



Broadband Data Collection

Bulk Fabric Challenge Quick-Start Guide

Step 1: Getting Access to the “Broadband Serviceable Location Fabric” (Fabric)

An entity that wishes to file bulk Fabric challenge data must first execute a license agreement with the FCC’s contractor, CostQuest, to gain access to the Fabric dataset.

The process for Tribal governmental entities is outlined at [fcc.gov/GovFabricAccess](https://www.fcc.gov/GovFabricAccess).

Step 2: Working with the Fabric

The Fabric is provided as a ZIP archive consisting of multiple files in a Comma Separated Values (CSV) format. Each file contains location records for an entire county. See more details about what the Fabric is and the data it includes at [fcc.gov/LocationFabric](https://www.fcc.gov/LocationFabric).

At the bottom of that page is a video tutorial showing some methods of working with the Fabric data. We recommend reviewing the video, particularly at the 19-minute mark, which focuses on “How to Map the Data,” as visualizing the location points is one approach to review and validate the Fabric data for a particular geographic area.

Step 3: Identify Possible Fabric Challenges

To identify possible Fabric challenges, start by reviewing what is a “Broadband Serviceable Location” (BSL) at [fcc.gov/BSL](https://www.fcc.gov/BSL). Note, not all locations are BSLs. As such, we recommend that you compare the Fabric data with your own datasets with an eye towards whether the locations that you identify are or are not BSLs. In addition to adding missing locations, you can also submit challenges to correct the addresses, unit counts and other information associated with an existing location. It is important to use the right category code for what you are trying to correct when submitting challenges. We have posted some tips for how to submit a successful Fabric challenge at [fcc.gov/FabricTips](https://www.fcc.gov/FabricTips).

Step 4: File Bulk Fabric Challenge Data

If an entity believes that it has identified missing or mislabeled BSLs, it can file a bulk challenge, or a proposed set of corrections, to the Fabric. Bulk Fabric challenge data must align with the data specifications at [fcc.gov/FabricDataSpecs](https://www.fcc.gov/FabricDataSpecs), and you can find a template file at [fcc.gov/FormatBulkFabric](https://www.fcc.gov/FormatBulkFabric).

Entities should submit bulk Fabric challenges in the BDC system at bdc.fcc.gov. A [video tutorial](#) that walks filers through the submission process can be watched at [fcc.gov/BulkFabricFilingTutorial](https://www.fcc.gov/BulkFabricFilingTutorial).

Additional resources to assist filers with formatting the bulk Fabric challenges include:

- A knowledge base article describing how to file bulk Fabric challenges: [fcc.gov/FormatBulkFabric](https://www.fcc.gov/FormatBulkFabric)
- Tips about how to file successful Fabric challenges: [fcc.gov/FabricTips](https://www.fcc.gov/FabricTips)
- A webinar on bulk Fabric challenges: [fcc.gov/ChallengeBulkFabric](https://www.fcc.gov/ChallengeBulkFabric)
- Bulk Fabric challenge FAQs: [fcc.gov/BulkFabricFAQ](https://www.fcc.gov/BulkFabricFAQ)