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Schools and Libraries News Brief

April 13, 2007

TIP OF THE WEEK: If you are an applicant or a service provider submitting a service substitution request, make sure to include your contact information – name, title, street address, fax number, and email address. We need accurate contact information to be able to discuss your request if we have questions.

Commitments for Funding Year 2006

Funding Year 2006. USAC will release FY2006 Wave 48 Funding Commitment Decision Letters (FCDLs) April 17. This wave will include commitments for approved Internal Connections and Basic Maintenance funding requests at 86% and above and denials at 82% and below. As of April 13, FY2006 commitments total just under \$1.9 billion.

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.

Service Provider Training Materials Posted

USAC has posted the materials for the service provider training sessions on its website. The four presentations are available on the [2007 Service Provider Training Information page](#).

If you are attending the training, please print or download copies of the training materials and bring them with you. USAC will not provide printed copies at the sessions.

CIPA Requirements and Form 486

In general, applicants file [Form 486, Receipt of Service Confirmation Form](#), after services have started for a funding year. However, applicants that meet certain conditions can file Form 486 early – that is, after USAC has issued a funding commitment and before August 1 of the funding year.

For early filing, the following conditions must be met:

- USAC has issued a positive funding commitment on each of the Funding Request Numbers (FRNs) listed in Block 3 of the Form 486, and
- The applicant has confirmed with the service provider that the services on each FRN will start on or before July 31 of the funding year.

If those conditions are met, and if the applicant checks the box in Item 6a of the Form 486, the Form 486 can be filed early.

One of the certifications on the Form 486 concerns the applicant's compliance with the [Children's Internet Protection Act \(CIPA\)](#). As a reminder, the requirements and timelines for CIPA compliance are listed below.

CIPA Requirements

In general, CIPA requires schools and libraries receiving discounts on Internet Access, Internal Connections, and/or Basic Maintenance services to certify that they are enforcing a policy of Internet safety that includes measures to block or filter Internet access for both minors and adults to certain visual depictions.

To receive discounted services, your school or library authority must certify that:

- You are in compliance with CIPA, or

- You are undertaking actions to comply with CIPA, or
- CIPA does not apply because you are receiving discounts for Telecommunications Services only.

1. **Technology protection measure (filter).** To be in compliance with CIPA, schools and libraries must have a technology protection measure. This is a specific technology, such as a filter, that blocks or filters certain Internet material. It must protect against access to child pornography, visual depictions that are obscene, or — when Internet access is used by minors — material that may be harmful to minors. It may be disabled for adults engaged in bona fide research or other lawful purposes.
2. **Internet safety policy.** Schools and libraries also must have an Internet safety policy. For schools, the policy must include monitoring the online activities of minors. The policy must address the following issues:
 - Access by minors to inappropriate matter on the Internet and World Wide Web
 - The safety and security of minors when using electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communications
 - Unauthorized access including "hacking" and other unlawful activities by minors online
 - Unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal information regarding minors
 - Measures designed to restrict minors' access to material harmful to minors
3. **Reasonable public notice and public hearing.** Your proposed Internet safety policy, including the technology protection measure, must be addressed at a public hearing for which you provide reasonable public notice. For private schools, the notice can be provided to the constituent community rather than the public at large.

Timetable for Compliance

Beginning with Funding Year 2001, your First Funding Year for purposes of CIPA is the first year in which all of the following events occur:

- You apply for funding for discounted services in the categories of Internet Access, Internal Connections, and/or Basic Maintenance.
- USAC funds one or more of those funding requests (i.e., USAC makes a positive commitment on one or more of the Funding Request Numbers (FRNs) associated with your funding requests).
- You successfully file a Form 486 for one or more of the funded FRNs.

In your First Funding Year, you can be undertaking actions to comply with CIPA. If you are unfamiliar with CIPA or you want more information on this topic, refer to the "Documentation for 'Undertaking Actions'" section of the [website guidance on CIPA](#).

Your Second Funding Year for purposes of CIPA is always the funding year following your First Funding Year, even if you apply for Telecommunications Services only or if you don't apply at all. In general, you must be in compliance with CIPA at the beginning of your Second Funding Year. You can request a waiver of CIPA requirements for your Second Funding Year, but only if you are prevented from certifying compliance because of state or local procurement rules or regulations or competitive bidding requirements. You cannot request a waiver simply because you aren't yet in compliance.

You must be in compliance with CIPA at the beginning of your Third Funding Year.

For specific information and guidance on CIPA, please refer to the [Form 486](#), the [Form 486 Instructions](#), and [Applicant Step 10, Children's Internet Protection Act](#) in the Reference Area.

Two Network Diagrams in the Reference Area

In certain situations, service provider equipment located at an applicant's site can be considered for funding as a Priority 1 service. USAC refers to this equipment as [on-premise Priority 1 equipment](#).

Because of updated guidance, USAC has added two diagrams to this document to clarify that if there are multiple Priority 1 services, there can be a single demarcation point to the applicant's local network for each service.

The two examples consist of:

- A request for multiple services with a router that may meet the appropriate conditions
- A request for multiple services with a router that does not meet the appropriate conditions.

You can find these examples in "5. Examples of Acceptable and Unacceptable Configurations" section of [Step 6: On-Premise Priority 1 Equipment](#) on the USAC website.

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