<u>Back</u>

<u>header</u>

Schools and Libraries News Brief

June 9, 2006

Summer Format for News Briefs

During the summer months, many schools are closed and applicants may be on vacation or involved in other activities. Consequently, we are shortening the format of the News Briefs for June, July, and August to include only breaking news and timely reminders. Look for the expanded guidance topics to resume in early September as we prepare for the opening of the FY2007 Form 471 application filing window.

Commitments for Funding Year 2006

Funding Year 2006. USAC will release FY2006 Wave 8 funding commitment decision letters (FCDLs) June 13. As of June 9, FY2006 commitments total over \$345 million for approved Priority 1 requests (Telecommunications Services and Internet Access).

USAC will continue to issue weekly funding commitment waves. After noon on the date that the FCDLs are mailed, you can check to see if you have a commitment by using USAC's <u>Automated</u> <u>Search of Commitments</u> tool.

Additional Guidance on FCC Remand Order FCC 06-54

USAC has published a <u>table of all applicants listed in the three appendices</u> of the first appeals remand order <u>FCC 06-54</u>. The list contains the following:

- Billed Entity Name
- Billed Entity Number
- Appendix (A, B, or C)
- Funding Year
- Form 470/471 Application Number as shown in the order
- Actual Form 470/471 Application Number, if different from that shown in the order

Applications that featured only barcodes (in the format NEC.xxx.xx-xx-xx.xxxxxxx) because they were denied for failing Minimum Processing Standards (MPS) have now been assigned an application number, which appears in the final column. (Beginning with FY2000, each Form 470 and 471 has been assigned an application number even if it fails to meet MPS.) Other entries identify and correct any discrepancies in the data listed in the appendices.

Information on applications that were not specifically included in this list but that will receive relief under this order will be provided in a future News Brief.

The FCC directed USAC to process the applications listed in the appendices and issue a decision within 60 days from the release date of the order. USAC is reaching out to applicants for additional information needed to complete this processing. However, USAC may not be able to complete processing for those applicants that do not respond within the required timeframe.

Let USAC Know If You Can Answer Questions This Summer

From May 26 through September 8, USAC's Summer Contact procedure is in effect. That means that USAC must make a successful two-way contact before it can enforce its <u>Deadlines for</u> <u>Information Requests</u>. If you or someone on your staff will be available during the summer to answer questions from Program Integrity Assurance (PIA), invoicing, problem resolution, or other USAC review activities, please let us know. You can do this by:

- Responding to the email, fax, or voicemail we leave in our attempt to contact you
- Updating the contact information on your form

• Clicking on the active link "Held for Contact Person" in the <u>Form 471 Application Status</u> <u>Tool</u> if that is the status of your application. You can then provide your updated contact information to USAC.

Providing this information will help USAC process your application faster if we have any questions.

You may download and print copies of <u>Schools and Libraries News Briefs</u> on USAC's website. You may <u>subscribe</u> to or <u>unsubscribe</u> from this news brief. For program information, please visit the <u>Schools and</u> <u>Libraries area</u> of the USAC website, <u>submit a question</u>, or call us toll-free at 1-888-203-8100. Feel free to forward this news brief to any interested parties.

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Back