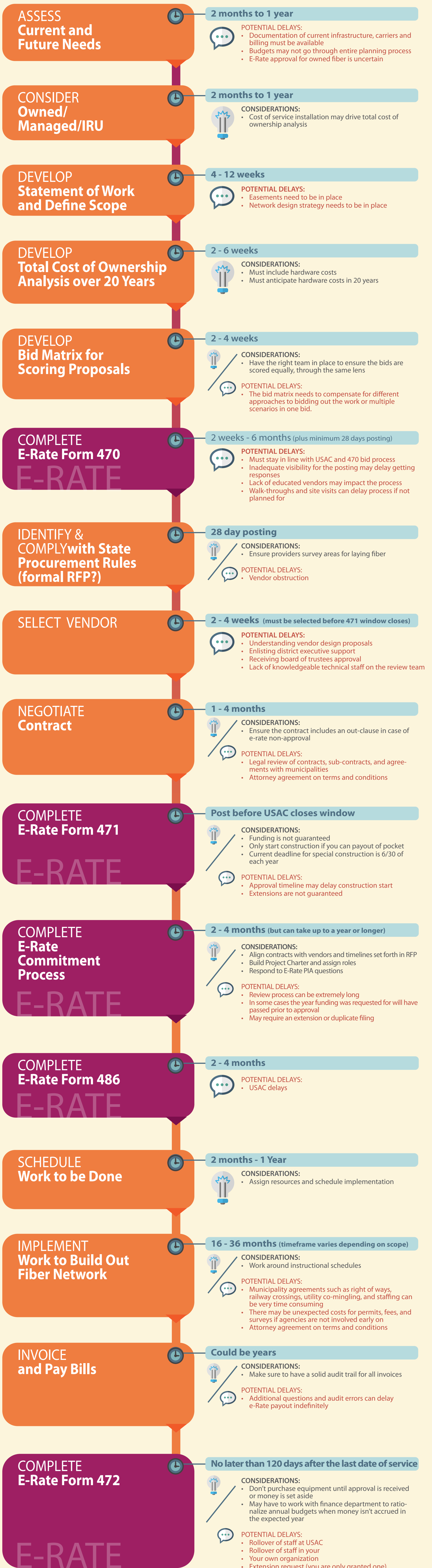


Network Fiber Buildout: Timelines and Potential Delays

START PROCESS

Note that there is significant variation in time frames as these will vary based on the size and scope of the project.



Other Factors and issues to keep in mind:

<p>Funding Expiration:</p> <p>Some districts found that the review process was so slow that they weren't able to complete the project before their funding expired. This can be mitigated by preparing for the volume of questions that come out of the review process and prioritizing the review process to respond rapidly to questions.</p>	<p>Provider Obstruction:</p> <p>Sometimes current service providers who cannot or will not provide fiber may implicitly or explicitly obstruct the process.</p>	<p>Right-of-Way Delays:</p> <p>Some districts have been unable to get fiber built because they couldn't get the right-of-ways they needed. Build-outs can be stalled after getting approval, but then running into this kind of delay. This can be mitigated by building community partnerships in advance.</p>
<p>Code 9 Complaints:</p> <p>Districts may find that after they do their bids and all the paperwork that a disgruntled provider calls a code 9—a complaint alleging waste, fraud, or abuse. For some districts that has meant keeping careful documentation that the provider not only didn't bid, but doesn't have the physical capabilities to meet their needs.</p>	<p>Increased Budget Scrutiny:</p> <p>Districts are finding increased scrutiny of fiber build options submitted to e-rate. One found that although the district followed every rule and regulation in regards to the bid process, their funding request was denied for not choosing the lowest cost option, even though the calculators they used had concluded that they did.</p>	<p>Potential Loss of Funding:</p> <p>Districts sometimes lose time or funding because they failed to follow state or district rules, fail to keep proper documentation, or are unable to explain their scoring matrix.</p>