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Schools and Libraries News Brief

July 11, 2008

TIP OF THE WEEK: If you are mailing paper forms to USAC, please do not staple the pages together. Staples must be removed before the forms can be processed which causes extra work and increases the risk of torn pages and possible loss of information.

Commitments for Funding Years 2008 and 2007

Funding Year 2008. USAC will release two FY2008 waves of Funding Commitment Decision Letters (FCDLs) next week. Wave 12 on July 15 will include commitments for approved Priority 1 requests (Telecommunications Services and Internet Access) at all discount levels. Wave 13 on July 16 will include commitments for approved Priority 2 requests (Internal Connections and Basic Maintenance) at the 90% discount level and denials of Priority 2 requests at 79% and below. As of July 11, FY2008 commitments total just over \$692 million.

Funding Year 2007. USAC will not issue a funding wave for FY2007 next week.

On the day the FCDLs are mailed, you can check to see if you have a commitment by using USAC's [Automated Search of Commitments](#) tool.

Fall Training Announcement

This fall, USAC will offer seven training sessions at locations around the country. The [Training Information page](#) on the USAC website offers online registration and also provides hotel information. Be sure to follow the posted instructions for reserving a hotel room to receive the negotiated conference rate.

Below is a list of the cities, dates, and hotels where training sessions will be held:

City	Dates	Hotel
Washington, DC	September 11-12	Crystal Gateway Marriott
Seattle, WA	September 16-17	Red Lion Hotel on Fifth Avenue
Denver, CO	September 23-24	Doubletree Hotel Denver
Chicago, IL	October 2-3	Crowne Plaza Chicago O'Hare
Newark, NJ	October 6-7	Renaissance Newark Airport Hotel
Los Angeles, CA	October 15-16	Renaissance Montura Los Angeles Airport
Atlanta, GA	October 21-22	Renaissance Concourse Hotel

The training sessions have an applicant focus but are open to anyone that wants to attend on a first-come, first-served basis. USAC will start a waiting list for each session once we reach 250 registrations. We ask that you register only for the session that you want to attend and that you cancel your registration if your plans change.

When you register online, note the following:

- On the morning of the first day of training USAC will conduct two concurrent sessions – one for beginners and one for more advanced participants. In order to allocate meeting space appropriately at each hotel, we ask you to indicate on the registration form which session you plan to attend. However, you can change your mind on the day of the training.
- To help us better understand our audience, we also ask you for your Billed Entity Number (BEN) or Service Provider Identification Number (SPIN). Consultants should enter a nine (9) on this line of the registration form and other registrants that do not have a BEN or SPIN should enter a zero (0).

If you have questions, [email USAC Training](#) or call 1-877-883-1786 ext. 408.

Form 486 Notification Letters

USAC issues Form 486 Notification Letters after Forms 486 have been certified by applicants and successfully processed by USAC. Both applicants and service providers receive copies of these letters. USAC cannot process invoices for a Funding Request Number (FRN) before a Form 486 Notification Letter is issued for a certified Form 486 featuring that FRN.

USAC issues Form 486 Notification Letters once each week for all Forms 486 successfully processed since the last batch of letters was issued.

- Each applicant letter summarizes the information for all FRNs on a single Form 486.
- Each service provider letter summarizes the information for all FRNs that feature that service provider's SPIN on all Forms 486. If a service provider has more than one SPIN, USAC will issue one service provider letter for each SPIN.
- You can view a [sample of the applicant letter](#) and a [sample of the service provider letter](#) on the USAC website.

In some cases, USAC must adjust the service start date reported on the Form 486 to comply with program rules. For example, if an applicant reports a service start date of 07/01/2008 for an Internet Access FRN but does not come into compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) until 09/01/2008, USAC will adjust the service start date to 09/01/2008.

USAC may review a Form 486 for compliance with the program requirements for technology planning before the form is successfully processed. If a Form 486 undergoes this review, USAC does not issue a Form 486 Notification Letter until all compliance issues have been resolved. In addition, USAC may have to adjust the reported service start date as described above.

If the technology plan covering the requested services does not meet program requirements or USAC cannot verify the approval of the technology plan, USAC will reject the Form 486 and notify the applicant with a **Form 486 Rejection Letter**. The Form 486 Rejection Report attached to the letter provides the reason(s) for the rejection and also identifies any FRNs that feature only [basic telephone service](#).

- Applicants will have 20 days from the date of the Form 486 Rejection Letter to timely submit a new Form 486 for the basic telephone service FRNs. (A technology plan is not required for basic telephone service.)
- If it is possible to correct the problem that caused USAC to reject the Form 486, the applicant can submit a new Form 486 for the FRNs other than basic telephone service after the problem has been corrected.

If USAC, in consultation with the applicant, cancels a Form 486, USAC will issue a **Form 486 Cancellation Letter** to the applicant stating that the form has been canceled. USAC will also issue a copy of the applicant letter to each SPIN referenced on an FRN from that Form 486. As above, the applicant can resubmit a Form 486 if and when program requirements have been met.

You may download and print copies of [Schools and Libraries News Briefs](#) on USAC's website. You may [subscribe](#) to or [unsubscribe](#) from this news brief. For program information, please visit the [Schools and Libraries area](#) of the USAC website, [submit a question](#), 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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