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Schools and Libraries News Brief

August 18, 2006

Commitments for Funding Years 2006

Funding Year 2006. USAC will release FY2006 Wave 18 funding commitment decision letters (FCDLs) August 22. As of August 18, FY2006 commitments total just under \$605 million for approved Priority 1 requests (Telecommunications Services and Internet Access).

Funding Year 2005. USAC will release FY2005 Wave 54 FCDLs August 23. This wave will include commitments for approved Internal Connections and Basic Maintenance funding requests at 84% and above. As of August 18, FY2005 commitments total over \$1.72 billion.

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 [Automated Search of Commitments](#) tool.

Update on Appeals Processing

A number of applicants have filed appeals related to [ministerial or clerical \(M&C\) errors](#) featured on their Forms 471. Because USAC has been directed by the FCC to give applicants an opportunity to correct M&C errors, it is not necessary to appeal a USAC decision that resulted solely from one or more of these errors. Consequently:

- If an appeal concerns only M&C errors, USAC will send the applicant a letter dismissing the appeal and will give the applicant an opportunity to correct those errors through the customary M&C correction process.
- If an appeal concerns both M&C errors and other issues, USAC will give the applicant an opportunity to correct the M&C errors during the appeal review process. USAC will follow its regular appeals process to address the other issues.
- If the appeal concerns only issues other than M&C errors, USAC will follow its regular appeals process.

Please note that if USAC did not issue an Administrator's Decision Letter (ADL) or a Revised Funding Commitment Decision Letter (RFCDL) on your appeal before May 19, 2006, you can still [submit corrections](#) for M&C errors that appear on the Funding Request Numbers (FRNs) on the application that was under appeal.

Approved Appeals

Appeals that are approved in full and some appeals that are approved but where funding was reduced or denied will no longer undergo the two-step process of an ADL followed by a RFCDL. Instead, USAC will issue only an RFCDL committing the approved funding. For the next few weeks, appellants may only see the RFCDL with no additional explanation in the comment field. Shortly thereafter, the RFCDL comment field should contain an explanation that the appeal was approved in full along with any other comments about subsequent funding modifications or denials. This streamlined process will allow applicants and service providers to act more quickly on positive commitments resulting from appeals.

Appeals that are denied (either for one or multiple FRNs) will continue to receive both an ADL and (if appropriate) an RFCDL.

Please continue to watch the [Schools and Libraries area](#) of the USAC website and future News Briefs for more information on appeals.

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