & ratings for every internet provider near you.

Speed Test
The speed test helps identify the most underserved broadband internet service in the area. If you take the speed test, we'll receive valuable information that we can use to improve internet speed. - https://imagineone85.org/broadbandspeedtest/

FCC Broadband Map
- To make sure that the funding reaches the areas that need broadband most, we ask residents and businesses to look at the map and verify the information is correct. [This article states](#) how to complete this in three easy steps.
- To view how to challenge, click [here](#).
- To view a timeline and learn more about the FCC Map, click [here.](#)

Indiana Connectivity Program

The Indiana Connectivity Program is an extension of the NLC Grant Program. The program allows unserved or underserved locations to apply for consideration in the Next Level Connections portal to initiate their interest in receiving broadband internet service. Internet service providers will have the opportunity to review the locations submitted by end-users and place bids to the state on the cost of providing service to these locations. We strongly encourage residents and businesses to leverage this program that lack broadband internet access. Here is the link to the program - https://www.in.gov/ocra/broadband/icp/

Indiana Broadband Office
Here is the link to subscribe the IN Broadband Office for updates (enter email below) - https://www.in.gov/ocra/

Question: What is broadband?

Answer: It is this high-speed, reliable and affordable connectivity that enhances community development, enables businesses to grow and equips Hoosiers with the necessary tools. Broadband has become essential for our everyday life, industries such as agriculture, healthcare, education, eCommerce rely on it.

Question: How is broadband delivered?
Answer: Broadband can be delivered by one of the following methods
- Fiber optic cable: technology that converts signals carrying data through glass fibers.
- Digital Subscriber Line (DSL): Transmitting data over already installed copper telephone lines Cable modem: TV cables are utilized to transmit data.
- Wireless, fixed or mobile: Connects devices to a local internet service "over the air" via electromagnetic waves.
- Satellite: Transfers data through a 2-3' dish, modem and clear line of sight to a satellite.
- Speed is measured in bits per second (bps), which is the speed at which data is transferred.
- The current FCC benchmark definition of broadband is a speed of 25 megabits/second (Mbps) download and at least 3 Mbps upload.

Question: Do I have broadband?
Answer: While the definition is a bit vague, it really means that if internet service available at your home is slower than 25 megabits per second or Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload (Mbps refers to the amount of data that can be handled by your internet connection), 25/3 for short, then you are considered unserved. If you do have 25/3 Mbps service but not 100/20 Mbps available, then you are considered underserved. If either of these is the case, your home could be eligible for funds to provide service of at least 100/20 Mbps. In case you were wondering, "gig" service refers to speeds of 1,000 Mbps. The FCC unveiled a new map and needs your help to make sure your address and internet service offered are accurate.

Read more on how to review your address by reading this blog
post: 3 Steps to Bring Better Broadband to Indiana – Purdue Center for Regional Development

Question: My internet is very expensive, are there any discounts or programs available to help cover the cost of broadband?
Answer: Yes, the federal government and broadband providers offer a variety of discounts.

FCC Affordable Connectivity Program Homepage
- The Affordable Connectivity Program is an FCC benefit program that helps ensure that households can afford the broadband they need for work, school, healthcare and more. The Affordable Connectivity Program is

limited to one monthly service discount and one device discount per household.

Private Providers:
- AT&T
    - [AT&T Affordable Connectivity Program Flyer](#)
    - [AT&T ACCESS Checklist](#)
    - [Access from AT&T Flyer](#)
    - AT&T Digital Literacy [Program](#)
- Comcast
    - RISE [Program](#)
    - Internet Essentials - [Comcast Affordable Connectivity Program Flyer](#)
- MetaLink
    - MetaLINK Affinity [Plans](#)