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## **NTIA Awards \$13.1 Million in Grants to Five States to Assist in FirstNet Planning**

**Washington, D.C.** - The U.S. Commerce Department's National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) today announced it has awarded the first \$13.1 million in grants under the State and Local Implementation Grant Program (SLIGP). The awards are going to Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, New York and Ohio, and will support state planning, consultation and outreach activities of these states as they prepare for the launch of the first nationwide public safety broadband network.

The Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 authorized the creation of the first nationwide broadband network for public safety, the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet). The law also directed NTIA to develop a grant program for states to support planning, education and outreach as they consult with FirstNet on the deployment of the broadband network, which will enable first responders to better communicate during emergencies and save lives.

"The input of states, tribes, and local governments will be critical as FirstNet develops its plans for this historic network," said Lawrence E. Strickling, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Information and Communications and NTIA Administrator. "NTIA's State and Local Implementation Grant Program will give states the resources they need to consult with FirstNet on deployment of a nationwide public safety broadband network."

Of the \$13.1 million in grants announced today, \$2.5 million is going to Colorado, \$1.4 million will go to Connecticut, \$724,613 will go to Delaware, \$4.86 million to New York, and Ohio will receive \$3.6 million. Others will be awarded on a rolling basis.

Read the full article at: <http://www.ntia.doc.gov/press-release/2013/ntia-awards-131-million-grants-five-states-assist-firstnet-planning>