

ReConnect Program: Frequently Asked Questions

Certifications Inquires

Updated February 21, 2020

Question: Does it matter what type of Professional Engineer (PE) certifies the Project?

Answer: Per the FY2020 Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA), all applicants are required to submit a Network Design, Network Diagram, Project Costs, and Buildout Timeline and Milestones, all of which must be certified by a PE. The PE must be licensed in at least one of the states where the project will be constructed. The selection of the PE does not require prior RUS approval; however, it is the responsibility of the applicant to hire PEs who are experienced in the design and construction of broadband networks.

Question: What certifications must an applicant sign?

Answer: All applicants must sign and submit the following certifications within the Online Application System. The only security role that can sign and certify each item is the Representative-Signature-Certifier (Rep-Sign-Cert).

Required certifications:

- Certification Regarding Architectural Barriers
- Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters – Primary Covered Transactions
- Certificate Regarding Flood Hazard Area Precautions
- Certification Regarding Lobbying for Contracts, Grants, Loans and Cooperative Agreements
- Civil Rights Compliance Certification
- Federal Collection Policies for Commercial Debt Certification
- Representations Regarding Felony Conviction (Required only for Non-profit, For-profit corporations, and Cooperatives and Mutual Organizations)
- Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970
- Compliance with RUS Award Documents

Some of the certifications on this list require the applicant to answer questions or upload documents before signing.

In addition, other parts of the application require certifications that vary according to the specifics of each proposed project. For further guidance, please consult the FY2020 FOA available on the ReConnect website at <https://reconnect.usda.gov> under Forms and Resources. The Application Guide also provides additional details and is available on the ReConnect website.